



# ROUNDHAY SCHOOL

## *Technology & Language College*

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### ***Formal response to the Proposal to create additional primary provision in the Roundhay area at Elmete Lane from September 2012 to be run by Roundhay School Technology and Language College***

In response to the Leeds request for Roundhay to become an 'all through school' with two Reception forms of entry, the governors have voted unanimously in support of the proposal and recognise it as an exciting opportunity to further meet the needs of the community. We feel that this proposal could enhance our on-going working relationship with local primary schools, putting us in an even stronger position to further develop the excellent educational links we already have.

We accept that there will be a number of challenges and that we will need to work with the senior management team to build primary expertise, but we are confident that we have the capacity to deliver an exciting and stimulating primary environment. The governing body includes members with a wealth of primary and pre-school experience including teachers, leaders and governors.

The split site nature of the proposal will enhance the development of a true 'primary ethos' and we are confident that the new purpose built learning environment will be tailored to the needs of the primary phase.

Whilst we fully appreciate the nature of the current financial position faced by the authority, we feel that a long term view needs to be taken to ensure that short sighted decisions will not disadvantage both Roundhay School and more importantly its present and future students. We welcome the acceptance that the on-going revenue funding formula will be amended to take into account the fact that as the 'main school' site is part of a PFI contract, resulting in very limited economies of scale associated with the estates linked elements of the funding formula.

We understand that senior staff are working alongside officers to develop some of the finer details (see Briefing Note for Governing Bodies of Secondary Schools on the Financial Implications of becoming a Through School – Position at 27 Jan 2011) but feel that the overriding principle of the project has to be that it will be at nil cost to the 'main school' budget, both in terms of initial capital spend and on-going revenue commitments. We believe that this will not be an issue once the provision has filled and the full financial contribution of the additional 420 primary age pupils is made to the school budget but in the early years we see this as a potential pit fall. There are some specific areas that are of major concern to us:

- We feel that the providing of fresh healthy appetising food is a key part of high quality primary provision. This can only be delivered if kitchen facilities are suitably proportioned and equipped, therefore we expect to have a full cooking kitchen. We feel this is not an extravagant expectation in light of the on-going awareness of childhood eating habits, obesity and lack of nutritional understanding.
- We are pleased that the ICT/ Telephony link between the two sites will be provided by the build but we are keen that the school not be disadvantaged by the distance between the sites. We are very concerned that the school will be burdened by on-going revenue costs beyond its control for the maintenance of this link.



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Healthy Schools  
Leeds



*"An outstanding, high-performing, specialist school...where every child matters equally"* (Ofsted)  
Headteacher: Neil Clephan B.A., M.A., Ad. Dip. Ed. Man. Deputy Headteacher: Jean Clennell B.A., M.Ed.

- We are disappointed that there is no proposal to undertake BREEAM accreditation as this seems to be an ideal opportunity for LCC to demonstrate its commitment to sustainability. We do expect the design to incorporate energy and water efficiency systems, and consideration to be given to the suitability of the building materials for recycling at the end of the building's life.
- We accept that once the expansion is complete the Governors will have the usual means and discretion to pay the primary leader as appropriate, however we are conscious that the reorganisation factor needs to not only provide for the needed resources in the early stages but also to provide sufficient funding for the primary leader to be paid at an ISR commensurate with the group size of the full primary provision. This extends to the commitment from the authority to fund such a post from January 2012.

We look forward to the progression of this proposal and see it as a way Roundhay can continue its long tradition of meeting the educational needs of its community.



RH10

1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2011  
School Organisation Team  
10th Floor West  
Merrion House  
110 Merrion Centre  
Leeds  
LS2 8DT

11 FEB 2011

Dear School Organisation Team,

I write with reference to the proposal to create additional primary provision in the Roundhay area at Elmete Lane from September 2012 to be run by Roundhay School Technology and Language College.

I am a parent of 2 children attending Roundhay School and one attending a local primary school. I have read the public consultation booklet and was present at the public meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> January at Roundhay High School. I understand the need for more primary school places to be provided in Leeds by September 2012 but have a number of concerns about this proposal.

Firstly I am alarmed at the speed at which it is suggested this new primary school be created. I accept the difficulties involved in accurately predicting far in advance the exact number of primary places needed in an area but building a new and strong school community is a huge undertaking and one that should not be rushed.

