



**LEAD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND INCLUSION, SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL
NEEDS AND DISABILITY**

DECISIONS to be made by the Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability, Councillor Bob Standley

TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 2.00 PM

CC1, COUNTY HALL, LEWES

A G E N D A

- 1 Decisions made by the Lead Cabinet Member on 19 June 2017 (*Pages 3 - 4*)
- 2 Disclosures of interests
Disclosure by all Members present of personal interests in matters on the Agenda, the nature of any interest and whether the Member regards the interest as prejudicial under the terms of the Code of Conduct
- 3 Urgent items
Notification of items which the Lead Member considers to be urgent and propose to take at the end of the appropriate part of the Agenda
- 4 Proposed expansion of Polegate School (*Pages 5 - 46*)
Report by the Director of Children's Services.
- 5 School age range change - Sandown Primary School (*Pages 47 - 50*)
Report by the Director of Children's Services.
- 6 Any urgent items previously notified under agenda item 3

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18 September 2017

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LEAD MEMBER FOR EDUCATION AND INCLUSION, SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY

DECISIONS made by the Lead Member for Children and Families, Councillor Sylvia Tidy, on 19 June 2017 at County Hall, Lewes

Councillor Alan Shuttleworth spoke on items 4 and 5 (see minute 4 and 5)

1 APOLOGIES

1.1 It was noted that Councillor Sylvia Tidy was taking the decisions on behalf of Councillor Bob Standley, who had given his apologies.

2 DECISIONS MADE BY THE LEAD CABINET MEMBER ON 21 MARCH 2017

2.1 The Lead Member approved as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 21 March 2017.

3 DISCLOSURES OF INTERESTS

3.1 There were no disclosures of interest.

4 URGENT ITEMS

4.1 There were no urgent items.

5 SCHOOL AGE RANGE CHANGES - SANDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

5.1 The Lead Member considered a report by the Director of Children's Services seeking approval to publish statutory notices in respect of a proposal to lower the age range at Sandown Primary School to enable the governing body to take on management of the onsite Maplehurst nursery, currently run by East Sussex Children's Centres.

5.2 The Lead Member RESOLVED to:

1) Authorise the publication of statutory notices in respect of a proposal to lower the age range at Sandown Primary School from 5-11 to 2-11. With the proposal to take effect on 1 January 2018;

2) Delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services to amend the proposals prior to their publication if required.

Reasons

5.3 The proposal to lower the age range at Sandown Primary school will help to build on work already done by the school in conjunction with East Sussex Children's Centres. This will help ensure a fully integrated Early Years Foundation Stage to help secure good outcomes for all children in the future.

6 POST-16 TRANSPORT STATEMENT 2017-2018

6.1 The Lead Member considered a report by the Director of Children's Services seeking approval for the Post-16 Transport Statement for the 2017- 2018 academic year.

6.2 The Lead Member RESOLVED to approve the Post-16 Transport Statement for the 2017-18 academic year as shown in Appendix 3, following the required consultation.

Reason

6.3 The County Council has carried out its legal duty to consult on the annual Post-16 Transport Statement. Since consultation there have been some small revisions to the wording but, in essence, the level of support the policy provides remains unchanged.

Report to: **Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability**

Date: **26 September 2017**

By: **Director of Children's Services**

Title of report: **Proposed expansion of Polegate School**

Purpose of report: **To seek Lead Member approval to publish statutory notices in respect of a proposal to expand Polegate School.**

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Lead Member is recommended to:

- 1) Authorise the publication of a statutory notice in respect of a proposal to expand Polegate School from 420 places to 630 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 60 to 90 with effect from 1 September 2019; and**
 - 2) Delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services to amend the proposals prior to their publication if required.**
-

1. Background

1.1 In recent years demand for school places in Polegate has increased as a result of new housing developments in the area. Latest birth and GP registration data indicates that in-area demand for places will continue to exceed the number of places available at the school in the coming years. Polegate School is a popular and successful school and has for the last two years admitted bulge Reception intakes to provide more places. For the September 2017 intake, 96 parents/carers selected the school as a first preference. The current PAN of 60 provides limited scope to meet parental preference.

1.2 The Council has a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places to meet demand and is therefore proposing to expand Polegate School to create additional permanent capacity.

2. Supporting information

2.1 In accordance with the prescribed process established by the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 the Council consulted over a 4 week period between 23 June and 21 July 2017 on a proposal to expand Polegate School from 420 places to 630 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 60 to 90 with effect from 1 September 2019.

2.2 The consultation document was available on the County Council's website and interested parties including: pupils, parents and carers, staff, the governing body, local schools, the local member, the district and town councils, the dioceses and the local MP were sent a link to the consultation. The Council issued a press release and used social media to inform the local community of the consultation. Details of the consultation were also included on Polegate School's website and in their newsletter. A paper copy of the consultation document was available on request. A copy of the consultation document can be viewed within the consultation report at **Appendix 1** of this report (see 2.5 below).

2.3 By the end of the consultation period 100 responses had been received either via the online questionnaire or by email. Of the responses:

- 53 (53%) support the proposal
- 26 (26%) do not support the proposal
- 19 (19%) were undecided
- 2 (2%) did not answer this part of the consultation

2.4 In summary there was a mixed response to the consultation. Those in favour of the proposal recognise the need for additional school places in the Polegate area linked to an increased demand due to a combination of rising birth rates and housing developments and the benefits it would bring to an ever growing community. Those who raised concerns about the proposal did so generally for the following reasons:

- Traffic congestion and parking
- Loss of playing field and facilities
- School hall requires enlargement
- Need for a new school

2.5 Please refer to the consultation report at **Appendix 1** which sets out the consultation process, an analysis of the responses received and the Council's response to the concerns raised.

3. Equality Impact Assessment

3.1 The Lead Member is required to have 'due regard' to the duties set out in Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 (the Public Sector Equality Duty, 'PSED') in determining these proposals. An Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been undertaken to identify the equality implications of this proposal and to identify any appropriate mitigations. A copy of the EqIA is appended at **Appendix 2**. The Lead Member must read the EqIA and take its findings into consideration when determining these proposals.

4. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

4.1 In conclusion the Council has a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places to meet demand and is therefore proposing to expand Polegate School to create additional capacity to serve the new housing developments in the area.

4.2 The majority of respondents to the consultation support the proposal to expand Polegate School. Concerns raised during the consultation relate largely to traffic and parking, loss of playing field and facilities and the requirement to enlarge the school hall. These issues would be addressed through the detailed design process undertaken before planning permission for the expansion was granted.

4.3 The Lead Member is therefore recommended to:

1) Authorise the publication of a statutory notice in respect of a proposal to expand Polegate School from 420 places to 630 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 60 to 90 with effect from 1 September 2019; and

2) Delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services to amend the proposals prior to their publication if required.

4.4 Publication of the statutory notice would trigger a further 4 week period of consultation, known as the representation period, when interested parties can comment on, or object, to the proposal. Within two months of the end of the representation period, the Lead Member must make a final decision taking into account the views of all those affected by the proposal or who have an interest in it.

4.5 It is anticipated that a final decision on the proposal would be taken by the Lead Member in December 2017.

STUART GALLIMORE

Director of Children's Services

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LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillor Daniel Shing

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Consultation report

Appendix 2 – Equality Impact Assessment



**PROPOSAL TO ENLARGE
POLEGATE SCHOOL
CONSULTATION REPORT**

September 2017

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Needs and Disability (LM) with the outcome of the consultation on the proposal to enlarge Polegate School from 420 places to 630 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 60 to 90 with effect from 1 September 2019.
- 1.2 The proposal is part of the Local Authority's strategy to ensure it is able to discharge its legal obligation to provide sufficient school places in the Polegate area to meet demand both now and in the future.
- 1.3 If the proposal is accepted the school would grow gradually as it fills from reception year upwards. The school would reach capacity when it has 90 children in each year group from Reception to Year 6 – a total of 630 children taught in 21 classrooms.

2. Department for Education (DfE) regulations

- 2.1 Proposed changes to the organisation of schools have to follow a prescribed process established by the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013. This process complied with these requirements.

3. The consultation

- 3.1 Public consultation took place over a 4 week period between 23 June and 21 July 2017. The consultation was available on the Consultation Hub, on the County Council's website and interested parties including: pupils, parents and carers, staff, the governing body, local schools, the local member, the district and town councils, the dioceses and the local MP were sent a link to the consultation and invited to participate. The Council issued a press release and used social media to inform the local community of the consultation. Details of the consultation were also included on Polegate School's website and in their newsletter. A paper copy of the consultation document was available on request. A copy of the consultation document is provided in **Appendix 1** of this report.
- 3.2 Interested parties could provide a response to the consultation by completing the online questionnaire, by downloading and returning a paper copy of the response form, or by email.

4. Consultation responses

- 4.1 The public consultation document asked consultees to respond to the following question:
 - Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?

Respondents were given the option of responding by indicating

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

- 4.2 By the end of the consultation period 100 responses had been received either via the online questionnaire or by email. Of the responses:
 - 53 (53%) support the proposal
 - 26 (26%) do not support the proposal
 - 19 (19%) were undecided
 - 2 (2%) did not answer this part of the consultation

- 4.3 Respondents identified themselves as:

- 64 Parents/carers of a child at Polegate School
- 3 Pupils at Polegate School
- 14 Members of staff at Polegate School
- 6 Governors at Polegate School

- 23 Members of the local community
- 7 Other (Local resident, Grand parent of children attending the school, ex pupil of Polegate school, an educationalist, local resident)
- 3 Not answered

It should be noted that some respondents ticked more than one box when identifying themselves.

5. Key issues raised by respondents

5.1 In summary there was a mixed response to the consultation. **Appendix 2** provides a list of all responses received. Those in favour of the proposal recognise the need for additional school places in the Polegate area linked to an increased demand due to a combination of rising birth rates and housing developments and the benefits it would bring to an ever growing community. Those who raised concerns about the proposal did so generally for the following reasons:

- Traffic congestion and parking
- Loss of playing field and facilities
- School hall requires enlargement
- Need for a new school

5.2 Of the 53 respondents who support the proposal:

- 22 recognise the need for additional places in the Polegate area and believe that Polegate is a good school with a good reputation. Expanding the school would improve parental choice and allow more local children and siblings to access this popular local school.
- 11 agreed that the school should expand but raised traffic and parking as an issue that would need to be resolved including the lack of space for a safe drop off for students and ensuring adequate staff parking facilities.
- 22 agreed as long as the facilities, eg staff room, library, kitchen, were improved; staffing levels adequate, and that not too much outdoor play area was lost and playgrounds extended. A particular concern was the size of the school hall, currently considered to be too small. It was strongly felt that this needed to be increased to accommodate the additional number of pupils.
- 6 agreed but highlighted that ICT, telephone, fire exits, school alarm facilities would need upgrading as well as services such as electricity supply and waste/sewer facilities
- 2 agreed but requested that the nursery gain back some outdoor space as part of its development.
- 8 offered no reason for agreeing

5.3 Of the 26 who do not support the proposal:

- 14 cited parking, traffic congestion, no lollypop person, as their main concern.
- 16 are concerned about the loss of the schools character / ethos and nurturing environment; that school facilities, with its limited school assembly hall, would not be able to cope with increased pupil numbers and the negative impact on facilities including play area.
- 9 consider that more schools should be built to accommodate the increasing number of housing developments.
- 6 are concerned about the impact on teaching and learning.
- 1 was concerned at the possibility of losing the swimming pool facility.
- 1 expressed concern that the school admits pupils from outside the area which impacts on the ability of children from the local area to secure a place at their local school.
- 1 was concerned that the provision of SEN facilities would be able to cope with increased pupil numbers.
- 3 offered no reason for disagreeing.

