

INVITATION TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TO RUN A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

Introduction

Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC), as the Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision in the County, is responsible for ensuring there are sufficient high quality places for all learners, while at the same time fulfilling the Local Authority's other responsibilities to raise education standards and be the champion of children and their families in securing good quality education.

The Local Authority has been working closely with its partner Planning Authorities to identify where significant housing development will require new school place provision.

The opening of new schools will be the subject of discussion with the appointed Free School Sponsor to ensure they are timed to meet demand for places from the new housing.

A New School for Hucknall

This area that has experienced significant population growth in recent years creating 420 additional school places since 2012.

The future demand for primary and secondary school places will come from the development of the Land at Watnall Road (former Rolls Royce site) which has secured section 106 funding together with the land required to create a single-form entry primary school. This will meet the immediate projected shortfall for 2019/20. Given that the local plan suggests there will be further house building, the recommendation is that the current school is built in such a way it allow further expansion in the future.

The Local Authority will require an additional 189 primary school places and 144 secondary school places to meet the demand for education provision directly arising from the development of this site.

This primary school will be a linked primary to the Holgate (Secondary) Academy.

'Your Nottinghamshire, Your Future' - the Vision for Nottinghamshire

We want Nottinghamshire to stand out as -

- A great place to bring up your family
- A great place to fulfil your ambition
- A great place to enjoy your later life
- A great place to start and grow your business

The Local Authority has made twelve commitments to the people of the County, and set out its vision for the next five years. The full statement can be seen at [here](#).

Education Vision

Nottinghamshire County Council's vision for education is expressed within the County's Vision Statement.

We want all children to attend good schools, where they can enjoy their learning and achieve their potential, regardless of their background. We will work to ensure there are sufficient school places so that parents have choice. We believe all local schools should be able to achieve at least a "good" standard, as judged by Ofsted, and we will work with our schools and academies to achieve this. Where schools are not hitting this target, we will stand up for parents and children by challenging the schools to improve quickly, offering the necessary support for them to do so.

We will continue to support children and young people who have special educational needs and disabilities. We will help to break down barriers and encourage greater independence, by working closely with families, schools and partners in the health services.

When young people leave school, it is important that they move on to a destination which suits them and enables them to get a good job. We will work with our schools, colleges, universities and training providers to ensure that our young people have a range of education and employment options, so that they can choose the direction which best matches their particular talents and interests.

Working in partnership with early years' providers, schools, colleges and our universities, we will make sure that people have the opportunity to acquire the skills and qualifications they need to build a rewarding life and career.

We will focus on encouraging those children who are high performers, whilst supporting those who are not yet achieving their full potential, for whatever reason. We want all children to have the same opportunities and life chances.

NCC wants all children to have the chance to realise their potential so they can enjoy a happy and prosperous life, where high aspirations are the norm. Children and young people who are healthy are more able to enjoy life, achieve their ambitions and carry this success into adulthood. We will support families to make informed and healthy lifestyle choices for their children.

Key Dates

Event	Date
Invitation to submit a proposal published	5/1/18
New school community consultation opens	5/1/18
Deadline for receipt of applications	2/2/18
New school community consultation closes	2/2/18
NCC informs DfE of all proposals received	5/2/18
Promoter Assessment Panel meets	26/2/18
NCC submits all proposals to the Secretary of State	9/3/18
Secretary of State appoints the successful promoter	Tbc

Project Details

Curriculum

Applicants should take account of the relevant criteria in Annex C of the free school presumption guidance.