I am also concerned about the extra strain on the management and governing body of Roundhay School as they try to build and run a primary school in addition to their current responsibilities. I understand from questions and answers at the public meeting that although a "primary leader" will be employed, there is no extra money available to provide support for the management team of Roundhay School as they take on the massive additional responsibility of managing the primary section of the school. Possible adverse effects might be the lowering of standards at the High School, the failure to create and run a successful primary school, lowering of staff morale plus no doubt many others.

The fact that plans are going ahead to create this new primary provision despite there being so much financial uncertainty is, quite frankly, terrifying as well as, in my opinion, unwise.

I have serious reservations that the proposed new primary provision will have an adverse effect on other local primary schools, especially the one in the same section as the proposed site but unmarked on the map on page 9 of the booklet, Roundhay St John's Primary. On page 7 of the booklet it is stated "the map on page 9 shows where pre school children live in relation to their nearest schools" but this is not the case as Roundhay St John's school is not marked on the map. People are being asked to comment on a proposal that is inaccurate and therefore misleading. I

understand that the admissions policy for church schools is different to that of other schools but the difference a child lives from the school does nevertheless play a role.

2 A large number of children admitted to Roundhay St John's do live locally to the school and in much the same area as the proposed new school would be drawing on. Falling numbers would be a very real danger to Roundhay St John's if the proposed new school plans go ahead.

✓ The effect on other primary schools local to the proposed new site is, in my opinion, further complicated by the fact that children admitted to the new school in reception would stay on roll at Roundhay School until the sixth form. The attraction of this to parents should not be underestimated, given how popular Roundhay School is. My concern is that other local primary school will also suffer falling numbers, not because they are unsuccessful or unattractive but because, to parents, the draw of a guaranteed place at Roundhay High School will outweigh all other considerations. As was mentioned at the public meeting, there is a real possibility that successful schools in the area that have worked very hard to improve will suffer lower numbers purely because the attraction of a guaranteed place at a successful high school is irresistible to parents.

✓ In conclusion, I disagree with the statement on page 4 of the booklet that the new proposed primary provision would "build on the strengths of the existing secondary school without undermining any of the other primary schools in the area." I think there is a distinct possibility that the proposed provision **could** undermine other primary schools in the area and I do not understand how the primary school would build on the strengths of the existing secondary school. On the contrary, I think it is possible that the primary provision could weaken and damage the existing secondary provision particularly if it is provided in the way described with no extra support offered to the secondary school management. I see that there is an urgent need to provide more primary places but I would not be happy to see this need met in the way outlined in the proposal.

Yours faithfully,



RH11

Wilson Laura

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PROPOSAL TO CREAT ADDITIONAL PRIMARY PROVISION IN THE ROUNDHAY AREA  
AT ELMETE LANE FROM SEPTEMBER 2012 - TO BE RUN BY ROUNDHAY SCHOOL  
TECHNOLOGY AND LANGUAGE COLLEGE

This is a response to the Public Consultation regarding the above proposal, from The Secretary of The Friends of Roundhay Park.

At the Open Meeting of the Friends of Roundhay Park (FoRP) on the 02<sup>nd</sup> February 2011, a proposal for the provision of a new Primary School at Elmete Lane (Braum Wood) was tabled.

The Meeting was attended by 29 Members, two Ward Councillors and the Park Manager.

The proposals were presented to the Meeting by the Chairwoman, Julia Wilson, with supporting information given by Councillors Valerie Kendall and Matthew Lobley.

A Vote was taken following the Presentation and 23 persons supported the proposal, 2 were against and there were 4 abstentions. It was agreed that FoRP (Membership approximately 250) would support the proposal for a new Primary School at Elmete Lane, as set out in the Consultation Documents.

As a Group, FoRP exists in order to promote and to be to be actively involved in the appearance, preservation, enhancement and wellbeing of Roundhay Park and its environs.

✓ It is not felt that a School would detract from these principles, provided that it was well designed and landscaped. The proximity of the School to the Park would be of great benefit in educational terms for the pupils, whilst adding to the vitality of The Park.

✓ It is also appreciated that there is a substantial synergy in the new School being incorporated into the structure of Roundhay School, so this element of the proposals is also supported by FoRP.

For your information, with regard to the Public Consultation Response Form questions, we answer them as follows:

- 1a Agree
- 1b Agree
- 2 The booklet was found to be useful
- 3 The Consultation process was found to be useful

We trust that our comments are useful and, should you require anything further, please do not hesitate to contact me. Would you please confirm the receipt of this response to the above email address.