- 5.4 Of the 19 who were undecided about the proposal:
- 10 expressed concern that the school would lose some of its outdoor space including the swimming pool and that the school hall needs to be enlarged as it is already too small to cope with the current number of pupils.
 - 6 consider that more schools should be built to accommodate the increasing number of housing developments.
 - 5 cited parking and safety concerns due to increased traffic.
 - 3 are concerned that enlarging the school would result in loss of its family friendly and community feel.
 - 2 were concerned that the school would lose the swimming pool.
 - 1 offered no reason.

5.5 In response to these particular points:

- A traffic and parking assessment would be undertaken as part of the design and planning process. The school's travel plan would need to be updated and would be utilised by the school to encourage families to find alternative ways of travelling to school in order to reduce the number of car journeys. The design and statutory planning process would provide people with a further opportunity to raise concerns about traffic and parking.
- The school's facilities would be enlarged to accommodate the increased pupil numbers.
- The Council would ensure that any design solution for expansion makes best use of the site to create an environment that has a positive impact on teaching and learning.
- The Council considered a number of options for delivering additional school places in the area including whether to establish a new school. Taking into account factors such as financial viability, planning and highways and the location of new housing the Council determined that the proposed expansion of Polegate School would best serve the local area.
- The school was judged overall to be a 'Good' school with some outstanding features at its last Ofsted inspection in May 2014. The school is popular and regularly oversubscribed. The Council believes the proposed expansion would enhance the school's character and enable it to better serve its local community.

Polegate School Expansion consultation



To pupils, parents/carers, staff, governors and stakeholders

East Sussex County Council is proposing to expand Polegate School (Oakleaf Drive, Polegate, East Sussex, BN26 6PT) from 420 places to 630 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 60 to 90 with effect from 1 September 2019.

Why do we need to expand Polegate School?

East Sussex County Council (ESCC) would like to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children. Demand for school places in the Polegate area has increased in recent years as a result of new housing developments in the area. ESCC has a statutory duty to ensure there are enough school places and is therefore proposing to expand Polegate School to create additional capacity. If the proposal goes ahead additional accommodation would be provided to enable the school to expand.

Polegate School is a popular and successful school and, for the September 2017 intake, 96 parents/carers selected the school as a first preference. The current PAN of 60 provides limited scope to meet parental preference.

Are there site plans to show how the school would be expanded?

ESCC is in the early stages of consulting on the proposals. Initial scoping of the site has shown there is sufficient space for expansion. ESCC has appointed a design team to work up plans for the expansion. We would share their ideas with interested parties at a pre-planning consultation event at the school. All stakeholders, including local residents, would have the opportunity to view the plans, ask questions and make comments. This would enable the design team to take into consideration everyone's views before a planning application is submitted.

You would have a further opportunity to comment on the plans as part of the planning application process which is separate to this consultation.

How would the school deal with any possible increase in traffic and congestion?

A traffic and parking assessment would be undertaken as part of the design and planning process. The school's travel plan would need to be updated and would be utilised by the school to encourage families to find alternative ways of travelling to school in order to reduce the number of car journeys.

Would the school need to close during building work?

No. The building works would be planned carefully and contractors would work with the school to ensure that works are scheduled to keep disruption to a minimum. The building site would be a secure area to ensure the health and safety of the children, staff, parents/carers and visitors to the school.

How many children would be at the school once it is expanded?

It is intended that Polegate School would grow gradually, with 30 additional Reception year places offered each year. The school has admitted 90 in its Reception year in September 2016 and will do so again in September 2017.

Data to show how the number of places at the school would grow over the coming years:

	Academic year							
	2015/16	2016/17	2017/1 8	2018/1 9	2019/2 0	2020/2 1	2021/2 2	2022/23
Reception PAN	60	90	90	90	90	90	90	90
Total number of places	420	450	480	510	540	570	600	630

Would there be enough outdoor play space?

The design team would consider what improvements need to be made to the outdoor play space to ensure there is adequate provision for a larger number of children. Alongside this, the school would plan how it uses the space to provide adequate lunch and break times.

How can I give my views?

The consultation period runs until 21 July 2017.

You can give your views by:

- Completing the online survey
- Emailing ESCC at: school.consultations@eastsussex.gov.uk
- Printing the attached consultation document and returning a paper copy of the response form to: Catherine Denyer, Project Officer, Standards and Learning Effectiveness Service, East Sussex County Council, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1UE.

All comments must be received by 21 July 2017 or they cannot be taken into account.

If you would like a paper copy of the consultation document please contact Catherine Denyer on 01323 466886 or at catherine.denyer@eastsussex.gov.uk

What happens next?

Following the consultation period, a report setting out the responses received will be submitted to the Lead Member for Education, Inclusion and Special Educational Needs and Disability meeting in September 2017. The Lead Member will decide whether to proceed with the proposed expansion. If approved, a statutory notice would be published in the local newspaper probably in October 2017, followed by a period of four weeks when further comments or objections could be submitted. The Lead Member would consider any responses received during this time before making a final decision on whether to approve the expansion at a meeting likely to be held in December 2017.

The proposed expansion would also be dependent upon planning permission being granted for the physical enlargement of the school premises as outlined above.

Polegate School Expansion consultation Response form



Our proposal is to enlarge Polegate School from 420 places to 630 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 60 to 90 with effect from 1 September 2019.

East Sussex County Council would welcome your views on the proposal. Please complete this response form by **21 July 2017**. If you are completing a paper copy please send the form to Catherine Denyer, Project Officer, Standards and Learning Effectiveness Service, East Sussex County Council, County Hall, St Anne's Crescent, Lewes, East Sussex BN7 1UE.

Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?

Yes

No

Undecided

Please provide any comments below:

Which of the following best describes you?

- Pupil at Polegate School
- Parent / carer of a child at Polegate School
- Member of staff at Polegate School
- Governor at Polegate School
- Member of the local community
- Other (please say).....

About you...

We want to make sure that everyone is treated fairly and equally and that no one gets left out. That is why we ask you these questions. We will not share the information you give us with anyone else. We will only use it to help us make decisions and make our services better.

If you would rather not answer any of these questions, you don't have to.

Q1. Are you.....? Male Female Prefer not to say

Q2. How old are you?

Q3. What is your postcode?

Q4. Which of these ethnic backgrounds do you feel you belong to? (Your ethnic background is about lots of things like where your family comes from and the language you speak.)

White	Mixed	Asian or Asian British	Black or Black British
<input type="checkbox"/> British	<input type="checkbox"/> White & Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/> Indian	<input type="checkbox"/> Caribbean
<input type="checkbox"/> Irish	<input type="checkbox"/> White & Black African	<input type="checkbox"/> Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/> African
<input type="checkbox"/> Gypsy/Roma	<input type="checkbox"/> White & Asian	<input type="checkbox"/> Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/> Other*
<input type="checkbox"/> Irish Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/> Other*	<input type="checkbox"/> Other*	
<input type="checkbox"/> Other*			
	<input type="checkbox"/> Arab	<input type="checkbox"/> Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/> Prefer not to say

***Other Ethnic Group** If your ethnic group was not specified in the list please describe your ethnic group:

Q5. Would you say that you have a disability? (A disability is if you have a problem or illness to do with your mind or body and it makes it hard for you to do everyday things.)

Yes No Prefer not to say

Q6. If you answered yes to Q5, please tell us what problems you face. You may have more than one type, so please select all that apply. If none of these apply to you please select other and give brief details.

- A disability to do with your body (like problems walking, moving, getting around...)
- Problems with hearing or seeing
- Having a bad illness for a long time (like cancer, epilepsy, HIV or another serious sickness)
- Mental health problems (This is a problem to do with your mind and the way you feel. For example, if you feel upset, worried or angry a lot)
- Learning difficulties
- I do not want to say
- Something else, please specify

Q7. Do you regard yourself as belonging to any particular religion or belief?

Yes No Prefer not to say

Q8. If you answered yes to Q7 which one?

- Christian Hindu Muslim Any other religion, please specify
- Buddhist Jewish Sikh

