

ADMISSIONS

RH13

RECEIVED



The Chief Executive,  
**EDUCATION LEEDS**  
FAO School Organisation Team,  
10th Floor West,  
Merrion House,  
110 Merrion Centre,  
Leeds  
LS2 8DT

30<sup>th</sup> January 2011

Dear Sir, Madam

**Response to proposals to create additional primary school provision to be run by Allerton Grange School and Roundhay School**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on proposals for additional primary school provision at Allerton Grange School and Roundhay School. Management Committee members of the Roundhay Planning Forum (RPF) attended the public meetings on Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at Roundhay School, Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at Allerton Grange School and Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2011 at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School.

In reply to your question 1a, the RPF neither agrees nor disagrees with Allerton Grange School and Roundhay School changing their age range to include primary provision.

In reply to your question 1b, the RPF agrees with the use of the former school site at Allerton Grange and the former Braim Wood School site for new primary school provision. RPF agrees with the principle of educational uses on the two sites as it appreciated that Leeds City Council has a statutory duty to provide an adequate number of school places in the Roundhay area.

The RPF also agrees with the proposal in principle because it would mean that the Allerton Grange and the former Braim Wood school sites would be retained by Leeds City Council for educational and school playing field uses.

This is welcome news as RPF has been very concerned that these playing fields could be sold off by Leeds City Council for residential development. RPF is keen to see playing fields such as these protected and enhanced for present and future generations.

RPF response to the two proposals is as follows:-

#### **A. Primary School Provision at site of former building and hard standing at Allerton Grange School**

RPF agrees in principle with the use of the site of the former school building at Allerton Grange for increasing school provision subject to the following:

- 1. Sustainability (Local Schools for Local Pupils).** It is unsustainable to create a primary school on this site to serve the needs of children living in other parts of the city such as Harehills and Chapeltown due to the increased need to travel. Primary school age pupils must have the opportunity to walk to their local school with parents/guardians. Pupils currently at Moor Allerton Hall Primary School and Allerton Grange School travel long distances, arrive to school by car or bus and therefore contribute towards traffic congestion, air pollution, anti-social car parking in and around the school campus. This is a significant community cohesion matter which Leeds City Council must take into account as part of its proposals.
- 2. Only the area of 6,050 m<sup>2</sup> of former building and hard standing is used for the new primary school building, play ground, car parking provision.** In addition to this, it is RPF's understanding from the public meeting on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011 that Leeds City Council would also retain the playing field off Talbot Avenue as a protected school playing field serving the new primary school provision.

Should Leeds City Council be minded to grant planning permission for a new primary school, then the extent of the new buildings and associated car parking, playground and hard standing must not extend beyond the original footprint of the old school and hard standing and enter the land designated as N6 (Protected Playing Pitch) in the Leeds UDP.

RPF would like to see the two existing school sports playing fields (protected by Leeds UDP Policy N6) retained and enhanced for school use and community use.

RPF would not want to see unnecessary subdivision of the playing fields with 8ft high fencing. The openness of the fields is part of its special character which must be maintained, not only for visual amenity, but also for local wildlife (in particular the movement of bats,

birds, foxes and other small mammals). Any required security fencing will need to be carefully designed and sited.

3. **The playing field off Lidgett Lane** (which will be declared surplus to Education Leeds' requirements and transferred to Asset Management section at Leeds City Council) must be made available for open community use and remain as green community playing fields and continue to be protected under Section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and Policy N6 of the Leeds Unitary Development Plan. RPF supports the work of the Friends of Allerton Grange (FoAG) in their aspirations to create a new community playing field at the Allerton Grange site.
4. **Flooding.** The playing fields, the new service road with its junction with Lidgett Lane and residential properties on Allerton Grange Avenue flood during moderate/heavy rainfall. Foundations of the old school, including drains were supposed to be removed to address the existing flooding problems as part of BSF Allerton Grange School planning permission. A number of trees (which helped soak up the flood waters, were also removed along Lidgett Lane during the construction of the BSF school. Any proposal for a new primary school will inevitably create large areas of new hard standing and will increase surface water run off and make the flooding situation worse on Allerton Grange Fields, Lidgett Lane and Allerton Grange Avenue. RPF would expect to see the implementation of a comprehensive drainage solution (as part of any future planning application discussions) so as to address the flooding issues.
5. **The new footpath linking Lidgett Lane to Talbot Avenue** secured as part of the BSF Allerton Grange planning application permission must be retained as part of any new primary school proposal. The new footpath and cycleway is very well used and a real asset for the local community. RPF were encouraged to hear from Tony Palmer (Head of Estates) at Education Leeds at the Public Meeting on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2010 that the footpath linking Talbot Avenue to Lidgett Lane will be retained with possible minor diversions.
6. **The existing and newly planted trees** on Allerton Grange Fields, secured by the previous BSF Allerton Grange School planning permission must be retained as part of new primary school proposal. RPF would also seek to encourage new tree planting, especially on the Talbot Avenue and Lidgett Lane boundaries.
7. **The setting of Grade II Listed Moor Allerton Hall (White House).** The removal of the old school buildings and hard standing as part of the BSF Allerton Grange School planning permission was a planning gain as the setting of the Grade II listed Moor Allerton Hall (White House) has been significantly enhanced. This is even more so since

