
REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF EDUCATION LEEDS

EXECUTIVE BOARD: 6th January 2010

SUBJECT: Proposal for statutory consultation for changes to primary provision at Horsforth Newlaithes Junior School and Featherbank Infant School in 2011

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

- 1.0 This report seeks the permission of the Executive Board to consult on two linked proposals for primary expansion in Horsforth for September 2011.
- 2.0 The proposal is to change the age ranges and admissions limits of Horsforth Newlaithes Junior School and Horsforth Featherbank Infant School, to establish them both as all age primary schools (ie age 5-11) from September 2011, to provide 30 extra reception class places.

3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive Board is asked to approve statutory formal consultation on the linked prescribed alterations to:

- i) change the age range of Horsforth Newlaithes Junior School from 7-11 to 5-11, whilst maintaining an admissions limit of 60, with an overall capacity of 420 children; and
- ii) change the age range of Horsforth Featherbank Infant School from 5-7 to 5-11, and decrease the admissions number from 60 to 30, with an overall capacity of 210 children.

To note that the consultation on a proposed expansion of Horsforth West End Primary School agreed at December Executive Board will coincide with the two proposals above.

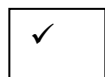
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Electoral Wards Affected:

Horsforth



Ward Members consulted
(referred to in report)

Specific Implications For:

Equality & Diversity



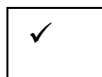
Community Cohesion



Narrowing the Gap



Eligible for Call-in



Not Eligible for Call-in

(Details contained in the Report)



1.0 PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

1.1 This report seeks the permission of the Executive Board to consult on two linked proposals for primary expansion in September 2011.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1 In December 2009 the Executive Board approved the formal consultation on plans to permanently expand seven primary schools for September 2011, in order to meet continued increasing demand for primary places. As part of the overall plan for 2011 provision a need for an additional 45 places in the Horsforth area was identified. A proposal to expand West End Primary School for 15 of these places has already been agreed by Executive Board for consultation.

2.2 Further feasibility work and discussion with the governing bodies of Newlaithes Junior School and Featherbank Infant Schools has taken place and proposals for expansion are outlined in this paper to provide an additional 30 places.

2.3 Under the Education and Inspections Act 2006, a change to the age range of a school constitutes a prescribed alteration, which requires a statutory process to confirm the change and make it permanent.

3.0 MAIN ISSUES

- 3.1 A series of informal meetings with heads and chair of governors took place in October 2009. At these meetings the current local context, including the forthcoming 2010 proposals and projected need were discussed.
- 3.2 A range of options for expanding provision between Featherbank Infants and Newlaithes Juniors were identified. Ward members have also been briefed on the options available and this proposal.
- 3.3 Demographic data describing the need for places in the area is contained in Appendix 1. A total of 45 extra reception places are needed in Horsforth from 2011. 15 of these have already been considered by Executive Board in December 2009.
- 3.4 The range of options considered has included:
- (i) Expand each school as infants and juniors, ie to 90 pupils per year group at each school;
 - (ii) Creation of a single 3FE through primary on two sites;
 - (iii) Add one additional infant class per year group and one additional junior class per year group at Newlaithes. That is to have a 2FE infant at Featherbank, and a 1FE infant and 3FE junior school at Newlaithes.
- 3.5 The proposal is to change the age ranges and admissions limits of Horsforth Newlaithes Junior School and Horsforth Featherbank Infant School, to establish them both as all age primary schools (ie age 5-11) from September 2011, to provide 30 extra reception class places.
- 3.6 Initial feasibility studies have identified that both sites are suitable for remodelling and expansion. Detailed building plans will be developed if, following consultation, these proposals proceed and they will be subject to the normal planning permission process.
- 3.7 This proposal would remove separate infant and junior provision in the Horsforth area, enhancing the consistency of the learning environment with risks at transition reduced. The staff and governors at both schools will manage the change process to primary status with the support of Education Leeds. This proposal would enhance the educational outcomes for children in the area.
- 3.8 The schools would be funded appropriately, over time, according to an agreed transition plan.

4.0 Consultation

- 4.1 The proposed consultation will run from 11 January to 26 February 2010. A single consultation document will be produced which describes the proposals for Horsforth in detail, along with the changing demographic context and pupil projections. It will also include details of a transition timetable. This will be made available to all of the schools and communities affected, including pupils, parents and carers, school governors, ward members and other stakeholders. It will include the proposed expansion of West End Primary, detailed in the December 2009 Executive Board report, so that plans for Horsforth as a whole can be considered.

- 4.2 Meetings will be held for staff, governors, school council, and the public. The document will make clear how anyone can respond during the consultation. It will describe the subsequent processes to be followed and further opportunities to comment prior to a final recommendation which will be considered by the Executive Board in April 2010.

5.0 LEGAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The capital works required to deliver these proposals will be funded through the Education capital programme. The estimated costs of the preferred option is approximately £750k over two financial years. Further reports, seeking financial approval for the fully costed specific schemes will be brought to the Executive Board.

6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Executive Board is asked to approve statutory formal consultation on the linked prescribed alterations to:

- i) change the age range of Horsforth Newlathes Junior School from 7-11 to 5-11, whilst maintaining an admissions limit of 60, with an overall capacity of 420 children; and
- ii) change the age range of Horsforth Featherbank Infant School from 5-7 to 5-11, and decrease the admissions number from 60 to 30, with an overall capacity of 210 children.

- 6.2 To note that the consultation on a proposed expansion of Horsforth West End Primary School agreed at December Executive Board will coincide with the two proposals above.

6.0 BACKGROUND REPORTS

22 July 2009 Proposed increases in Admissions Limits for September 2010

17 June 2009 Expanding Primary Place Provision

17 June 2009 Proposal to add specialist community provision at Whitkirk Primary School for pupils with complex physical difficulties and medical needs.

October 2009 Letter from Office of Schools Adjudicator

October 2009 Proposal for statutory consultation for the expansion of primary provision for September 2010

December 2009 Proposal for statutory consultation for the expansion of primary provision for September 2011

Appendix 1 Demographic data, Horsforth Area.

	REC	YR 1	YR 2	YR 3	YR 4	YR 5	YR 6	TOTAL	AD LT	CAPACITY	SURPLUS	
2004/2005	180	221	218	223	223	221	258	1,544	260	1,701	157	9%
2005/2006	208	188	222	222	227	227	229	1,523	240	1,641	118	7%
2006/2007	214	215	191	221	224	231	232	1,528	240	1,644	116	7%
2007/2008	225	219	215	201	223	226	237	1,546	240	1,644	98	6%
2008/2009	241	235	223	213	201	225	233	1,571	240	1,674	103	6%
2009/2010	257	250	239	226	214	203	232	1,621	240	1,674	53	3%
2010/2011	259	269	256	242	229	218	210	1,689	240	1,674	-15	-1%
2011/2012	286	269	273	258	243	231	225	1,785	240	1,674	-111	-7%
2012/2013	281	297	273	276	259	246	239	1,871	240	1,674	-197	-12%
2013/2014	259	292	302	277	277	263	254	1,922	240	1,674	-248	-15%