Thank you for providing this information

ANALYSIS OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?	Comments provided
Yes	This is needed in the area and this is an excellent school. You need to expand Willingdon Community School too then rather quickly.
Yes	Eastbourne is an ever growing town. Polegate is a good school and providing more places for children to attend this school can only be a good thing in my view.
Yes	I am a parent of a 1 year old living locally and polegate school is our closest school. I would hope that expansion will make it more likely that my daughter will be offered a place when she is old enough. I do think that effort will need to be made to ensure that there is enough outside play areas and that the good standards are maintained and improved upon.
Yes	As a local resident new to the area I am thinking ahead to the school in which my baby will go to - have heard great things about Polegate but the number of places has always worried me. As a teacher also, whose school has currently grown in size, I see it as a great opportunity to increase a good school.
Yes	I am a parent of two children currently at Polegate School, with all the new houses which are being built in Polegate, then yes the school does need to expand. the only other option is for a new school to be built along with a new doctors centre, shops etc... and I can't see this happening anytime soon!! I would like to see the school grow , but without to much out door area being lost. The children need a larger hall, the current one only just fits the whole school in for assembly and lunchtime. I would also like the school to keep the school swimming pool, as I believe this is very important to the school and children.
Yes	
Yes	<p>There is a need with all the additional building in the area. It is an outstanding school and so plans and extension need to carefully considered to ensure that the school can continue to succeed. It would be terrible if this placed an additional pressure and caused problems beyond the staff control. They work so hard and are successfully despite a building that is already too small and has been extended randomly many times.</p> <p>Hall too small The school can never perform to all parents and so have to hire other venues which is not ideal. Children have to eat lunches in the classroom. The one member of office staff is faced with huge queues that extend beyond the carpark each morning! The playground for Infants is too small and the junior playground will need extending. Hard to see where the extension will go. The school needs more than one hall. It would be a shame if year groups were split. Toilets smell and are disgusting to walk by in the juniors it would be nice if they were moved elsewhere! My child does not like using them.</p>
Yes	I have worked at the school for many years and my son is currently The juniors. I support the expansion of the school but do think the need to consider other areas of the school is essential for it to function properly. The school will require a larger hall which it was desperate at the beginning of this year with the increased intake of children. I would also like to know what outside spaces would look like? It is important that the children do not lose their outside environment!
Yes	I think it's a great idea in theory however parking before and after school is already a problem and the facilities at the school are fantastic. My concerns would be that the facilities would be compromised to accommodate extra classrooms and also the school hall is quite small and already a squash for the children already there
Yes	<p>Many new housing developments are either going up and or proposed for the area, hindslands estate, and backing on to Seven Sisters Road too. The schools fail to meet the needs for the constant expansion, so primary school developememt to accommodate the influx is a necessity. Polegate being a much sort after school with constant waiting lists cannot meet these needs with its current infrastructure needs urgent development. As the network administrator for the school, the computer infrastructure will need a full over haul, with a dedicated server room with air conditioning, backed on to network mangers office, 2 server racks housing new servers and Sans in a failover configuration, and a substantial NAS for file archiving and backups. A partial redesign of the computer network, integrating the existing infrastructure, especially when you are providing services for in excess of the total proposed 630 pupils, the excess of 50 school staff, plus Polegate school nusrery. The telephone system would need examining and possibly upgrading, to accommodate the internal phone structure, iP phones being the best strategy. The school has a licensed radio system, that may need upgrading, to accommodate the more staff required especially at lunchtime. Replacing the school fire alarm system is required, the current system has no room for expansion, and an addressable system would perfect, also a different sound, visual or tone etc for either visually impaired or hearing impaired, also to implement lockdown policies. The school hall and kitchen urgently needs addressing to accommodate so many more children. Current services in the school would need upgrading, possibly the mains electrical supply, to accommodate the extra rooms, etc. The waste water sewer needs an overhaul as we constant issues with blockages. Especially when escalating the head count by and excess of 200. As with any expansion on this scale consulting with the staff, is imperative as they they can bring forward the current problems and possible ideas for solutions, whether they are achievable or not a full staff consultation could be really beneficial.</p>

Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?	Comments provided
Yes	
Yes	If the school is to increase in number of children, in addition to more classrooms and work spaces, it also desperately needs a bigger hall, preferably an additional hall and a larger entrance/reception office area.
Yes	The school needs a bigger hall and an additional hall
Yes	We moved into Polegate 2 years ago and now have a 2 year old. Schools have always been a worry for me especially, with the already dramatic and further proposed expansion of the town, and this is the school I want my child to go to, as it is the closest to us and a great school. We would also be able to walk directly along the Cuckoo Trail to get to it from our house, which is a much safer route with a young child as we would be away from the roads. In my opinion, it would be fantastic if it is expanded, so long as the school will be sufficiently prepared with teachers, sufficiently equipped classrooms with enough outdoor space, then I think I am 100% for it.
Yes	I am a resident in Polegate, with Polegate Primary School being the closest to me. From what I hear (from locals and my sister who was previously a teacher at Willingdon Primary) it is a great school, and it is the one that I will be looking to get my child into in September 2019. I support the expansion of the school, as I think it will give local residents like myself a better opportunity to get our children into the best local Primary school and ensure that they have the best education available, which is critical to their youth development and opportunities as an adult. I would be interested in hearing more about the proposed development, and any other meetings/events that may be occurring in which I can further air my opinion on why I think this would be a great thing for Polegate.
Yes	
Yes	Fantastic school. Great that more children can benefit from the amazing education on offer.
Yes	Very good school providing a good standard of education that local parents should be able to take advantage of.
Yes	The school is over subscribed and it is a good/outstanding school so many more children can receive a great education. There are a number of new buildings going up in the area and this will serve some of the demand.
Yes	Yes if this is true to word of supporting LOCAL children and ensuring siblings will attend the same school.
Yes	I support the proposal as long as there will be adequate room for all children. At the moment the school hall is far too small, needs to be much bigger or have two halls. The library would need to be bigger as reading is an important part at these ages. I do hope the school pool doesn't get taken away, the children love it. Also playground space is limited now.
Yes	I support the proposal to increase the size of Polegate School. The School is already stretched to accommodate its pupils in the hall. The school drastically needs an improved bigger and better hall, along with increase in size of entrance and exits of the school, as know it's quite bottle knocked. The playing field needs to be considered, and strategically used to accommodate the children at break times without compromising on space. I have 3 children at the school, one who is in reception and was in the year they first increased classes to 3. This was positive for Polegate School but with it has come it's problems. In order for the school to accommodate the new amount of pupils. It's quite fundamental that the expansion goes ahead. I have one child who is disabled and the SENCO team do an amazing job in such limited space, to see this improved in size would be very welcomed amongst all the SEN Parents.
Yes	As long as you are given all resources necessary for expansion I am fully behind the development, here are some of my concerns I.e an expansion of the assembly hall fire exits and procedures reviewed Catering facilities reviewed Expansion of class rooms (not pre-fab) Full understanding and confidence in all teachers and governors in the development of the children and governance of a new and larger school Extra space for drop off and pick up points around the perimeter of School
Yes	This will be a great improvement to an already outstanding school. The school take challenges in their stride and welcome the change.
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	The school definitely needs help in increasing the size of its buildings if this proposal was to go ahead because the school is already bursting at the seams currently, with children and parents being packed like sardines into the hall to watch assembly's etc....
Yes	The nursery is also under development and will have a lot less outdoor space and awkward natural nooks after its extension by ESCC As part of the school plans could Nursery gain a bit back again esp as outdoor learning is a core principle there. Maybe some of the end car park spaces (if they are expanding parking elsewhere and there are no services underground) could be used to extend the grassy area again as part of whole school development. Despite separate planning applications Nursery part of school.
Yes	

Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?	Comments provided
Yes	With the new housing developments that have been erected in Polegate, westham and stone cross it is crucial that children have local school placements and therefore the expansion of an already good rated school is necessary
Yes	Having had the stress of our son not originally being allocated a place in 2016, we strongly support the expansion of Polegate school. Especially as the town is growing from new developments.
Yes	More on-site staff car parking will be needed. Already, during term time, a number of school staff cars are parked all day in Oakleaf Drive and Windsor Way.
Yes	The area is becoming increasingly over populated with no extra school provision planned. The school is an excellent school with 'outstanding' leadership and vision. Therefore it makes complete sense that Polegate School is developed further. With this in mind the building needs to include a much larger hall to allow for the school ethos of 'togetherness' to continue. The expansion needs to allow Polegate School to continue with its vision of excellence without any detriment to the children already attending the school and future attendees.
Yes	The additional building being carried out in the area is stretching resources and the school needs to expand to meet demand. I am concerned that this needs to be done with thought and care so it does not undermine the quality of education. The school is incredible and as it is now the building is not fit for purpose! The facilities are inadequate. the hall is too small and this impacts on the education children receive and quality of worship. The library is too small. Toilets inadequate. ICT facilities will not be sufficient for additional pupils. The playground is too small for infants and the junior playground needs enlarging. the building is dated and tired, windows need replacing. It would be lovely if the design was more modern and refreshed the whole school this would reflect the work that goes on within the school. Our children deserve the best and this should not be restricted by a small budget. I am assuming it is more cost effective than a new school would have been.
Yes	I agree the school needs expanding to meet the needs of future generations in polegate. However the school is in desperate need of a bigger hall and recreation space right NOW!! I hope this will be done with urgency to enhance the school for current pupils. Also the current parking situation at school drop off/pick up time is highly dangerous and the roads are very busy. Any expansion would need to consider this and improve parking where possible, or consider staggered start and finish times to help with congestion.
Yes	I am concerned about the lack of playground and hall space for an increasing number of children. The hall is already tight for the current amount of children we have so this needs much consideration. As an intervention teacher working with SEN children I would like to see not just additional classrooms being built but also extra areas for interventions to take place as there will be more children needing support as the amount of children at the school rises.
Yes	Due to the expansion in the area, it makes logical sense for the children to attend a local, thriving primary school.
Yes	The school needs a bigger hall to allow for more pupils at assembly and lunchtime.
Yes	Successful school providing places for an increasing local area/population
Yes	Excellent idea as it is such a popular school!
Yes	Polegate school is an excellent school and I welcome to schools growth, however with growth must come expansion in the correct areas. The school encourages families to attend events within the school so for this to continue the school hall needs to much bigger so the whole school to still come together as one which benefits children, staff and families. The outside space will also need to accommodate the extra class within each year group. Also being a local resident more needs to be put in place to encourage families to walk to school, as drop off and pick up times can get very congested with people parking illegally and dangerously, with an extra class in each year group and an increase of staff, traffic and parking is only going to become more difficult therefore increasing the danger for the children, families and staff.
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	Much needed given the new housing in the area.
Yes	We have moved to Polegate and there simply isn't any other school near enough.

Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?	Comments provided
Yes	<p>In the design process the following issues need to be addressed:</p> <p>The hall size is too small, and has three main uses - Assemblies, PE/gym/sports, dining space. Polegate needs a bigger hall with stage, separate sports hall, and separate dining hall. Limited outdoor space - playgrounds are too small. Office and entrance too small. Staff car park too small. Pick-up and drop off area needed for cars. We are lucky to have a swimming pool, but improvements are needed to make it larger and indoors (it is currently "covered" but not strictly indoors).</p> <p>Comparative local schools are: Grovelands (three form entry) has two halls and proper staging for shows. Extensive playgrounds and field space with a huge car park and drop off area for parents. Ocklynge has a huge hall and indoor swimming pool again, far larger playgrounds</p>
Yes	<p>My concerns are</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The size of the hall is too small at present and further expansion would make this too crowded and unsafe for children. 2) Playground space limited 3) Library too small 4) Position of offices need to be together 5) May need to move main entrance to school 6) ICT facilities would need to be increased 7) Size of staffroom is too small with new expansion 8) Infant playground is too small 9) Car parking inadequate on school premises and not managed outside school. The way some parents park is illegal and poses a danger for children's safety 10) Parent drop off would increase, posing more congestion and risk to children.
Yes	<p>As the co-chair of Polegate school I welcome the expansion. However in order for the school to continue to be successful we would need to expand the hall, the playground space, the size of the staffroom and the ICT facilities. The school could be even more efficient if it were possible to have all the offices together in an admin block. Car parking at the school and a place for parents to park to drop off children are already a problem so consideration would be needed to be given to improving these. The main entrance to the school is very small and people have to cross the car park to get to it so I recommend that a new main entrance be considered.</p>
Yes	<p>Ofsted reports and the growing demand for places in the school clearly highlight its success and that " learning has no limits". I hope that as a result of the expansion the areas that need to be addressed will be carefully considered and solved . These are:</p> <p>The repositioning of the school entrance to be at the heart of the school with an enlarged car park and more space for the safe drop off students. The current situation is very dangerous and congested at peak times in the area and roads near the school gates. The present staff room is cramped . A larger hall is needed, even at the moment whole school gatherings are congested and activities hindered by the hall being used as a dining area at lunch time. Improved ICT facilities are needed along with a library and more office space. office infant playground and general playground areas need redesigning to utilise the limited space. These improvements are based on the existing school intake and will obviously become more pressing as the school grows. Therefore the most welcome expansion would provide an ideal opportunity to solve them</p>
Yes	<p>As a member of staff, I feel it is extremely important to ensure provision of adequate outdoor space for the nursery, it is so important for the nursery to continue to have outdoor learning spaces. With extending the nursery, this will cut our garden down considerably, if possible utilising the current car parking spaces would be a great advantage to the nursery and the school.</p>
Yes	<p>If the school is extended then the following points need to be addressed. Classrooms need to flow and shared areas need to remain. If the front car park is built on, then staff parking needs to be looked at, as parking is already an issue. Parking needs to be monitored by a parking person for residents and pupils safety . Reception needs to be at the front of the school, with offices together. The swimming pool should remain and would be a great asset if it was useable all year either by the school or hired out part of the year. If the school is extended then ICT, library and playground space needs to be big enough to accommodate 630 pupils. The staff room should be big enough to accommodate extra teaching staff and adequate work space for teachers.</p>
Yes	<p>Concerns around the communal spaces and pressures that the numbers put on the infrastructure: The size of the hall, playground space and library for example. Also the infant playground at present is small and would be too overcrowded. There would be increased pressures on space for parking and drop off areas (already difficult).</p>

Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?	Comments provided
Yes	<p>I support the expansion but have concerns about the following:</p> <p>Hall - this was built originally for 150-200 pupils, it is on the verge of being too small for a two form entry, so another school hall would need to be built to accommodate the extra classes. With free school meals for infants, it takes upwards of two hours for lunch in the hall, so this would need to be addressed immediately.</p> <p>Playground space - some playground space would be taken by the new building, so expansion of the playground/another playground would need to be adopted.</p> <p>Parent drop off - simply encouraging parents to use alternative transport will not work, parents will drive their kids to school regardless. Systems need to be put in place to not allow drop off - I have no answer to how this could be done unfortunately!</p> <p>To consider moving the main entrance to the school so as to accommodate the new building</p> <p>The following would need to be expanded to facilitate the extra classes: Library, ICT facilities, Size of staff room, Infant playground is very small for a two form entry let alone a three form entry, Car park (for the extra staff - it is full with a two form entry)</p>
Undecided	<p>Increasing the size means making the school less of community school, it will lose that friendly family feel that the head teacher knows everyone etc. Plus I can see it being extended to another class soon due to the more houses you want to build in Polegate. Along with the school hall being too small to fit all the classes in there at the moment, let alone with parents there. It is a complete joke. I am sure there was a request before to extend the school but it was turned down but funny enough more houses got approved to be built. But surely it would be a far more sensible thing to purchase some land big enough and build a school that is future proof in size for the insane amount of houses that are proposed to be built. Then the existing site can be sold and houses built on it, which I am sure the council would prefer more than say building say a doctors, dentists all in one place.</p>
Undecided	<p>The school is definitely not big enough currently for an increased number of children and I favour a small environment. However the ridiculous amount of recent building in the area means we must address the infrastructure which cannot cope at the moment let alone in the future.</p>
Undecided	<p>The selling point to the school is the excellent leadership but also the use of outdoor space to include the swimming pool forest school areas, all terrain sport area. We would not want these to be lost. If they were preserved and children weren't have meals at silly times then I would support. Concerns are size of school hall would need to be increased.</p>
Undecided	<p>Whilst I understand the need to expand the school I have serious fears for the safety of children and adults due to obvious increase in traffic on already over crowded roads.</p>
Undecided	<p>I appreciate the need for the extra places but parking is a premium in that area. The commuters use it, the community centre overflow, the library and the residents. I do not see how this can be resolved as there is already a problem with it. As a working mum I have no choice but to use my car to pick up my child and I'm sure a lot of other mums have the same problem. This is my only issue with the expansion.</p>
Undecided	<p>Why can't a new school be built rather than cramming more kids and traffic into an already squashed area. Surely with the extra housing that is being built this should have been taken into account then, force the developers to improve local amenities rather than adding more pressure on to the already stretched ones.</p>
Undecided	<p>I am in favour of the plans if it is handled correctly for example the school hall is barely big enough now so needs to be made bigger also the outdoor space need to be expanded and lay out of the school needs to be improved.</p>
Undecided	<p>Expanding the school is likely to have a detrimental effect on its community feel - whole school assemblies will be impossible without a larger school hall being built and, having attended these as a parent, these are excellent in having the children share in each other's successes/learning.</p>
Undecided	<p>It is great for the school that so many parents want their children to attend but the school will struggle to accommodate them.</p> <p>The school hall cannot accommodate the number of pupils at this current time it is way too small.</p> <p>Also the school cannot afford to lose any outdoor space for the children to play in.</p>
Undecided	
Undecided	<p>I am all for supporting the local children in the community and ensuring that there's a school place nearby for them, my main concern would be how you would fit the extra 210 pupils in...obviously the school would need to be expanded but to what expense? Would it mean losing a big chunk of play ground? Which in turn would mean less time outside for the children. My other concern is the size of the hall, it is already too small for the pupils that already attend!</p>
Undecided	<p>I feel that the school is already at its maximum capacity. The school hall is not big enough for assemblies and dinner time as it is with out extra children. It's a lovely school and I'm concerned that taking in this many more students is going to ruin this. There have been so many new homes built in the area that a new school should have been built to take on the extra children, rather than squeezing them all into Polegate.</p>

Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?	Comments provided
Undecided	I agree that there is a big need for more school places in the area. Polegate school is a great school and I'm worried that increasing numbers will alter the feeling of the school, and what they can offer. The school doesn't currently have the facilities to accommodate more children and would need significant improvements. One big concern is the school hall and classrooms space.
Undecided	I feel that the school needs to expand but I would not like the outside space to be any less than what it is, if any thing it needs to expand if the school does. It would be a shame to lose the wildlife area as they get so much joy and experience from it, all so the pool is a very important part of the school which should not be lost. I feel the school hall at the moment is too small and needs to be bigger so polegate does not lose there personal touch it is such a lovely personal school the headteacher knows all the children by name if the school expands I would be worried it would lose the personal touch as it would be harder for her to know them personally. All so they have a amazing sen department which is outstanding with the school growing I feel that this should not be missed in the expansion and they should have an area.
Undecided	<p>Concerns:</p> <p>1) Lack of local parking. There is already huge issues with parents parking am and pm. Lots of illegal / very unsafe / downright dangerous parking which is unregulated and causes lots of frustration and also road rage amongst parents (I have witnessed many an angry and aggressive encounter between parents in cars / pedestrians and parents in cars). School unsupported to deal with this. Current situation is an accident waiting to happen. Increasingly size of school substantially worries me massively in that this will worsen. Some sort of a formal drop off point (like Grovelands) would be brilliant and may help ease it for older children? Also missing lollypop lady currently which makes risks outside school significantly higher.</p> <p>2) That breakfast and after school clubs will have the added capacity needed to support working parents.</p> <p>3) Current buildings are already cramped (especially the junior school) and the hall is already too small. Significant improvement / expansion will be needed to accommodate the new classes / children being proposed.</p>
Undecided	My son goes to polegate and it is a fab school. My concerns would be that the parking around the school is currently horrendous and at times dangerous. I would hope that a lollipop person would be recruited. I also hope that the head gets extra support as she will be stretched supervising the school as well as she and the team already do.
Undecided	As a past pupil, current parent to a child in year 5 and a future parent of a reception child starting this year I believe if you was to extend the school to a 90 year intake each year it would put a strain on the existing building. The school hall at the moment is far to small to take the current intake they have now let alone 30 more children in September this year so that would need to be extended greatly to accommodate them all in assembly and at lunch time as it is the only hall they have. More classrooms will be needed which will mean if the school cannot be extended up the children would loose outdoor play areas which they greatly enjoy using and will be a shame. Please do not get rid of the school swimming pool in your plans to extend as this has been a feature of the school for as long as I can remember and was there when I was at school 20 years+ ago. The school will cope with the teacher side of it all as the head teacher is fantastic as are all the teachers there I just hope the extra children n classrooms will not take away the outdoor space they currently have.
Undecided	<p>Whilst there is a need for school places for children in the Polegate area I do have some concerns. The school is on a residential area and has restricted ability to increase outside space. Building work on existing outside spaces may affect the outdoor activities/ playgrounds available to the children. If the building work is to be a second story I still have concerns about overcrowding in the existing outside spaces with the large increase in children.</p> <p>One major concern I have is with parking. The school have been pro active with trying to encourage parents to use other methods to collect children but it is not always possible for everyone to walk to the school. For example, as a working parent I leave for work immediately after drop off and arrive from work just in time to pick up. Parking is horrendous as it is, with a definite increase in difficulty with the extra reception class last year. Increasing intake by 30 more children each year it is only going to make it worse. The residential area does not support on street parking close by at this present time and if the school intake is going to be increased then innovative, creative or practical measures need to be taken to provide parking to allow for the safe and timely drop off and collection of children.</p> <p>Unless the building plans include the provision of a new car park the only other large car park is next to the train station in town. Perhaps the school could pick up/ take children (who are collected by car) to that car park where parents can be waiting. Another suggestion is a school bus/buses to collect children.</p> <p>I feel this is a priority matter when it comes to planning as if the parking issue is not fully addressed chaos will ensue and safety of the children may be affected.</p>
Undecided	I have two children at Polegate school. 1 in a year of 60 and 1 in a year of 90. It is an amazing school which is being over subscribed to because there are no others and what would be a much better solution would be to build a new school. It's not fair on the kids!!
No	The school hall is too small. More cars around the school making it even more of a nightmare than it already is for residents who live in the area. The school wouldn't have this problem if they stopped letting people outside of the area send there kids to the school where as people who actually do live in the area are having to send their kids to Hailsham etc . Polegate residence should get priority over this but currently don't.

Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?	Comments provided
No	Polegate School is a fantastic school where both my children go, one of the key things that make it so great is the size. I completely agree that there are insufficient places to give 1st preference to new pupils, but with the continued growth of the surrounding area and the number of new homes under construction, expanding the school is a temporary solution to a bigger problem. This of course doesn't even begin to address the problems and issues that would be caused with additional traffic in the area, already the school newsletter regularly has letters from local residents complaining or indeed reporting near misses, with over another 100 pupils it will only be a matter of time before a serious accident happens. In my opinion the only practical solution is another school in Polegate.
No	We do need more school places in the local area but by enlarging one school like this it means we take from of a larger area and more parents then travel by car to get there. A better solution would be to provide another school.
No	
No	
No	Polegate school has always been a popular and friendly school, whose strengths lie in knowing each and every child. By expanding the school further, not only dies it put extra pressure on school staff but also the immediate environment. At present, children play in adequate space- if this is increased school field will be lost. Not only am I a parent of two children at the school, but I am also a local resident. Currently, school drop off time is unbearable! Parents do not park or stop considerably and local residents are often blocked in their driveways and met with abuse when they ask them to move. The road ways, entrance and exit to the school are already inadequate for the amount of traffic- and it's only going to get worse. I totally oppose the expansion, for numerous reasons. Have alternatives been sought? Is Willingdon Primary expanding? Is there an opportunity to build a new school with more modern facilities- rather than adding more children into dated buildings already in need of careful management to keep it running? Alternative must be sought before agreeing to this madness!
No	The school is already suffering with limited whole school space such as main hall and playground space. One of the main reasons we chose Polegate was due to the manageable numbers. Although it will not affect my son as he moves through the school there is the very real possibility that students will be 'lost'
No	Hi, am one of the Parents that my 2 Children attend Polegate Primary School. Just like to say that the school can not cope with Additional 30 Children each academy year as the Assembly hall is far too small to fit all the children, we must also consider Health and Safety aspect with the children in the playground. The teaching level will decline as extra 30 Children will put extreme pressure on the teachers. We must also consider the local resident who live in and around the school area how this affects their daily lives with extra traffic and pollutions, The school does not even have a lolly pop lady so extra traffic can put children lives at risk, what we need to do is ask the Private Developer who put loads of properties in and around the area to build extra Schools and Dr Surgery. Please consider my views
No	The land size is not big enough for the proposed extensions. It would cut off an already too small fields and playgrounds. While there are some very good teachers at the school the special needs department should be developed further for the existing children before adding more that will be lost in the over crowded school. Extending upwards would cause too much upheaval for the children. While I agree Polegate needs more school places, a whole new school would be more beneficial
No	Main concern is the traffic as currently it is a nightmare (no lollipop operator), local police don't attend to combat people parking on yellow lines, driving erratically etc. It's difficult as it is to fit all the classes in to do swimming never mind with additional classes. There will be more people travelling in to area for the school as even though there are new estates they won't have an additional 30 kids for each year. Thus leading to additional traffic.
No	Don't agree with the proposal for more school places The area that holds the school is not large enough to take anymore pupils The school field would need to be used and therefore the health and wellbeing of pupils would be affected The surrounding roads would not take the extra traffic this would generate Bigger schools are not the answers primary schools need to remain small and friendly What about secondary schools would they be able to take the extra
No	I cannot see how expanding Polegate School will be a good idea. Currently the road it is situated in is a parking nightmare and the drop off and pick up times are absolutely chaotic. The residents nearby must be appalled at the idea of making the school larger. We have a tiny school hall which barely fits all children at present, lunchtimes are terrible trying to organise where children sit and eat their meals and there is an issue of a lack of toilet facilities for both children and adults. I understand that these issues would be taken into account and a big hall along with more toilet facilities would be an absolute must. However, you cannot make parking any more accessible or indeed ask the residents to become more tolerant of a greater number of vehicles being driven to the school. To me this issue alone is far too great to overcome.
No	Polegate certainly needs another school however I do not support making Polegate school larger. There simply isn't enough room at the current site and the quality of teaching and learning environment is jeopardised
No	I feel it would be far more practical and necessary to open another primary school instead of putting pressure on an existing one. There are more and more houses being built in the area and I feel this option is sticking a finger in the whole to stop the leak whilst another appears. Expanding the school threatens the ethos and the nurturing environment of the school. Physically the school is not big enough, the school hall is very small as it is and would not be fit for purpose. The playgrounds are quite small and the extra children would mean less playing space. Parking is already an issue around the school and an extra 100 or so parents would have a major impact and threaten the relationship between residents, the school and the parents.

Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?	Comments provided
No	The school has limited facilities already in relation to the size of the main hall, classrooms etc there isnt a vast amount of land space available to expand and too much expansion would destroy the wonderful environment that the children currently have to learn in. Having an intake of 90 per year is ridiculously large for a school for the teachers to be able to educated the pupils properly. Would it not be more prudent for the council to purchase some land between langney/polegate/hampden park/stone cross area and build a new primary school which could then cope with the overflow of the increased housing and the extra children. This would then increase job in the local area and have been test results as smaller classes will allow teachers to focus on their pupils better.
No	I am a resident of one of the many new housing estates that have gone up in and around Polegate. It was our understanding when we bought the house 5 years ago that there would be a nursery amongst other local facilities also built on site on the "business" side of the development. My understanding is that this is also true of other new estates with one promising a GP surgery and rumours of a new school also to be built in the area. These have not materialised and it seems that these were only "promised" on paper to ensure that planning permission for all of these new FAMILY homes i.e. households with children, was and still is passed. It is wrong to expect a small, community school such as Polegate to absorb the massive influx of children into the town which is solely due to the new housing estates. I'm aware that obviously funds will be made available to make essential improvements to the school infrastructure so that a larger pupil population can be received but the school is barely big enough as it currently is to sufficiently hold the number we currently have. The extra classrooms will further reduce the playground and playing field space available to the children and the hall is inadequate for their needs as numbers currently stand. The central area within the Juniors section of the building is in poor repair also. PLUS - to increase the school dramatically to the degree this decision will, completely alters what is fundamentally the school's strength. It is a small community school and this allows the children to develop that community spirit, it is key to why the school is a success as it stands. These housing estates should not be granted planning and building permission if there is no intention of fulfilling the terms put forward i.e. building a new school a new GP surgery a new nursery and countless other facilities that were promised. And this is coming from someone who lives in one of these new estates. I am deeply upset and saddened that my children's education and school experience will now be put at risk and completely altered simply because construction companies want to make a ridiculous profit.
No	
No	This school is unique for its size and amount of students attending and because of this the quality of teaching is good. Another school needs to be built in Polegate to meet the demands
No	Traffic in the area is already bad buses schedules are not fit for purpose if you 200 more pupils that's probably same amount of cars the roads are not able to cope with that you should be looking to build new schools with all the new housing in the area parents cannot afford bus fares so will use their cars
No	We have lived in Malcolm Gardens for around 20 years, over that time we have noticed the following changes. When we moved to present address there was a crossing lady to assist with the safe crossing of both children and adults. This has now been removed on cost cutting exercise, not for child safety. Due to the location of the school being 50 yards from a sharp bend in Oakleaf Drive and oppersite a road junction with Windsor Way. Parking for residents and parents taking there children to the School is getting worst every day. This a accident waiting to happen. The following roads are being used for parking Windsor Way, Oakleaf Dive ,Malcolme Gardens, Greenleaf Gardens.This causes congestion and frustration for drivers with the addition of 180 more pupils this will cause grid lock and accidents, the School and area can not take the traffic that will be generated buy the additional 180 pupils.
No	Polegate school is a wonderful school but over crowding and building will take this from the school it shall become smaller play areas teaching may become less than the excellents it is at now the school hall/dining area is already to small extending this shall again fake from play area
No	The roads in the area cannot support the additional traffic. The expansion would have a huge impact on neighbours. The loss of play/ sport space would be tragic, we all need to move more.
No	My child is currently at Polegate school and really loves it there. My concerns over expanding the school are, they are already going to lose part of the junior playground due to having to expand the hall, and they will lose more of their play areas, including the field which the children love being able to play on in the summer and use for sports days. Parking! This is already a massive issue not only for residents of the surrounding area but also for parents trying to get their children to school, very often cars are parked over driveways, on yellow lines and in disabled bays, this would only get so much worse and the chance of an accident happening would massively increase. I believe that building another school would be better and safer for the children, as I am sure there will be more homes built in Polegate.
No	The school does not have the infrastructure to take that amount of extra children, the school hall is not big enough for the amount of children it at this time. with nowhere for children to sit and eat lunch, And playground space has all ready been taken away with last years development, and if more is taken were will the children play? It would be a big shame if you used the area were the swimming pool is, as this is a very good item the school has and should be used more as we live in an area near the sea and all children should be proficient swimmers at there age and is also good for them to promote healthy life style at this age as it lasts a life time. The only way i can see were you could and need to if this goes ahead, is upwards ie. another floor on top of the original school building foot print then i could see it working in the years ahead. And issue funding for the swimming pool to keep it open all year long.
No	As a parent of 2 children who already attend Polegate School, I am already aware of the high level of traffic that surrounds the school around drop off and picking up times. With the increase of pupils, this would only get worse and potentially more hazardous for all pedestrians as there are quite a few parents who lack responsibility and careful driving skills whilst driving around this area at these times. On several occasions have accidents been narrowly avoided, this will not improve with more children on roll. The school was not originally designed to take the increased number of pupils and the younger years have already lost a significant amount of their outdoor play area due to the increased classes. To suggest they would lose even more is unthinkable. The corridors and school hall are already at full capacity and the school cannot cope with such a huge increase to its PAN. This will directly effect the stress levels of those teaching our children and in turn will effect the learning environment for the children themselves. As a parent, I am seriously concerned that the increase is a detrimental move to the future of Polegate School.