As a minimum please ensure you include the following:

- An ambitious, broad and balanced, deliverable curriculum plan which is consistent with the vision and pupil intake and should:
 - promote children's engagement in learning by developing skills, dispositions and attitudes to learning
 - develop children's spoken language, reading, writing and vocabulary as integral aspects of the teaching of every subject (*JP - taken from 6.1 of Stat Guidance for National Curriculum KS1-4 Dec 2014*)
 - prepare children for a future in a rapidly changing world by developing their intellectual, practical, aesthetic, spiritual, social and emotional capacities
 - enable all pupils to set their life and society in a relevant cultural, historical and geographical context and understand the nature of the world in which they live
 - help pupils acquire the knowledge, concepts, basic and transferable skills, values and attitudes which will serve them now and in the future
 - provide pathways into work that meet the specific need of each individual pupil
- Strategies for measuring pupil performance effectively and setting challenging targets so that:
 - Pupils' starting points and capabilities are recognised and used to tailor a curriculum to ensure they make all the progress of which they are capable
 - achievement and development in every individual's personal growth and academic results are recognised
- A staffing structure that will deliver the planned curriculum within the expected income levels; with a focus on outstanding teaching (including strategies for effective performance management)
- The needs of all children (*including those who are disadvantaged or vulnerable learners*) are fully provided for and how the school will be fully inclusive so that pupils can:
 - reflect sensitivity to issues of gender and culture, and commitment to whole school action in the pursuit of good practice in these important areas
 - overcome any barriers to achievement and curriculum engagement in order to become resilient, independent and successful learners
- Enrichment and extended services, for example, breakfast clubs, sports clubs, homework clubs and music/art clubs that:
 - provide a wide range of high quality learning experiences which engage students and stimulate their imagination
 - provide opportunities for aesthetic and creative development, including

- interpreting, performing, designing, making and problem solving
- provide opportunities for taking part in a wide range of physical activities, sports and games to promote lifelong healthy living
- The school's approach to: PHSE; the Prevent Duty; safeguarding and welfare; and promoting fundamental British values (democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty, mutual respect and tolerance of those with different faiths and beliefs)

Admission Arrangements

The published admission number (PAN) for the school will be 30. It is expected that there would be a clear commitment to serve the local community of the new development at Watnall Road, and to support the creation of a community in this area. The school is intended to serve families living within walking distance of the school in order to reduce the need for car journeys.

The promoters will become the admission authority for the school.

Admission authorities of maintained schools in England have a statutory duty to act in accordance with the relevant provisions of the School Admissions Code (SAC). This includes setting admission arrangements, participating in Nottinghamshire County Council's (NCC) coordinated scheme for the normal admission rounds and NCC's Fair Access Protocol.

The admission authority for the new school will need to comply with the School Admission Appeals Code and other guidance and law that affect admissions and admission appeals in England.

The School Buildings

The schools will be procured by NCC and built to the agreed Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) specification for a one-form entry primary school, including provision of all FFE. The site and buildings will be leased to the Academy Trust for 125 years.

Revenue Funding

Given that the educational landscape is maturing, with Multi-Academy Trusts developing their own infrastructure and capacity, it is the view of the County Council that all publicly funded stakeholders should ensure that available resources are pooled to meet the need for new school places.

There is a shared duty that Multi-Academy Trusts, Local Authorities and the DfE should work together to maximise resources and minimise the duplication of effort, and waste of any kind. Therefore, this Local Authority will not forward fund senior leadership salaries as we expect that Multi-Academy Trusts will have the capacity to do so.

NCC will provide a financial contribution of up to £200,000 towards revenue costs associated with pre-opening and early operation which will commence from January through to 31 August prior to the new school opening on 1 September 2019. On

opening, the new school will be funded directly by the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

NCC will not pay leadership and governance costs to the Promoter. Therefore, potential promoters will need to confirm that they would be prepared to proceed on this basis if they are selected.

The Local Authority must make provision in their growth funds to support increases in pupil numbers related to basic need. Therefore, NCC will make Pupil Growth Funding available in accordance with the policy established by NCC. The primary school will be able to access Primary Pupil Growth Fund under the terms agreed by the School Forum.

Application Process and Assessment Criteria

Potential proposers are asked to complete the full application form available on the Nottinghamshire County Council webpage.