# Proposal to create additional primary provision in the Roundhay area at Elmete Lane from September 2012 to be run by Roundhay School Technology and Language College

RH12

## Public consultation response form

Please read the consultation booklet on the proposal and tell us what your views are. The questions on this form are provided to help you do so, but you do not have to respond to all of them. If you prefer not to use this form, you can also put your views in a letter. Letters and forms should be sent to the address at the bottom of this form, or by email to: [educ.school.organisation@educationleeds.co.uk](mailto:educ.school.organisation@educationleeds.co.uk). Extra copies of this booklet and response form are available at: [www.educationleeds.co.uk/schoolorganisation](http://www.educationleeds.co.uk/schoolorganisation). All responses will be reported to a meeting of Leeds City Council's Executive Board in March 2011.

Responses must be received by 4pm on Friday 18 February 2011.

### Questions relating to the proposals

1. How much do you agree with the following statements? Please tick as appropriate.

1a) I agree with the use of the site off Elmete Lane for increasing primary provision.

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Strongly agree	<input type="radio"/> Agree	<input type="radio"/> Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="radio"/> Disagree	<input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree	<input type="radio"/> Don't know
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1a) I agree with Roundhay School changing its age range to include some primary provision.

<input checked="" type="radio"/> Strongly agree	<input type="radio"/> Agree	<input type="radio"/> Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="radio"/> Disagree	<input type="radio"/> Strongly disagree	<input type="radio"/> Don't know
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Please tell us more about your views and your reasons for them.

As a previous student of Roundhay School, I now find myself in a position of having my own young family and not being fortunate to live in Roundhay. We decided to do the sensible and responsible thing & buy a house we could afford, not mortgage ourselves to the hilt and live in R'hay. So we're on the outer edges on the far side of the Oakwood Lane / Easterly Rd roundabout. In line with government and council policy every child (matters and) deserves an opportunity to access quality education. Just because a child doesn't live in a 200k+ house does not mean to say they don't have the ability to learn and aspirations to achieve. At the meeting it seemed that most people were local R'hay residents and were mainly concerned about their kids not getting into R'hay hi

Continued overleaf



**Please tell us more about your views on this proposal (continued)**

due to ~~the~~ 60 of the places going to the primary children. I also felt there was an element of not wanting their kids to have to mix with kids from deprived areas. "All the Seacroft kids" was stated in a rather disparaging tone at one stage.

When I went to Roundhay in 1990 there was a really good mix of pupils - from all over Gipton, Seacroft, Fernville, Chapeltown, Chapel Allerton and Roundhay. I feel this added to the school and was a great opportunity for people from different socio economic and cultural backgrounds to mix on an equal level. Roundhay gives people a great start and chance in life and therefore should be accessible to children from more deprived areas.

With Roundhay's excellent record of achievement, who better to take on the challenge. Also, as pointed out at the meeting if it goes to competition, not only will there not be enough capacity for 2012 but the school could end up in anyone's hands.

I understand that some Roundhay residents will be worried that their children may not get into Roundhay (High), but the fact is that there are not enough primary places and the ideal scenario is for a primary school to be open by 2012 to ensure that hundreds of children do not have the start of their school lives massively disrupted.



2. Have you found this booklet useful?

How could we improve the booklet?

Yes

No

3. Have you found the consultation process useful?

How could we improve the consultation process?

Yes

No

The meeting was interesting to hear the views of others and to gain more info. I only heard about the proposal and meeting by chance and wonder how widely the information was known. Where was the information available. Was it only R'hay residents that were informed. A leafleting distribution would have been a cheap + effective way of letting

a wide audience know

Your personal details (if you want your response to be formally acknowledged)

Name:

Address

Email address

Which school are you associated with?

- Parent/carer of present pupil(s)  Member of staff
- Parent/carer of primary school child  Local resident
- Other adult relative  Elected member
- Pupil  Community representative
- Governor  Other

Data Protection Act 1998

Under the terms of the Data Protection Act 1998 we must inform you of the following. Education Leeds and Leeds City Council are seeking your views to help inform the decision on this proposal. Your personal information will be used only for this purpose, and may be shared with other agencies who are involved in the consultation, however only to address any issues you raise. If you do not wish to provide personal details your views will still be considered, but we will not be able to acknowledge your response personally.

Please send your reply to: The Chief Executive, Education Leeds, FAO School Organisation Team  
10th Floor West, Merrion House, 110 Merrion Centre, Leeds LS2 8DT