

APPENDIX 4

Proposed permanent expansion of Pupil Places at Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School

Consultation Responses Analysis:

Number of leaflets distributed approximately 500

	No. of responses received Agreed	No. of responses received Opposed	No. of responses received Didn't Know
Parent/Carer	19	6	3
Governor	5	0	0
Staff	3	1	0
Pupil/Other	7	4	1
TOTALS	34	11	4
Where reply forms indicated more than one type of respondent only one has been included in the table above using a priority order of 'parent/carers', 'governor', 'staff' and then 'pupil/other'.			

Comments/Issues/Points raised within Written/Electronic/On-line responses:

The decision making process

- Comment made that increasing Holy Trinity Primary School's Published Admission Number (PAN) would not increase the

pupil/teacher ratio, and would therefore not benefit pupil experience at the school

- Opinions expressed there are allegedly sufficient pupil places at other Newark primary schools that can provide educational settings, and so there's no need to expand Holy Trinity Primary
- Clarification sought on why not just build a new school in another locality to meet the projected need for additional school places
- Clarification sought that if the school is expanded, will its resources and facilities also be increased
- Opinions expressed that increasing the school's PAN will be a positive development for the school's future
- Comment made that as well as providing the proposed additional school places, a new secondary school is needed in Newark where primary phase pupils can carry on their education rather than drift out of the district

Staffing matters

- Clarification sought on whether there would be an increase in qualified teachers if the school was expanded
- Clarification sought on whether there would be multi-lingual speaking teachers employed to ensure all children are taught at the appropriate level

Building and site related issues

- Concerns raised by local residents about current daily inconsiderate and potentially very dangerous and hazardous parking during school term-time when alleged parents/carers drop-off/collect their children from Holy Trinity Primary. In some cases, residents are unable to access/egress their drives until the cars have moved from the area.
- Concerns raised that the above situation would only be exacerbated by the addition of more pupil places, and opinion expressed that it would be like an accident waiting to happen
- In supporting the proposed expansion, parental concern also expressed for increased parking facilities to be provided in the school's locality
- Concern raised that a lot of commercial vehicles and lorries allegedly also use the road in the school's vicinity
- Concern expressed that the existing school site is not large enough to allow for expansion
- Opinion expressed that the school's hall is already oversubscribed during school and parental 'come and see' assemblies
- Feeling expressed that Holy Trinity's playground and playing field already seem too small for the current number of pupils at the school
- Suggestion made that a larger school hall is required and consideration should be given to separate toilets and changing rooms being provided for the school's junior aged pupils

- Concern raised about the need to keep school outdoor areas as it was felt these are extremely important
- Concern expressed over lunch and playtime management if additional children were to be admitted emanating from the proposed school expansion
- An assumption made that some of Holy Trinity's classes contain more than 30 pupils and as such, feeling expressed that additional classrooms would benefit everyone

Financial issues

- Feelings expressed that an increase in pupil places and, therefore, an assumed increase in its school budget, can only be beneficial to Holy Trinity Primary's children

Pupil, Curriculum and Community related issues

- Opinion expressed that Holy Trinity Primary would become a victim of its own success if the proposed expansion were approved
- Comment made that the influx of children at the school is already placing a large strain on its resources
- Support expressed for the proposed expansion due to the alleged current high demand on pupil places at Holy Trinity Primary
- Opinion expressed that as existing pupils do well at Holy Trinity Primary due to its caring environment, then if more children can benefit from this, a proposed expansion can only be a good thing
- Opinions expressed that the dynamics of the school are already challenged by the alleged large number of children who have English as a second language
- Concerns expressed that the school would lose its welcoming feeling and ethos if it continues to expand
- Comments made that Holy Trinity Primary is a popular well run school that provides a very good learning environment both generally, and specifically in a Catholic setting. Opinion then expressed the proposed expansion would therefore provide more places to be offered to the local community.
- Comment made that the proposed new classrooms would benefit everyone
- Comment made that small primary schools provide a fantastic foundation for children's future learning
- Comment made that Holy Trinity Primary is an outstanding school but if it expands, alleged dynamic changes would force families to send their children to other schools
- Feeling expressed that keeping class sizes under 30 pupils per class needs to have serious consideration
- Feeling expressed that should the school expand, the quality of teaching lessons and pastoral care needs to be maintained

- Feeling expressed that Holy Trinity Primary has a good reputation, with great teachers but that the school will lose its friendly family atmosphere as a small school if the proposed expansion goes ahead
- In opposing the proposal, comment made about their child having been taught mostly in two year groups already, and so did not agree to the school being made any larger than it currently is
- Opinion expressed that the future estimated pupil intake for the school would make it unsustainable, and would have an impact on the current high standard of teaching at this excellent school
- Opinion expressed that Holy Trinity Primary is allegedly already oversubscribed without the need to expand it further and allow more pupils to be admitted
- In referring to an alleged oversubscribed Holy Trinity Primary combined with a forecast of an increased pupil intake in Newark, comment made that the proposed expansion seems a sensible solution
- Concerned raised on the potential size of classes and clarification sought on whether the additional school places would cater just for new intake or across the whole school
- Support expressed for the proposed expansion providing it did not have an adverse effect on the high quality teaching provided at the school
- Feelings expressed that the proposed expansion would benefit teachers, pupils and future generations

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