The full application form should be sent electronically no later than noon on 2 February 2018 to place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk

School Specification

The new primary school will be located at the Watnall Road development on the former Rolls Royce site, as shown in the attached map. It will be a single-form entry primary school with provision to enable it to expand to become a 1.5-form entry primary school should demand for primary school places requires.

Expected Opening Date

It is anticipated that the school will open in September 2019.

Age Range

The age range of the schools will be Reception to year 6. In addition there will be a 26 place early years provision on the school site.

Capacity

The capacity of this school will be 210 pupils when fully operational, with provision in design and construction to enable expansion to a 1.5-form entry primary school (315 pupils) if required.

There are a number of key principles that guide how the Authority wishes to see the new school opened.

- There should be sufficient places to ensure that families moving into the new housing developments are able to secure places at the school(s);

- That the school(s) serving the new housing developments do not open in a way that causes problems at the existing primary school(s) within a two-mile radius;
- That the school(s) should be part of the NCC Admissions arrangements; and
- That the school(s) shall take part in the NCC agreed Fair Access protocol.

NCC would wish to work with the Promoter to agree a pattern for opening of place provision to ensure this policy is maintained, whilst working with and supporting the existing local schools. These proposals will form part of the evaluation of bids.

Anticipated Structure of the School

It is anticipated that the school may develop thus –

	September 2019	September 2020	September 2021	September 2022	September 2023
Reception	30	30	30	30	From this stage in its growth, it is anticipated that the budget will be determined by numbers on roll and the school budget allocation.
Year 1	15	30	30	30	
Year 2	15	15	30	30	
Year 3	15	15	15	30	
Year 4	15	15	15	30	
Year 5	15	15	15	15	
Year 6	15	15	15	15	
Indicative Pupil Funding					

NCC will evaluate proposals received and provide the DfE with copies of the proposals and the assessment of them. The assessment criteria mirrors, as far as possible, those used by the DfE. These focus on strategic vision, educational capacity and performance, financial planning and operational capacity and governance.

NCC Elected Members will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State as to its preferred provider, following evaluation according to our published criteria. It is recognised that the Secretary of State, through the office of the Regional Schools Commissioner, will decide on which promoter with whom he/she will enter into a Funding Agreement.

The DfE will consider entering into a funding agreement with an approved sponsor only. If you are a new proposer, you will need to go through the DfE's sponsor approval process and should contact the DfE as soon as possible and before submitting your full application form to the Local Authority.

Additionally, the Local Authority would expect promoters to demonstrate –

- How they will ensure that pupil achievement and rates of progress are above national expectations;

- How they will ensure vulnerable groups of pupils perform as well as other children;
- That they have a strong culture of working collaboratively with other education providers locally and in other parts of Nottinghamshire, and specifically in and around the Hucknall area;
- How they will support the integration and the development of the new community within Hucknall including their commitment to working in partnership with local stakeholders; and
- How they will work in close partnership with NCC.

You will need to submit a focused and coherent education plan as part of Section C of the application. Also, you will need to submit a 3 year budget plan as part of Section D of the application.

Background Documents

<http://nottscc.gov.uk/your-nottinghamshire-your-future-the-new-council-plan-for-2017-2021>

<http://nottscc.gov.uk/localoffer>

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-admissions>

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/special-educational-needs-and-disabilities-send>

[Place Planning Strategy – when published]

<http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/education/school-discipline-and-exclusions>

LINK TO PUPIL GROWTH FUND IN HERE.



APPLICATION FORM

NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL AT Watnall Road, Hucknall, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Section A: Applicant details (personal information will be treated in accordance with the Data Protection Act)	
Main contact for this application	
1.	Name
2.	Address
3.	Email address
4.	Telephone number
About your organisation	
5.	Please give details about your organisation or group
6.	Has your organisation/group been approved by the DfE as an academy sponsor? Yes/No
7.	Outline some context about schools with whom you are working currently – a) Please provide details of the schools you are running/sponsoring currently; and b) To what extent are you supporting and/or working with other schools in their school improvement and what impact has this had, or is having?
8.	How many schools do you have DfE approval to open in the next two years?
9.	Did you put together this application with support from another company or organisation? Yes/No

