

This matter is being dealt with by:

Marion Clay

Reference: MC/BGB

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Mr Richard Jones
Chair - Governing Body
Round Hill Primary School
50 Cromwell Road
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8 August 2013

Dear Mr Jones

Re: Proposed Expansion of Round Hill Primary School

Thank you for your letter received on 16th July and the enclosure recording the Governing Body's observations in response to the formal publication of the proposal to expand Round Hill primary school by 105 permanent pupil places.

I note that on 30th April, the Round Hill Governing Body voted unanimously in agreement with this proposal, and would like to record the Council's appreciation of this decision.

Since April, officers from NCC's Property and Capital teams have met with members of the school's senior leadership, including the Chair of the Governing Body, and agreed to move the scheme to the feasibility stage.

This phase will develop a design, including floor plans, which will be costed. Should the feasibility study prove potentially viable, we anticipate being able to discuss the outcome with the school and full Governing Body early in the Autumn term.

In the spirit of consultative and collaborative partnership between school and County Council, officers from Property and Capital teams have taken account of the concerns expressed by school managers and governors regarding:

- effective communication during the project
- ancilliary accommodation
- the quality of design and construction; the timetable for completion
- site safety
- the constraints of the school site regarding any future expansion.

I can confirm that, with expansion to a total capacity of 525 school places, Round Hill School will increase its Published Admission Number (PAN) to 75 from September 2014, when building is planned to be completed. Current year groups will maintain their existing PANs until those cohorts leave the school.

As you are aware, it was impossible to consult with yourselves on the precise detail of the project design before the formal consultation period closed and Statutory Notice was published on June 19th 2013. This is because the design will not materialise until the feasibility study, referred to above, will be complete and can then be communicated to the school in September 2013.

A similar situation affects the costs of the project. The figure of £600,000 included in the Complete Proposal is a current estimate. Unfortunately, the required timetable to publish notices for the expansion of the school does not meet with the timetable for the development of a design, which will provide more accurate costings.

I hope this response proves helpful, and would ask that future enquiries about the project now be addressed to the Lead Officer, Capital Investment and Academies, Sara Williams, who will be in a position to keep you updated.

I can assure you of the County Council's commitment to a consultative and collaborative approach to this expansion project at Round Hill primary school, which I am sure will open a pathway towards an exciting vision of enhanced provision within the school community for years to come.

Yours sincerely

marion clay

Marion Clay
Support to Schools Service
Children, Families and Cultural Services

cc Sara Williams - Nottinghamshire County Council

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