



Cheshire West  
and Chester

Consultation on the proposals  
to expand the size and  
increase the Published  
Admission Number  
of  
Barrow CE Primary School,  
Chester

16 September 2013 – 14 October 2013

Cheshire West and Chester Council  
Barrow CE Primary School Consultation  
Children and Young People's Services  
Floor 3, HQ Building  
58 Nicholas Street  
Chester  
CH1 2NP

## Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in Audio, Braille, Large Print or other formats. If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, in another language or require a BSL interpreter, please email us at [equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

إذا أردت المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو بطريقة أخرى، نرجو أن تطلب ذلك منا.

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

Pokud byste požadovali informace v jiném jazyce nebo formátu, kontaktujte nás

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਲਓ।

Türkçe bilgi almak istiyorsanız, bize başvurabilirsiniz.

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

## Have your say on proposed changes to the size and Published Admission Number (PAN) of Barrow CE Primary School, Chester

### About this document

This document has been produced by Cheshire West and Chester Council to support the statutory public consultation processes with parents, staff, governors, the local community, including neighbouring schools, and other key stakeholders. It seeks the views of all these interested groups on the proposals (which it is anticipated would take formal effect from **September 2014**) to:

- **Enlarge the physical capacity of Barrow CE Primary School to provide the accommodation necessary to enable a cumulative increase in the number of primary-aged pupils from 63 to 98 through the construction of a school hall.**
- **Increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) of children to 14.**

### The Local Authority's legal duties

The Local Authority (LA) has a general duty under Section 14 of the Education Act 1996 to secure that there are sufficient schools for providing primary school education in its borough.

To comply with the requirements of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA 2006) and related legal duties, the LA must carry out consultation prior to making any material changes to the way that schools are organised.

### About the school

Barrow CE Primary School is a small primary school which had operated, until the start of the current academic year, with a PAN of nine pupils for each of the seven year groups. Whilst recognising the shortfall in suitable resource space the Local Authority agreed to an increase in the PAN to 10 pupils from September 2013-2014. This increase has in part been made possible because of the fluctuations in cohort sizes that have allowed the school a measure of flexibility in the organisation of teaching and learning. At the end of the 2012-2013 academic year there were 65 pupils on roll. The most recent Ofsted inspection was carried out on 7 December 2012, and found Barrow CE Primary School to be a 'Good' school.

### Why is the Council proposing to make these changes?

The proposal to expand the size of the school and increase its PAN has arisen from analysis of the present and future need for primary school places in the rural area to the east of Chester. This has considered the local birth-rate, planned housing developments, parental preference as expressed through the admissions process and the potential demand for places created by the establishment of specialist residential provision for families by the charity 'Save the Family' in Cotton Edmunds. It considered the link between where local primary age children live and where they receive their education in the mainstream maintained sector, and the need to promote sustainable patterns of travel between home and school.

Other issues influencing the decision to proceed with the proposal include;

- The current configuration of the school, which lacks the resource space provided by a hall, has poor quality kitchen facilities and falls short of contemporary standards of suitability.
- Children who have moved into the residential family provision in Cotton Edmunds have experienced difficulty in accessing places at already fully-subscribed local schools.

## **How is the Council proposing that the expansion of the school would be implemented?**

The Council have considered the following issues in formulating proposals for how the expansion of the school's capacity should be implemented:

- How and when building works can take place so as to cause minimum disruption to the life of the school.
- How admissions to the school can be managed to ensure that the objective of meeting local parental preference is best achieved.
- How the admission of additional children can be managed so as to minimise any short term adverse impact upon neighbouring schools.

It is proposed that:

### **Building works**

A detailed feasibility study has been carried out and it is anticipated that funding would be available for construction to start in spring 2014 which should enable completion for September 2014.

### **Admissions**

The school has historically admitted pupils in excess of its PAN when overall capacity within the school has permitted this to be efficiently managed within the organisation of teaching and learning at the school. It is consequently proposed that the school would be permitted to admit up to 14 children into each year group from September 2014 in advance of a formal increase in PAN in September 2015.

### **Impact on neighbouring schools**

The next nearest primary schools to Barrow CE Primary School are all fully subscribed in several year groups and are expected to continue to admit to their current capacity in future years.

## **How the school would be organised if the proposed expansions take place**

The school is currently organised into three mixed age group classes that enable Reception, Year One and Year Two pupils to be educated together in a single class. It is anticipated that as numbers on role rise there will be a future need for these cohorts to be educated across two separate mixed age group classes in order to avoid breaching Infant Class Size Regulations. Ultimately it is envisaged that numbers will justify the appointment of an additional member of staff enabling children

to be organised around a single Reception class and three mixed age group classes. The building of a school hall will enable spaces currently used as specialist resource spaces to be integrated into the learning environment of four classbases.