10.	If Yes, please list the name(s) of the organisation(s) and describe clearly the role they played in developing your application. Please describe the role (if any) you envisage for them in setting up and/or running the Academy if your application is successful.
11.	<p>Through its members, directors or otherwise, does the company limited by guarantee have any formal or informal links (e.g. financial, philosophical or ideological) with any other organisations within the UK or overseas? These may include other Academy or Free School groups, other institutions, charitable bodies and/or commercial or non-commercial organisations.</p> <p>Yes/No</p>
12.	If yes, please provide details
13.	Would your proposed school be designated as having a religious character or have a faith ethos? Please give details below.
14.	Declaration of Personal/Business Links with Elected Member(s) and/or Senior Officer(s) of Nottinghamshire County Council
15.	<p>Have you submitted an application to the ESFA to open a primary school at this site through the Direct Bid route already?</p> <p>Yes/No</p>

Section B: Strategic vision

Section C: Education Plan

Section D: Relationship with other schools, the Council and the wider education community

Section E: Capacity and capability

Section F: Financial planning and viability

We confirm that:

We will comply with the requirements of the School Admissions Code (SAC), and other guidance and law relating to admissions	Yes/No
We accept the funding arrangements for set up and resourcing the school, including the fact that we will receive no further “Project Management Funding”	Yes/No
We will participate in Nottinghamshire County Council’s agreed Fair Access protocol	Yes/No
We will accept the Local Authority’s policy on Safeguarding and implement it within the school	Yes/No

We understand that Nottinghamshire County Council does not bind itself to accept any of the submissions, and will not be responsible for any costs, expenses or losses of whatever nature incurred in connection with the process.

Signature

(Print Name))

Date

Note: Application forms must be returned electronically no later than

[Date]

to:

place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk

NCC Assessment Criteria
(Based on Criteria developed and published by the DfE –
The Free School Presumption Protocol Annex C)

Applications to promote a Free School will be assessed using the criteria detailed below. These relate to the sections and numbering on the application form. The responses will be evaluated by a working group of officers and elected members.

Strategic Vision (*Section B of the Application Form*)

The Local Authority will be using two criteria to assess this section of your application.

Criterion B1 - Provides a clearly focused, coherent vision that underpins the application with a compelling rationale for establishing the school.

You must:

- set out clearly why you are seeking to promote the school;
- identify any particular ethos you wish your school to have (including any religious or other beliefs);
- identify how your vision and ethos (including any religious or other beliefs) are reflected in the education plan and the curriculum; and
- set out your aspirations for the achievement of individual pupils, and the school as a whole, demonstrating your commitment to achieving outcomes and rates of progress above national expectations.

Criterion B2 - Sets out how proposers will demonstrate they support UK democratic values

You must:

- provide evidence that you support UK democratic values including respect for the basis on which UK laws are made and applied, and respect for democracy; and
- support for individual liberties within the law, including mutual tolerance and respect, and how you will ensure the academy meets this objective.

Education Plan (*Section C of the Application Form*)

The Local Authority will be using eight criteria to assess this part of your application.

You should only seek to address criterion **C8** if you are intending to be a faith ethos school, a school designated as having a religious character or if you are proposing a school with a particularly distinctive educational philosophy and worldview.

Criterion C1- Explains the rationale for the proposed curriculum, how it reflects the needs of the anticipated pupil intake and the plans for their progression and transition.

Criterion C2 - Sets out a viable curriculum plan with appropriate focus on breadth and balance, core areas of learning, and calendar and timetable.

You must:

- describe the curriculum, setting out how it will be broad and balanced; and
- detail your expectations around the length of the school day, term and year.

Criterion C3 - Shows how the staffing structure will deliver the planned curriculum.