Do you support the proposal to expand Polegate School to provide more places for local children?	Comments provided
No	<p>Don't agree with the proposal for more school places The area that holds the school is not large enough to take anymore pupils The school field would need to be used and therefore the health and wellbeing of pupils would be affected The surrounding roads would not take the extra traffic this would generate Bigger schools are not the answers primary schools need to remain small and friendly What about secondary schools would they be able to take the extra</p>
Not Answered	<p>I am not surprised that Polegate School is popular and successful. My children currently attend and I am very happy with their progress there and the dedication of the school team. However, I feel expanding it on the current site to the proposed levels would be detrimental for the children attending and for the residents in the immediate surrounding area. I have never understood why developers are not forced to build schools at the same time as the housing development. Polegate, like many other areas in the South East, is an attractive place to live for young families. Transport links are good (generally) for commuting to larger towns and cities in the area. Housing is cheaper than the towns, and our schools perform well. What's not to like? However, the influx of new housing to accommodate these families comes at a cost to existing amenities, including schooling, for existing and new residents alike.</p> <p>Planning in the past has been tricky to obtain for previous expansion and other buildings in and around the school. What will make it easier this time? Residents in the immediate area do not like the disruption to their area that the expansion would create, and will object.</p> <p>With regards to "any possible increase in traffic and congestion" (!), I beg you please to send your assessor out on-site on a rainy school day. At Polegate School, a good deal of the pupils arrive on foot/bike/scooter, which is encouraged by the school in various ways. I feel people only drive if they really have to, either due to distance from school, or having to drive elsewhere before/after drop-off and pick-up. On a rainy day, you can imagine, many more parents take to their cars. The school is in the middle of a residential area, with many residents parking on the road, making two-way traffic difficult during peak times. When rain is added to the mix, some parents get frustrated waiting for their turn to pass pinch points and start offloading children in the middle of the road in front of the school so they don't get as wet, or it saves them time looking for a parking space. It is chaotic and dangerous. You want to add more pupils to this mix.</p> <p>Building work never runs on time, which will add an extra strain on staff to work around their expanding environment with the minimum disruption to their pupils. Also, the current layout of the school means that the expansion will not be easy, unless you were thinking of going up instead of out? It is all well and good adding classrooms to fit the pupils, but what about hall space for lunches, assemblies and PE? The free lunch scheme for all infants already puts a strain on our facilities with current numbers. Where will you put the extra children?</p> <p>My youngest has 3 more years left at Polegate School before moving on to secondary. By then you will have added considerably more pupils to the school. I hope it will not negatively impact on her time there, having had such a great start, and all because a new school cannot be provided to meet the demand that developers have helped generate</p>
Not Answered	<p>Polegate school is a great school and I fear expanding it would change this. The people are lovely and the children are all polite nice children. Polegate school works great the way it is. The new houses being built are not that close to the school and I feel it would benefit everyone more if a new separate school was built near to the new houses. Polegate town also cannot take the extra traffic and parking needed to expand this school. Polegate school works so well as it is a small school where everyone knows everyone including teacher and parent relationships it would be such a shame to jeopardise this. The parking around the school area is already terrible and the residents would be highly effected by the extra cars, as many of the new houses are too far away to walk for working mums. As so many new houses have been built and are being built in the polegate area I really think schools should be built within the new estates. Expanding polegate school will not solve the problem. It's already disappointing to see new houses going up every where on our beautiful countryside but to then disrupt the small community of polegate school as well is so upsetting. I think plans need to be made for several new schools nearer the new houses.</p>

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Equality Impact Assessment

Project or Service Template

Name of the proposal, project or service
Proposed expansion of Polegate School

File ref:	Polegate School	Issue No:	Version 1.0
Date of Issue:	September 2017	Review date:	November 2017

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Part 1 – The Public Sector Equality Duty and Equality Impact Assessments (EIA)

1.1 The Council must have due regard to its Public Sector Equality Duty when making all decisions at member and officer level. An EIA is the best method by which the Council can determine the impact of a proposal on equalities, particularly for major decisions. However, the level of analysis should be proportionate to the relevance of the duty to the service or decision.

1.2 This is one of two forms that the County Council uses for Equality Impact Assessments, both of which are available on the intranet. This form is designed for any proposal, project or service. The other form looks at services or projects.

1.3 The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)

The public sector duty is set out at Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010. It requires the Council, when exercising its functions, to have “due regard” to the need to

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited under the Act.
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. (see below for “protected characteristics”

These are sometimes called equality aims.

1.4 A “protected characteristic” is defined in the Act as:

- age;
- disability;
- gender reassignment;
- pregnancy and maternity;
- race (including ethnic or national origins, colour or nationality)
- religion or belief;
- sex;
- sexual orientation.

Marriage and civil partnership are also a protected characteristic for the purposes of the duty to eliminate discrimination.

The previous public sector equalities duties only covered race, disability and gender.

1.5 East Sussex County Council also considers the following additional groups/factors when carry out analysis:

- Carers – A carer spends a significant proportion of their life providing unpaid support to family or potentially friends. This could be caring for a relative, partner or friend who is ill, frail, disabled or has mental health or substance misuse problems. [Carers at the Heart of 21st Century Families and Communities, 2008]
- Literacy/Numeracy Skills
- Part time workers
- Rurality

1.6 Advancing equality (the second of the equality aims) involves:

- Removing or minimising disadvantages suffered by people due to their protected characteristic
- Taking steps to meet the needs of people from protected groups where these are different from the needs of other people including steps to take account of disabled people's disabilities

Encouraging people from protected groups to participate in public life or in other activities where their participation is disproportionately low

NB Please note that, for disabled persons, the Council must have regard to the possible need for steps that amount to positive discrimination, to "level the playing field" with non-disabled persons, e.g. in accessing services through dedicated car parking spaces.

1.6 Guidance on Compliance with The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) for officers and decision makers:

1.6.1 To comply with the duty, the Council must have "due regard" to the three equality aims set out above. This means the PSED must be considered as a factor to consider alongside other relevant factors such as budgetary, economic and practical factors.

1.6.2 What regard is "due" in any given case will depend on the circumstances. A proposal which, if implemented, would have particularly negative or widespread effects on (say) women, or the elderly, or people of a particular ethnic group would require officers and members to give considerable regard to the equalities aims. A proposal which had limited differential or discriminatory effect will probably require less regard.

1.6.3 *Some key points to note :*

- The duty is regarded by the Courts as being very important.
- Officers and members must be aware of the duty and give it conscious consideration: e.g. by considering open-mindedly the EIA and its findings when making a decision. When members are taking a decision, this duty can't be delegated by the members, e.g. to an officer.
- EIAs must be evidence based.
- There must be an assessment of the practical impact of decisions on equalities, measures to avoid or mitigate negative impact and their effectiveness.
- There must be compliance with the duty when proposals are being formulated by officers and by members in taking decisions: the Council can't rely on an EIA produced after the decision is made.
- The duty is ongoing: EIA's should be developed over time and there should be evidence of monitoring impact after the decision.
- The duty is not, however, to achieve the three equality aims but to consider them – the duty does not stop tough decisions sometimes being made.
- The decision maker may take into account other countervailing (i.e. opposing) factors that may objectively justify taking a decision which has negative impact on equalities (for instance, cost factors)

1.6.4 In addition to the Act, the Council is required to comply with any statutory Code of Practice issued by the Equality and Human Rights Commission. New Codes of Practice under the new Act have yet to be published. However, Codes of Practice issued under the previous legislation remain relevant and the Equality and Human Rights Commission has also published guidance on the new public sector equality duty.

Part 2 – Aims and implementation of the proposal, project or service

2.1 What is being assessed?

a) Proposal or name of the project or service.

Proposed expansion of Polegate School.

b) What is the main purpose or aims of proposal, project or service?

The objective of the proposal is to expand Polegate School from 420 places (60 per year group) to 630 places (90 per year group) responding to a growing demand for primary school places in the local area.

c) Manager(s) and section or service responsible for completing the assessment

Gary Langford, Place Planning Manager, Standards and Effectiveness Service.

The Equality Impact Assessment was contributed to by the relevant local authority officers.

2.2 Who is affected by the proposal, project or service? Who is it intended to benefit and how?

The proposal is about providing additional school places to serve children and families in the local community. The proposal will benefit the local authority by ensuring it is able to meet its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places.

2.3 How is, or will, the proposal, project or service be put into practice and who is, or will be, responsible for it?

The Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability is responsible for making the final decision on the proposal. If approved, the Local Authority will manage the construction project at the school to deliver the additional places.

2.4 Are there any partners involved? E.g. NHS Trust, voluntary/community organisations, the private sector? If yes, how are partners involved?

N/A

2.5 Is this proposal, project or service affected by legislation, legislative change, service review or strategic planning activity?

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places available to meet current and future demand for places.

Proposed changes to the organisation of schools have to follow a prescribed process established in Section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

Background documents:

The Education Commissioning Plan 2015-2019 available on the ESCC website at: <http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/educationandlearning/management/download.htm>

2.6 How do people access or how are people referred to your proposal, project or service? Please explain fully.

The Local Authority consulted with pupils, parents and carers, staff, other local schools and trade unions between 23 June and 21 July 2017. A wide range of other groups including the Town Council, the District Council, the local MP, the Church of England and Catholic dioceses and the wider local community were also invited to give their views.

The consultation document was available on the ESCC website at: <http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/yourcouncil/consultation/current.htm>

All responses received during the consultation period have been analysed. The Lead Members for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability will be asked to give approval on 26 September 2016 to publish statutory notices in relation to the proposal. If approved, a statutory notice would be published in the local newspaper probably in October 2017, followed by a period of four weeks when further comments or objections could be submitted. The Lead Member would consider any responses received during this time before making a final decision on whether to approve the expansion, subject to planning permission, at a meeting likely to be held in December 2017.

ESCC has appointed a design team to work up plans for the expansion. ESCC will share their ideas with interested parties at a pre-planning consultation event at the school. All stakeholders, including local residents, would have the opportunity to view the plans, ask questions and make comments. This would enable the design team to take into consideration everyone's views before a planning application is submitted.

A further opportunity would be provided to comment on the plans as part of the planning application process which is separate to this consultation.

2.7 If there is a referral method how are people assessed to use the proposal, project or service? Please explain fully.

N/A

2.8 How, when and where is your proposal, project or service provided? Please explain fully.

The Council anticipates that building work would begin in May 2018 and the proposal implemented by 1 September 2019.

Part 3 – Methodology, consultation, data and research used to determine impact on protected characteristics.

3.1 List all examples of quantitative and qualitative data or any consultation information available that will enable the impact assessment to be undertaken.

Types of evidence identified as relevant have X marked against them			
	Employee Monitoring Data		Staff Surveys
	Service User Data		Contract/Supplier Monitoring Data
X	Recent Local Consultations		Data from other agencies, e.g. Police, Health, Fire and Rescue Services, third sector
	Complaints		Risk Assessments
	Service User Surveys		Research Findings
X	Census Data	X	East Sussex Demographics
	Previous Equality Impact Assessments		National Reports
	Other organisations Equality Impact Assessments		Any other evidence?

3.2 Evidence of complaints against the proposal, project or service on grounds of discrimination.

None received to date

3.3 If you carried out any consultation or research on the proposal, project or service explain what consultation has been carried out.

Please refer to 2.6 above

3.4 What does the consultation, research and/or data indicate about the positive or negative impact of the proposal, project or service?

The proposal will have a positive impact for the local community and therefore local children, as the proposed expansion will allow more families to access this popular local school.

Concerns raised relating to provision of support for pupils with SEN and Disability included

'I would like to see not just additional classrooms being built but also extra areas for interventions to take place as there will be more children needing support as the amount of children at the school rises.

While there are some very good teachers at the school the special needs department should be developed further for the existing children before adding more that will be lost in the over crowded school.'

Positive comments received relating to the schools current provision included

'They have an amazing SEN department which is outstanding with the school growing I feel that this should not be missed in the expansion and they should have an area.'