## Next steps

Following the consultation, and considering the feedback received, the Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services will be asked to make a decision as to whether the proposals should be progressed, or progressed in an amended form. If it is agreed to progress, a Public Notice (in relation to the proposal to expand the size of the school) will be published. This provides a further opportunity for consultees and the general public to make comment on the proposals before a final decision is made.

A decision to increase the PAN of the school is dependent upon a positive decision to expand the size of the school and will be formalised as part of approving the Local Authority's Coordinated Admission Arrangements.

## Key dates

Formal consultation	16 September 2013 – 14 October 2013
Consultation event at Barrow CE Primary School	30 September 2013 - 3pm - 6pm
Executive Member to consider the formal consultation feedback and take a decision on whether to progress to Public Notice	End October 2013
Publication of Notices	14 November 2013
Four week Representation Period	14 November 2013 - 12 December 2013
Final decision by Executive Member	End December 2013
Approval of PAN as part of ratification of Coordinated Admission Arrangements.	15 April 2014
Completion of new building	Target date: September 2014

## How do I tell you my views?

The public consultation will take place between Monday 16 September and Monday 14 October 2013. During this time we really would like to hear your views on the options we have put to you in this paper. You can take part by:

- Online: complete an online feedback form
- Email: [schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)
- Provide feedback using a hard copy form posted to the address on the front page of this document.
- There is a consultation event planned at the school on **Monday 30 September 2013** between the times of **3pm and 6pm**. Local Authority Officers and school

representatives will be available to answer questions and to note any comments that you would like to feedback.

Paper copies of all of the associated documentation are available upon request by emailing [schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk).

If you require clarification on any of the points raised in this document please contact us by emailing [schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

**Please make sure you have submitted your response by  
Monday 14 October 2013**

### **What further information is available to help me understand the proposals?**

The following appendices of information, that have informed the Local Authority's proposals, are attached:

Appendix 1: Number of births within catchment area.

Appendix 2: Parental preferences

### **What happens to your responses?**

All of the responses received during the consultation period are summarised in a report with an analysis of the outcomes of the consultation and recommendations on the next steps. The report is then taken to the Cheshire West and Chester Executive Member who has the following options: to decide not to take the proposals any further, to recommend changes to the proposals in some way or to proceed with the original proposals.

All of the information you provide in your response will be treated in the strictest of confidence and **only** used for the purpose it was collected.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this consultation

## Appendix 1: Anticipated demand for primary school places

Number of births by primary school catchment areas

Primary school	Academic year of birth (Year of entry into Reception)					
	2006-2007 (September 2011)	2007-2008 (September 2012)	2008-2009 (September 2013)	2009-2010 (September 2014)	2010-2011 (September 2015)	2011-2012 (September 2016)
Barrow CE Primary School	11	<5	6	9	10	10
Guilden Sutton CE Primary School	<5	13	14	11	<5	10
Mickle Trafford Village School	17	23	13	20	14	21
Tarvin Primary School	25	35	31	25	21	32

(Schools within two miles of Barrow CE Primary School)



## Appendix 2: Parental preferences

Parental preferences for admissions to Reception for September 2013  
(as at 14 February 2013)

Primary school	PAN	Parental first preference	Parental second preference	Parental third preference
Barrow CE Primary School	10	5	5	4
Guilden Sutton CE Primary School	30	33	25	13
Mickle Trafford Village School	30	30	24	13
Tarvin Primary School	30	31	6	14

## Barrow CE Primary School - Consultation Feedback

Please let us know your views on these proposals.  
You may find it helpful to consider the following questions when formulating your response:

Q.1: Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the proposal to enlarge Barrow CE Primary School through the construction of a school hall and the consequent increase in Net Capacity that enables an increase in the Published Admission Number?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Not sure/don't know

Q.2: Do the Council's proposals provide the best way for parents in the Barrow area to continue to be able to choose where their children receive their primary education?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Not sure/don't know

Q.3: Do these proposals provide an appropriate means by which the Council is able to maintain a necessary supply of primary school places in suitable premises in the rural area to the east of Chester?

- Agree
- Disagree
- Not sure/don't know

Q. 4: Do you wish to make any comments with regards to the proposals?

### About you

The information you give in this section is confidential and will be used to analyse the responses. All questions are voluntary; please leave blank any you wish not to answer. No information will be released that would allow identification of you as an individual or of your household.

To which of the following categories do you belong?

Parent/carer  Pupil\*  Governor  Member of staff   
Local resident  Other

\* Please ensure an adult knows you are completing this survey

Please specify.....

Which school (if any) are you linked with?.....

Tell us your postcode.....

Please use a separate sheet and attach to this form if you would like to make  
any additional comments.

Thank you for taking the time to complete this form