the site has been grassed over and trees have been planted. The demolition of the old school has also improved the view of Moor Allerton Hall from Lidgett Lane. The proposal for a portacabin/modular primary school on the grounds of the old school will have a detrimental impact on the setting as well as the views of the grade II listed Moor Allerton Hall. A cheaply constructed building next to the luxury converted apartments at Moor Allerton Hall would be inappropriate, especially as the design of the BSF Allerton Grange School went to great lengths to ensure that impacts on the listed building were minimised. RPF welcomed the commitment made by Tony Palmer (Head of Estates) at Education Leeds that the design of the modular building on this site would be bespoke and respect the local character.

8. **Highways.** Lidgett Lane is considered as a 'length for concern' by the West Yorkshire Accidents Studies Unit as it is regarded as an accident black spot. FoAG expects to see a Full Transport Impact Assessment as part any future planning application. A new primary school would increase traffic on Lidgett Lane (even with a vehicle access point off Talbot Avenue) and put pressure on the local road network (there are already several schools and nurseries off Talbot Road, North Park Avenue, Lidgett Lane, Gledhow Lane and Old Park Road).

**A new pedestrian crossing on the Lidgett Lane and Allerton Grange Avenue junction** must be implemented to ensure a safe crossing point across Lidgett Lane. A new pedestrian crossing on Lidgett Lane is an aspiration within the existing Allerton Grange School Travel Plan (2009).

There must be sufficient car parking provision for staff and visitors on site as part of any proposals for a new primary school. This will help prevent all day car parking on Talbot Avenue (and surrounding streets) and Lidgett Lane.

In accordance with the current planning permission for the BSF Allerton Grange School, school buses should not use Talbot Avenue/Bentcliffe Gardens due to the restricted width of the carriageway.

FirstBus and MyBus services (yellow school bus service) should be allowed to use the new Allerton Grange School service road to drop off and pick up school pupils at the start and end of the school day. This will help ensure adequate vehicular and pedestrian safety on Lidgett Lane.

9. **The existing industrial grey palisade type fencing** along the schools' boundary on Lidgett Lane and Talbot Avenue and the driveway serving Brackenwood Community Centre and Moor Allerton Hall Primary School should be removed and replaced with black mesh

fencing and boundary trees and shrubs which would be more in keeping with the residential character of the area.

- 10. The landscape of school playing fields** should be enhanced with hedgerow planting, trees and shrubs to soften the Talbot Avenue and Lidgett Lane boundaries and enhance and maintain biodiversity.

## **B. Primary School Provision at site of former building and hard standing at former Braim Wood School**

RPF agrees in principle with the use of the site of the former Braim Wood school site for increasing school provision subject to the following:-

- 11. Sustainability (Local Schools for Local Pupils).** It is unsustainable to create a primary school on this site to serve the needs of children living in other parts of the city such as Harehills, Gipton and Seacroft due to the increased need to travel. Primary school age pupils must have the opportunity to walk to their local school with parents/guardians. Pupils currently at local schools in the area travel long distances, arrive to school by car or bus and therefore contribute towards traffic congestion, air pollution, anti-social car parking in and around the school campus. This is a significant community cohesion matter which Leeds City Council must take into account as part of its proposals.

- 12. Only the extent of the footprint of the former Braim Wood School should be used for new primary school and associated play ground and car parking provision.** Should Leeds City Council be minded to grant planning permission for a new primary school, then the extent of the new buildings and associated car parking, playground and hard standing must not extend beyond the original footprint of the old school and hard standing and enter the land designated as N6 (Protected Playing Pitch) and Green Belt N32 and Urban Green Corridor (N8) in the Leeds UDP.

RPF would like to see the existing school sports playing fields at the former Braim Wood site (protected by Leeds UDP Policy N6) retained and enhanced for school use and community use.