'the SENCO team do an amazing job in such limited space, to see this improved in size would be very welcomed amongst all the SEN Parents'

Expanding the school will ensure more places are available to meet the needs of children in the local area, including those with SEN and/or a disability. New accessible accommodation and resources appropriate to the special educational needs of the children would be provided to facilitate this.

Concerns were raised about parking and traffic congestion, for example:

Currently the road it is situated in is a parking nightmare and the drop off and pick up times are absolutely chaotic.

Due to the location of the school being 50 yards from a sharp bend in Oakleaf Drive and opposite a road junction with Windsor Way. Parking for residents and parents taking their children to the School is getting worst every day.

The school is in the middle of a residential area, with many residents parking on the road, making two-way traffic difficult during peak times.

A traffic and parking assessment would be undertaken as part of the design and planning process. The school's travel plan would need to be updated and would be utilised by the school to encourage families to find alternative ways of travelling to school in order to reduce the number of car journeys. The design and statutory planning process would provide people with a further opportunity to raise concerns about traffic and parking.

Part 4 – Assessment of impact

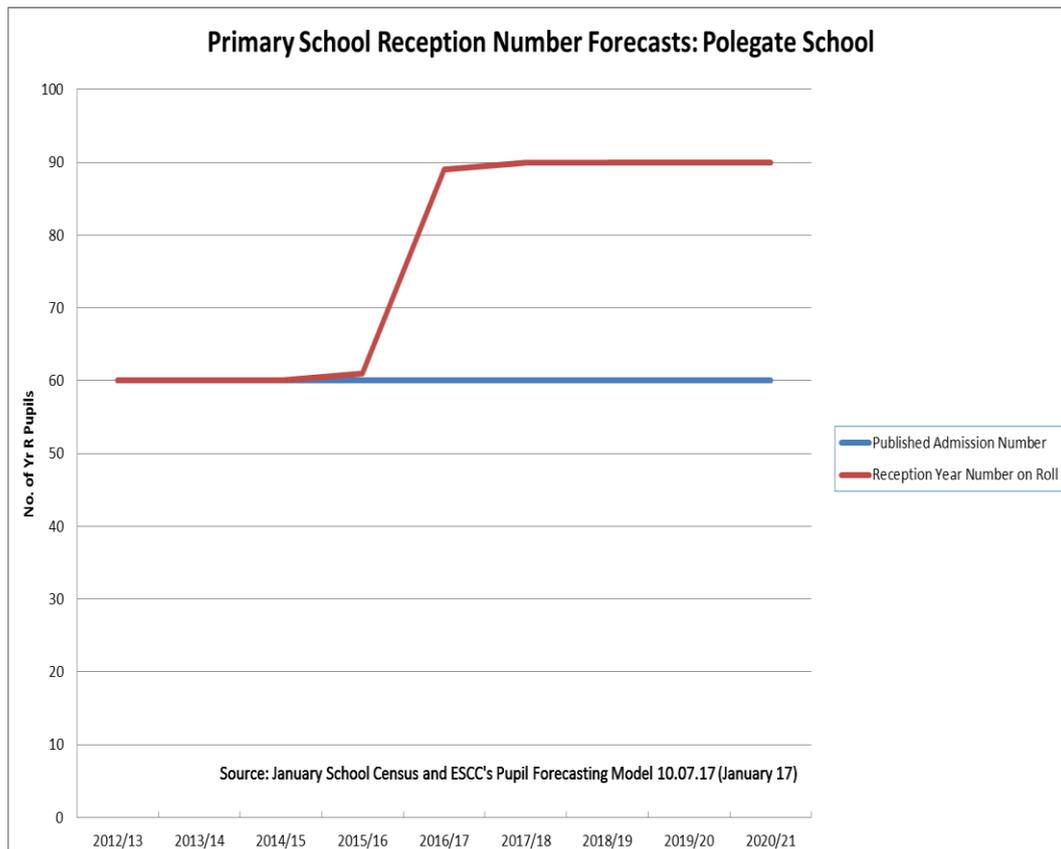
4.1 Age: Testing of disproportionate, negative, neutral or positive impact.

a) How is this protected characteristic reflected in the County/District/Borough?

Polegate School is in Wealden District. In Wealden District there are 12,314 children and young people aged 4-10. In the combined Wards of Polegate North and Polegate South there are 631 children and young people aged 4-10. (source Mid-Year Population Estimates, 2015, ONS)

The proposal comes in the light of an increasing demand for school places in Polegate. In recent years births in the combined Wards of Polegate North and Polegate South have risen from 50 in 2003 to 87 in 2014. Recent Reception Year intake numbers in Polegate School have been higher than the school's Published Admission Number and this shortfall of places is forecast to continue.

The following chart illustrates this.



b) How is this protected characteristic reflected in the population of those impacted by the proposal, project or service?

As above

- c) **Will people with the protected characteristic be more affected by the proposal, project or service than those in the general population who do not share that protected characteristic?**

The proposal will predominantly affect children of primary school age in the local community.

- d) **What is the proposal, project or service's impact on different ages/age groups?**

The proposal will have a positive impact on local primary age children as it will allow more families to access this popular and successful local school.

- e) **What actions are to/or will be taken to avoid any negative impact or to better advance equality?**

We do not believe any actions are necessary in relation to this proposal.

- f) **Provide details of the mitigation.**

N/A

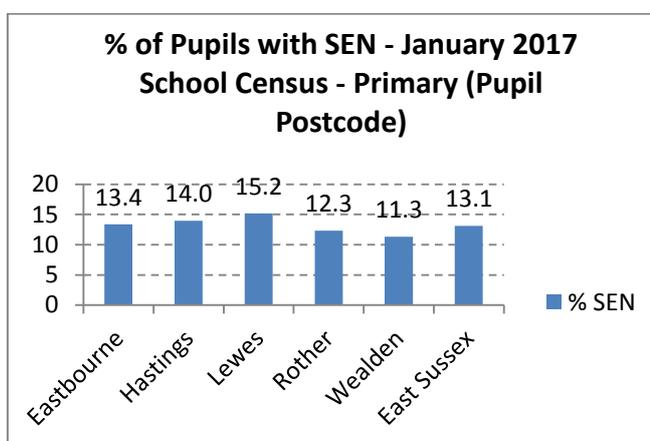
- g) **How will any mitigation measures be monitored?**

N/A

4.2 Disability: Testing of disproportionate, negative, neutral or positive impact.

- a) **How is this protected characteristic reflected in the County /District/Borough?**

The following chart shows the percentage of children recorded as having Special Educational Needs in the January 2017 school census (children attending East Sussex maintained primary schools and academies). District/ Borough information relates to the pupil's home address as reported in the January 2017 school census.



In East Sussex there were 8,025 children recorded as having Special Educational Needs in the January 2017 school census (additionally 136 pupils were recorded with SEN out of 1,195 pupils who attend an East Sussex school but reside outside of the county). The figure for Wealden District was 1,854 (all schools and based on pupil postcode).

Disability projections published on East Sussex in Figures (ESiF) in April 2017 put the total number of people with a disability in East Sussex at 94,808 for 2017. The figure for Wealden District is 23,503. This equates to a rate of 19.5 people per 100 in East Sussex, compared to a rate of 16.7 people per 100 in Wealden.

DESCRIPTION TABULATION

Dataset: Disability projections (dwelling-led), 2015-2030 - districts
ESCC Projections April 2017

Geography: Mixed Year Age group: All people (aged 10+) Category: Overall disability Measure: Number of people with disability

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Geography																
East Sussex	91,950	93,343	94,808	96,263	97,789	99,486	101,246	103,054	104,934	106,886	108,906	110,577	112,386	114,307	116,380	118,333
Eastbourne	18,413	18,694	18,969	19,258	19,551	19,868	20,204	20,557	20,956	21,331	21,715	22,070	22,454	22,827	23,239	23,626
Hastings	16,568	16,776	16,952	17,154	17,354	17,579	17,817	18,073	18,342	18,619	18,888	19,118	19,379	19,641	19,922	20,207
Lewes	16,598	16,866	17,174	17,435	17,737	18,066	18,415	18,744	19,080	19,422	19,801	20,108	20,419	20,772	21,142	21,483
Rother	17,642	17,910	18,211	18,488	18,792	19,159	19,536	19,924	20,317	20,737	21,162	21,523	21,894	22,296	22,733	23,149
Wealden	22,728	23,097	23,503	23,928	24,356	24,814	25,275	25,756	26,238	26,778	27,340	27,757	28,241	28,771	29,344	29,868

DESCRIPTION TABULATION

Dataset: Disability projections (dwelling-led), 2015-2030 - districts
ESCC Projections April 2017

Geography: Mixed Year Age group: All people (aged 10+) Category: Overall disability Measure: Rates per 100 people

Year	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030
Geography																
East Sussex	19.0	19.2	19.5	19.7	19.8	19.9	20.1	20.3	20.5	20.8	21.0	21.3	21.5	21.8	22.1	22.4
Eastbourne	20.5	20.7	21.0	21.2	21.3	21.4	21.5	21.6	21.9	22.2	22.5	22.8	23.1	23.3	23.7	24.0
Hastings	20.6	20.8	21.0	21.2	21.3	21.4	21.6	21.8	22.0	22.3	22.5	22.7	23.0	23.3	23.6	23.8
Lewes	18.5	18.7	19.0	19.2	19.3	19.4	19.5	19.7	19.9	20.1	20.4	20.6	20.9	21.1	21.4	21.7
Rother	20.9	21.3	21.6	21.8	22.1	22.4	22.7	23.0	23.2	23.5	23.9	24.2	24.6	25.0	25.4	25.7
Wealden	16.2	16.4	16.7	16.8	17.0	17.1	17.3	17.4	17.6	17.8	18.0	18.2	18.4	18.6	18.8	19.0

b) How is this protected characteristic reflected in the population of those impacted by the proposal, project or service?

The current SEN data for Polegate School shows that the percentage of SEN pupils at the school is 14.1% (64 out of 454). This is slightly higher in comparison to the East Sussex Primary aged pupils (state funded) overall of 13.0%

Source: School Census January 2017

The school is well equipped to meet the needs of this group

c) Will people with the protected characteristic be more affected by the proposal, project or service than those in the general population who do not share that protected characteristic?

The proposal will predominantly affect children of primary school age in the local community, including those with SEN and/or disability

d) What is the proposal, project or service's impact on people who have a disability?

The proposal will have a positive impact as there will be more places available to meet the needs of the children in the local area, including those with SEN and/or disability in particular. Improvements proposed to be made to the existing building to improve access and the new extension will be fully accessible for pupils of all abilities.

e) What actions are to/or will be taken to avoid any negative impact or to better advance equality?

We do not believe any actions are necessary in relation to this proposal.

f) Provide details of any mitigation.

The school leadership will work with the SENCO lead to ensure the needs of all SEN pupils are identified and addressed including any potential impact of larger numbers as a result of the school expanding.

g) How will any mitigation measures be monitored?