You must:

- set out plans showing an appropriate and phased development of the staffing establishment in line with planned pupil numbers and financial resources;
- describe the final staffing structure and show how it is sufficient, affordable and appropriate to deliver the education vision and plan; and
- set out the structure of the senior leadership team, middle leaders, teaching staff and any non-teaching support staff, as well as a clear description of their roles and responsibilities, both in the development phase of establishing the staffing structure and when at full capacity.

Criterion C4 - Sets out a clear strategy for ensuring that the needs of pupils with differing abilities are met.

You must:

- demonstrate an awareness of the varying needs of individual pupils and have an effective strategy for meeting them, including supporting those who need it and stretching the most able (gifted and talented pupils);
- show how you will use ICT, other agencies and partners' resources to support the learning and maximise the achievement of pupils of varying abilities and needs;
- describe the strategies you will use to overcome barriers to learning and achievement, such as having English as an additional language;
- set out how you will have regard to the Special Educational Needs Code of Practice; and
- set out your approach to supporting disabled pupils and pupils with special educational needs, including those with and without a statement of special educational needs to ensure they are fully included;
- set out your approach to ensure that Children in Care and disadvantaged children make more than expected progress utilising the Pupil Premium; and
- set out how you will work with the NCC approach to the graduated SEND process.

Criterion C5 - Details the definitions and measures of success which will deliver their aspirations for pupil achievement.

You must:

- outline the targets that are proposed, why they are suitable to measure the delivery of your education vision, and what your strategy will be to achieve them;
- describe the proposed success measures for individual pupils and the whole school, including teaching;
- explain how these success measures will be monitored, reviewed and reported, including your plans to develop pupil assessment and tracking systems;
- explain how pupil progress will be reported to parents/carers, how their views will be gathered and how parents/carers will play an active role in improving their child's progress, and
- confirm your willingness to engage in annual standards and performance review with the Local Authority.

Criterion C6 - Describes the admissions policy, confirming commitment to fair and transparent admissions practices.

You must:

- set out your proposed admissions policy, including the criteria to be used to set priorities for places if your school is oversubscribed. The admission arrangements must comply with the School Admissions Code (SAC) and related admissions law that applies to maintained schools in England.

Criterion C7 - Describes how the approach to behaviour management, pupil safeguarding, pupil wellbeing and attendance will improve pupil outcomes.

You must:

- set out detailed strategies for promoting good behaviour and attendance;
- describe how you will promote pupil well-being, including through pastoral care and strategies for tackling bullying;
- describe how these strategies are informed by your education vision and linked to raising standards and educational outcomes; and
- explain how you will help to achieve Nottinghamshire's vision of zero permanent exclusions.

Criterion C8 - (If Appropriate) The application to set up a faith ethos Free School, a school designated as having a religious character, or one with a particularly distinctive educational philosophy and worldview, shows how the needs of all children are fully provided for within the education plan.

If you are proposing a school designated as having a religious character or a school with a religious ethos, you must:

- describe how you will ensure that the school will be welcoming to pupils of all faiths and none, and show how the school will meet the needs of pupils of other faiths and none. You will need to set out how you think school policies will impact on these pupils. You will need to consider uniform and the wearing of religious symbols, the school meals you will provide and whether there will be dietary requirements, your religious education curriculum and the nature of collective worship; and
- explain how the school's religious character or ethos will be reflected in the curriculum, including what percentage of your timetable will be devoted to religious education and other faith-related subjects and why this percentage is appropriate. Please set out what alternatives will be available for pupils not of the faith.

If you are proposing a school with a particularly distinctive educational philosophy and worldview, you must:

- describe how you will ensure that the school will be welcoming to all pupils within the local community. You will need to set out how you think the curriculum and school policies will impact on all pupils and how you will explain the curriculum to parents and pupils who are not familiar with this alternative method; and
- confirm what percentage of time is devoted to each subject.

Relationships with other Schools, the Local Authority and the Wider Education Community (Section D of the Application Form)

The Local Authority will be using one criterion to assess this section of your application.

Criterion D1 - Demonstrates how the promoter will work with and for the local community and is committed to work for the benefit of the wider education community.