Due to the location of this site next to open countryside and Roundhay Park, any required security fencing will need to be carefully designed and sited.

- 13. The existing trees** on the former Braim Wood site must be protected during the construction of the new primary school.

- ✓ **14. The design of the modular building.** The design and construction of the modular building at the former Braim Wood site must respect the openness of the local area which is characterised by parklands and agricultural land. The views into the site must also be taken into account (especially from overlooking Asket Hill and the new long distance foot and cycle path, the Wyke Beck Way) when preparing the design and layout of the new school.
- ✓ **15. Highways.** The proposal must have adequate car parking provision for staff and visitors. A Green Travel Plan must also be adopted for this site to encourage pupils and staff to arrive to the school using sustainable modes of transport such as the bus and bike. The potential for better cycle provision in the area must be explored, especially along Wetherby Road. There is scope for the Wyke Beck Way / Sustrans route to be integrated into the new primary school. This will help provide a good link between the new primary school and Roundhay Park.
- ✓ **16. Historic infrastructure.** The southern boundary of the site along Wetherby Road contains the badly neglected and damaged remains of the entrance to the historic carriage drive to Elmet Hall (originally Roundhay Lodge, the house of Samuel Elam, the original purchaser with Thomas Nicholson of Roundhay Township). It consists of stone gate posts and long adjacent curved walls topped by an unusual stone balustrade. The redevelopment of the Braim Wood School site should included the restoration and preservation of this historic structure

For our records, I would be grateful if you could send me copies of the minutes of the public meetings held on:-

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2011  
Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2011  
Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2011

I would be grateful if you could confirm receipt of this letter and keep me informed on the next steps with the process.

If you have any queries or you would like to discuss the above, then please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

AG1 RM14

**Allerton Grange & Roundhay High expansion consultation**

Having read the proposals I am of the opinion that this is not a good idea.  
this is because:

- ✓ 1. the idea of a 4 - 18 school is good in theory for the reasons you outlined i do not feel these would be met by creatingm a separate buliding on the same grounds. A separate building will have separate staff, a separate culture and is simply an add on to save money not in the best interests of the pupils not a built and planned through school. (this is for both Allerton grange and Roundhay)
- ✓ 2. the Head Teachers at Allerton Grange/ Roundhay have Secondary experience and no primary knowledge. This would further increase the separation of the 2 sites. A separate manager would be needed for the school. Head Teacher in all but name.
- ✓ 3. Allerton Grange High School already has enough issues with large sections of the pupil population. While it is an improving school with an effective head teacher and inclusion manager showing progress it still remains a satisfactory school with much change already on its hands.

I feel a better proposal would be to expand the entry into Gledhow Primary school as it has substantial grounds that can be built on, is in the local area and is an outstanding school. You have an effective inclusion team with a head teacher with obvious Primary experience. You could increase the school by an extra form easily.

- ✓ In addition, by demolishing and rebuilding Talbot primary on the same gorunds you could build a new (it is far too small and outdated) 2 or 3 story school to increase the intake by one form while leaving adequate outdoor space, this is a good school with outstanding features and again, obvious Primary experience in the head teacher.

Both these schools are oversubscribed and produce excellent results.

I look forward to your response

RHIS

Wilson, Laura

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From:

Sent:

To:

Cc:

Subject:

Dear Sirs

I am the chair of the Governing Body of Grange Farm Primary School.

I have been involved with school both as a parent of the school for the past 22 years and have been party to reorganization, building of our new school, off site teaching whilst our new school was built. closure of Asket Hill and the impact of all of this not only on our school but our community.

I am concerned on several points about the above proposal.

Most of the schools in Seacroft currently have surplus places- and quite often this is in the Reception year - at the last count we had 5 surplus places at our School alone.

Although the figures show a significant increase in birth rates, there are still projected surplus places in several of the Seacroft schools- e.g. Beechwood. The proposal to build a new school would have a knock on effect on these schools and could result in even more surplus places. Sadly statistics show and the local consensus in the area is that parents would choose to move their children to the "school with the new building" creating more surplus spaces in our school and the schools serving our area. this happened when they build Kerr Mackie and children were taken out of Grange Farm and I am aware they were taken out in volume from the then Asket Hill Primary School.

