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Date: 22 October 2015



**Chair of Children and Young People's Committee**  
County Hall  
West Bridgford  
Nottingham  
NG2 7QP

***Re: question to the Chairman of the Children & Young People's Committee from Councillor Bruce Laughton***

*"In view of the imminent growth in the number of houses in the Southwell area which will increase demand on the Lowes Wong School, what plans does the Committee Chairman have to replace temporary classrooms with permanent facilities to accommodate at least 50 extra pupils?"*

Dear Councillor Bruce Laughton,

Thank you for your question. There are four pending Section 106 agreements for housing developments in and around the town of Southwell, affecting the two Lowes Wong schools and Holy Trinity CE Infant School. These are:

- East of Allenby Road (pre-application enquiry) – up to 65 dwellings yielding 14 primary pupils
- WA Robinson & Sons, Burbage – 32 dwellings yielding seven pupils
- High Gables – 12 dwellings yielding three pupils
- Springfield Bungalow, Nottingham Road – 38 dwellings yielding eight pupils

This totals 147 dwellings yielding up to 32 primary age pupils. If the two Lowes Wong schools shared these 32 pupils, this would equate to approximately four/five per year group. Should any of the families express a preference for Holy Trinity Infant School, the number to be accommodated at Lowes Wong Infant will, of course, be lower. The County Council's normal formula has been used to calculate the education contributions to be requested from the developers.

Nottinghamshire County Council has commented on one other planning application for Nottingham Road where 34 dwellings are proposed, yielding approximately eight primary age pupils. The comments referred to the cumulative impact of the other developments which may also necessitate education contributions to be sought from this developer.

The mobile classrooms on the Lowes Wong Junior School site have had their planning permission extended to enable a longer term analysis of pupil numbers in the area. When the education contributions materialise, the provision at both schools will be fully assessed and modifications made to the buildings where necessary. This may or may

not include the replacement of the mobile classrooms, depending on the level of funding available at the time.

Background admissions information:

- Lowes Wong Infant School (September 2015)
  - Published Admission Number (PAN) - 70
  - Projected demand for first admission places – 70
  - Actual number of first admission places allocated – 70
  - Number of first admission places used by children from within catchment – 53
- Lowes Wong Junior School
  - Published Admission Number at year three – 100
  - Projected demand for year three admissions – 75
  - Actual year three admissions – 79 (21 surplus places in year three)

There are no waiting lists for either school.

Population estimates for the Southwell area, including the three Southwell schools and those in Halam and Bleasby, suggest that the number of children in the area of first admission age is actually falling over the next four years. This implies that regular appraisals of the supply and demand for pupil places will be required in order to achieve best value in any potential site modifications.

Please feel free to contact me should you wish to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Peck', with a stylized flourish underneath.

**Councillor John Peck**  
**Chair of Children and Young People's Committee**