Proposers need to demonstrate/provide details on:

- your understanding of the community that the Free School will serve and how your education plan addresses the needs of that community;
- how you will make the school attractive to pupils of different backgrounds and abilities. This should include pupils from deprived or disadvantaged families;
- arrangements for home to school partnerships and communications to ensure parents are fully engaged in all aspects of their child's development and achievement;
- how you will demonstrate your commitment to working collaboratively with other schools, and in particular the existing local primary school(s), and in close partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council;
- how you will support the vision of the Nottinghamshire County Council as set out in the policy statement 'Your Nottinghamshire: Your Future'; and
- arrangements you will put in place to make the building and facilities available to the local community outside of school hours.

Proposers need to demonstrate how they will respond to the Local Authority's stated position on revenue funding at the inception of the project to open this new school, viz. that, given the educational landscape is maturing and Multi-Academy Trusts are developing their own infrastructure and capacity, it is the view of the County Council that all publicly funded stakeholders should ensure that available resources are pooled to meet the need for new school places.

There is a shared duty that Multi-Academy Trusts, Local Authorities and the DfE should work together to maximise resources and minimise the duplication of effort, and waste of any kind. Therefore, this Local Authority does not envisage forward funding senior leadership salaries as we expect that Multi-Academy Trusts will have the capacity to do so.

Capacity and Capability (*Section E of the Application Form*)

The Local Authority will be using three criteria to assess this part of your application.

Criterion E1 - Demonstrates a clear understanding of the respective roles of the company members, governing body and principal in running the school.

You must:

- describe clearly in both writing and in a diagram the structure, lines of accountability and methods of escalation between the company members, the school's directors (who also act as governors and trustees) and the principal;
- define clearly and set out the respective roles and responsibilities of the company members, the directors (who also act as governors and trustees), any proposed committees and the principal; and
- set out your protocols for avoiding and minimising conflicts of interest, confirming any you have already identified, and for securing independent challenge to executives.

Criterion E2 - Shows how the promoter will access appropriate and sufficient educational, financial, and other expertise to deliver their vision.

You must:

- show that you have identified the educational resources, people and skills that you will need to set up and operate a school;
- show that you have identified the resources, people and skills that you will need to set up arrangements for and undertake the financial management of a school;
- show that your group has identified other relevant expertise, such as individuals or organisations with successful experience of setting up a new organisation or business, school governance, human resources, ICT, property/construction, marketing and project management;
- confirm sufficient time commitments to the project from relevant individuals;
- explain how work on this school will be balanced against the development of others if your group is seeking to establish more than one school; and
- set out clear and detailed plans for identifying and securing any necessary expertise currently missing from your group.

Criterion E3 - Provides realistic plans for recruiting a high quality principal, other staff and governors in accordance with the proposed staffing structure and education plans.

You must:

- set out plans for recruiting your school's principal (head teacher) and the role you envisage him/her playing in the pre-opening phase;
- set out your plans for recruiting and developing high quality members of staff;
- identify for NCC any individuals you have identified already as prospective governors and their relevant skills and expertise; and
- describe how you will identify and appoint committed governors with the necessary skills to oversee both the establishment and running of a school.

Financial Planning and Viability (*Section F of the Application Form*)

The Local Authority will be using one criterion to assess this part of your application.

Criterion F1 - Provides accurate financial plans that are consistent with the rest of the application and based on realistic assumptions about income and expenditure.

You must:

- set out your views on the key financial challenges you might encounter and how you will seek to address these;
- detail the systems you would put in place to ensure that the school's finances are properly managed;
- outline your assumptions in estimating the income and expenditure for the school, and confirm which benchmarking data you have used;
- explain any unusual items of income and expenditure in the financial plans;
- show that you have allowed for unforeseen contingencies;
- demonstrate that any third party income you have included is realistic and achievable; and

- confirm agreement to proceed according to the local authority's revenue funding arrangements set out in the 'Invitation to Submit a Proposal'.