At Grange Farm we currently take some children from the other side of the ring road and from the Roundhay catchments area (if there is such a thing any longer)

If the new school goes ahead, I am certain that this will create more surplus places in our schools in Seacroft. **In the current economic climate, to build a brand new school in order to them make redundancies in other schools seems illogical and I know that the local authority are currently looking closely at schools that have been able to manage their budgets efficiently to look at clawing back schools credit balances. Surely the cost of building a new school that IS NOT NEEDED TO ACCOMMODATE VOLUMES amounts to nothing less than gross negligent on behalf of the authority.**

Socially, the children who come to our school in Seacroft from the other side of the ring road often provide our school with a greater social and cultural mix. If the new school goes ahead at Roundhay, we will lose that diversity that has positive benefits for all concerned. Schools with a social and cultural mix offer richer and more real-life social opportunities for our pupils and I feel it is important to promote this.

On a totally different point - what effect will this have on the increase in traffic in traffic in an already very busy part of the city? How does this fit in with a green travel plan?

I was quite shocked that you only put on one public meeting- **to which we had short notice** and were unable to attend **was this intentional???** the meeting ( clashed with governor's meeting) and has provided little opportunity to engage in informed discussion about this proposal.

Why is the school proposed for 60 places? where do you expect the children will come from - have you considered the effect on the surrounding schools? If it has to go ahead, surely a 30 place school would be far

17/02/2011



more circumspect at this stage.

On behalf of the Governing Body of Grange Farm please accept this as our strong objection to the proposal to build a new school at Elmete Lane, primarily because we believe it will create more surplus places in the schools in our area and risk the chance of affecting the stability and day to day management of our school and the other schools in the area which can only have a detrimental effect on the education and social care we provide our children.

Yours sincerely



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RH16

**Wilson, Laura**

**From:**  
**Sent:**  
**To:** LEEDS School Organisation  
**Subject:** new school proposal- Elmete Lane

Re proposal for school at Roundhay - Elmete Lane  
I have several concerns about the above proposal.

- The schools in Seacroft all currently have some surplus places- in several schools this is in the Reception year(e.g. 5 surplus places in reception currently at Grange Farm). At Grange Farm we currently take some children from the other side of the ring road. If the new school goes ahead, I fear that this will create more surplus places in our schools in Seacroft. In the current economic climate, to build a brand new school in order to then make redundancies in other schools seems illogical.
- The children who come to our school in Seacroft from the other side of the ring road often provide our school with a greater social and cultural mix. If the new school goes ahead at Roundhay, we will lose that diversity that has positive benefits for all concerned. Schools with a social and cultural mix offer richer and more real-life social opportunities for our pupils and I feel it is important to promote this.
- Although the figures show a significant increase in birth rates, there are still projected surplus places in several of the Seacroft schools- e.g. Beechwood. The proposal to build a new school would have a knock on effect on these schools and could result in even more surplus places.
- Many parents from a wide area of Leeds will undoubtedly choose the proposed new school to secure a place at Roundhay High school- surely this will mean an increase in traffic in an already very busy part of the city? How does this fit in with a green travel plan?

I also feel that only having one public meeting- to which we had short notice and were unable to attend ( clashed with governor's meeting) has provided little opportunity to engage in informed discussion about this proposal.

Why is the school proposed for 60 places? If it has to go ahead, surely a 30 place school would be far more circumspect at this stage.

To conclude, I object to the proposal to build a new school at Elmete Lane, primarily because I believe it will create more surplus places in the schools in Seacroft.

This message has been processed by [Microsoft Exchange](#).

# 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

## 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.

RH17

### 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 type="radio"/> Strongly agree	<input type="radio"/> Agree	<input type="radio"/> Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="radio"/> Disagree	<input checked="" 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 type="radio"/> Strongly agree	<input type="radio"/> Agree	<input type="radio"/> Neither agree nor disagree	<input type="radio"/> Disagree	<input checked="" 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. -

- Not enough time for consultation: Plans to open in September 2012 seem very rushed when consultation is happening now, in 2011.
- Not enough opportunity for concerned/interested parties to express their opinions - very little publicity, very few people are aware of it, and there has been only one public meeting.

Continued overleaf

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

- Waste of public money: It would be far cheaper to increase capacity at other local primary schools
- Many surplus places in East Leeds already; the new school would take children from such schools, resulting in schools using money less efficiently and possible redundancy.
- Does a secondary school leadership team have the specialist knowledge needed to establish and run a primary school?
- Why does the new school need to have 60 places when there is spare capacity at local primary schools?

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

*Greater publicity*

*Longer consultation time - it feels like a 'done deal'!*

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

Name

Address

Email address:

Which school are you associated with? *Orange Farm Primary School*

- 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