N/A

4.3 Ethnicity: Testing of disproportionate, negative, neutral or positive impact. Race categories are: Colour. E.g. being black or white, Nationality e.g. being a British, Australian or Swiss citizen, Ethnic or national origins e.g. being from a Roma background or of Chinese Heritage

a) How is this protected characteristic reflected in the County /District/Borough?

The vast majority of pupils (83.9%) according to the January 2017 school census are of White British Heritage. This is broadly in line with that of the population across the County (86%) based on the 2017 census. 15.9% of the pupils who attend the school were from a Black and Ethnic (BME) minority background. Across the Wealden district 8.6% of the school population is BME. (13.6% of primary aged pupils in East Sussex overall).

Data for Polegate School indicates that the percentage of pupils with English as an Additional Language (EAL) is 2.6% (years R-6). This is lower than the East Sussex primary aged pupils of 6.6%.

Source: School Census January 2017

b) How is this protected characteristic reflected in the population of those impacted by the proposal, project or service?

Data for the school indicates that BME children are over represented at Polegate School in comparison with the county wide and district level percentages.

c) Will people with the protected characteristic be more affected by the proposal, project or service than those in the general population who do not share that protected characteristic?

We do not believe that people with the protected characteristic will be more affected by the proposal than those in the general population who do not share that protected characteristic.

- d) **What is the proposal, project or service's impact on those who are from different ethnic backgrounds?**

The proposal will have a positive impact as there will be more places available to meet the needs of the children in the local area, including those from different ethnic backgrounds.

- e) **What actions are to/ or will be taken to avoid any negative impact or to better advance equality?**

National legislation determines that schools cannot discriminate on race in relation to admissions policies.

- f) **Provide details of any mitigation.**

N/A

- g) **How will any mitigation measures be monitored?**

N/A

4.4 **Gender/Transgender: Testing of disproportionate, negative, neutral or positive impact**

- a) **How is this protected characteristic target group reflected in the County/District/Borough?**

The percentage of pupils attending the school who are male is 57.3% and female 42.7%. This compares to the East Sussex figures of male 51.7% and female 48.3%.

Source: School Census January 2017

- b) **How is this protected characteristic reflected in the population of those impacted by the proposal, project or service?**

There is higher proportion of males at the school than the county profile however males and females attending the school will be educated together and it is not considered that this will have a significant impact even if the proportion remains the same after expansion.

- c) **Will people with the protected characteristic be more affected by the proposal, project or service than those in the general population who do not share that protected characteristic?**

We do not believe that people with the protected characteristic will be more affected by the proposal than those in the general population who do not share that protected characteristic.

- d) **What is the proposal, project or service's impact on different genders?**

We do not believe there will be an impact on different genders

- e) **What actions are to/ or will be taken to avoid any negative impact or to better advance equality?**

We do not believe any actions are necessary in relation to this proposal.

- f) **Provide details of any mitigation.**

N/A

- g) **How will any mitigation measures be monitored?**

N/A

4.5 Marital Status/Civil Partnership: Testing of disproportionate, negative, neutral or positive impact.

- a) **How is this protected characteristic target group reflected in the County/District/Borough?**

We do not consider marital status/civic partnership characteristics to be relevant to the proposal.

- b) **How is this protected characteristic reflected in the population of those impacted by the proposal, project or service?**

N/A

- c) **Will people with the protected characteristic be more affected by the proposal, project or service than those in the general population who do not share that protected characteristic?**

N/A

- d) **What is the proposal, project or service's impact on people who are married or same sex couples who have celebrated a civil partnership?**

We do not believe there will be any impact on people who are married or same sex couples

- e) **What actions are to/ or will be taken to avoid any negative impact or to better advance equality?**

We do not believe any actions are necessary in relation to this proposal.

- f) **Provide details of any mitigation.**

N/A

- g) **How will any mitigation measures be monitored?**

N/A

4.6 Pregnancy and maternity: Testing of disproportionate, negative, neutral or positive impact.

- a) How is this protected characteristic target group reflected in the County/District/Borough?**

We do not consider pregnancy and maternity characteristics to be relevant to the proposal.

- b) How is this protected characteristic reflected in the population of those impacted by the proposal, project or service?**

N/A

- c) Will people with the protected characteristic be more affected by the proposal, project or service than those in the general population who do not share that protected characteristic?**

N/A

- d) What is the proposal, project or service's impact on pregnant women and women within the first 26 weeks of maternity leave?**

We do not believe there will be any impact on pregnant women and women within the first 26 weeks of maternity leave.

- e) What actions are to/ or will be taken to avoid any negative impact or to better advance equality?**

We do not believe any actions are necessary in relation to this proposal.

- f) Provide details of the mitigation**

N/A

- g) How will any mitigation measures be monitored?**

N/A

4.7 Religion, Belief: Testing of disproportionate, negative, neutral or positive impact.

- a) How is this protected characteristic reflected in the County/District/Borough?**

Polegate School is a Community School and does not have a particular religious ethos. We do not consider religion or belief characteristics to be relevant to the proposal.

- b) How is this protected characteristic reflected in the population of those impacted by the proposal, project or service?**

N/A

- c) **Will people with the protected characteristic be more affected by the proposal, project or service than those in the general population who do not share that protected characteristic?**

N/A

- d) **What is the proposal, project or service's impact on the people with different religions and beliefs?**

N/A

- e) **What actions are to/ or will be taken to avoid any negative impact or to better advance equality?**

We do not believe any actions are necessary in relation to this proposal.

- f) **Provide details of any mitigation.**

N/A

- g) **How will any mitigation measures be monitored?**

N/A

4.8 Sexual Orientation - Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Heterosexual: Testing of disproportionate, negative, neutral or positive impact.

- a) **How is this protected characteristic reflected in the County/District/Borough?**

We do not consider sexual orientation characteristics to be relevant to the proposal.

- b) **How is this protected characteristic reflected in the population of those impacted by the proposal, project or service?**

N/A

- c) **Will people with the protected characteristic be more affected by the proposal, project or service than those in the general population who do not share that protected characteristic?**

N/A

- d) **What is the proposal, project or service's impact on people with differing sexual orientation?**

N/A

- e) **What actions are to/ or will be taken to avoid any negative impact or to better advance equality?**

We do not believe any actions are necessary in relation to this proposal.

f) Provide details of the mitigation

N/A

g) How will any mitigation measures be monitored?

N/A

4.9 Other: Additional groups/factors that may experience impacts - testing of disproportionate, negative, neutral or positive impact.

a) How are these groups/factors reflected in the County/District/Borough?

As at the January 2016 School Census, 18.5% of Polegate Primary School pupils are Ever6FSM in comparison to 22.3% of all pupils in East Sussex primary schools. Nationally in Primary schools the figure is 25.4%. A pupil who is described as 'Ever6FSM' means that within the last 6 years the pupil has at some point been eligible for receiving Free School Meals (FSM).

b) How is this group/factor reflected in the population of those impacted by the proposal, project or service?

The data indicates that there is a slight underrepresentation of Ever6FSM pupils are underrepresented at Polegate School compared to both the East Sussex and national figure.

c) Will people within these groups or affected by these factors be more affected by the proposal, project or service than those in the general population who are not in those groups or affected by these factors?

N/A

d) What is the proposal, project or service's impact on the factor or identified group?

N/A

e) What actions are to/ or will be taken to avoid any negative impact or to better advance equality?

We do not believe any actions are necessary in relation to this proposal.

f) Provide details of the mitigation.

N/A

g) How will any mitigation measures be monitored?

N/A

4.10 Human rights - Human rights place all public authorities – under an obligation to treat you with fairness, equality, dignity, respect and autonomy. **Please look at the table below to consider if your proposal, project or service may potentially interfere with a human right.**

No human rights implications are identified

Articles	
A2	Right to life (e.g. pain relief, suicide prevention)
A3	Prohibition of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment (service users unable to consent, dignity of living circumstances)
A4	Prohibition of slavery and forced labour (e.g. safeguarding vulnerable adults)
A5	Right to liberty and security (financial abuse)
A6 & 7	Rights to a fair trial; and no punishment without law (e.g. staff tribunals)
A8	Right to respect for private and family life, home and correspondence (e.g. confidentiality, access to family)
A9	Freedom of thought, conscience and religion (e.g. sacred space, culturally appropriate approaches)
A10	Freedom of expression (whistle-blowing policies)
A11	Freedom of assembly and association (e.g. recognition of trade unions)
A12	Right to marry and found a family (e.g. fertility, pregnancy)
Protocols	
P1.A1	Protection of property (service users property/belongings)
P1.A2	Right to education (e.g. access to learning, accessible information)
P1.A3	Right to free elections (Elected Members)

Part 5 – Conclusions and recommendations for decision makers

5.1 Summarise how this proposal/policy/strategy will show due regard for the three aims of the general duty across all the protected characteristics and ESCC additional groups.

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010;
- Advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups
- Foster good relations between people from different groups
- The proposal will help support the aims of advancing equality of opportunity and fostering good relations between people from different groups by allowing children access to primary school education in their local community.

5.2 Impact assessment outcome Based on the analysis of the impact in part four mark below ('X') with a summary of your recommendation.

X	Outcome of impact assessment	Please explain your answer fully.
	<p>A No major change – Your analysis demonstrates that the policy/strategy is robust and the evidence shows no potential for discrimination and that you have taken all appropriate opportunities to advance equality and foster good relations between groups.</p>	<p>The proposal is about providing additional school places to serve the local community in response to a higher demand for places due to a combination of rising birth rates and housing developments in the Polegate area.</p>
	<p>B Adjust the policy/strategy – This involves taking steps to remove barriers or to better advance equality. It can mean introducing measures to mitigate the potential effect.</p>	<p>Polegate School is a popular school and has regularly been oversubscribed in recent years. The provision of additional places will help more local children of primary school age to attend this popular and successful school.</p>
	<p>C Continue the policy/strategy - This means adopting your proposals, despite any adverse effect or missed opportunities to advance equality, provided you have satisfied yourself that it does not unlawfully discriminate</p>	<p>The Local Authority proposes to address any accessibility issues through the proposed design and construction project.</p>
	<p>D Stop and remove the policy/strategy – If there are adverse effects that are not justified and cannot be mitigated, you will want to consider stopping the policy/strategy altogether. If a policy/strategy shows unlawful discrimination it <i>must</i> be removed or changed.</p>	

5.3 What equality monitoring, evaluation, review systems have been set up to carry out regular checks on the effects of the proposal, project or service?

(Give details)

The EqlA will be reviewed in November 2017 following the end of the representation period and before a final decision on the proposals is taken by the Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability, probably in December 2017.

5.4 When will the amended proposal, project or service be reviewed?

See above

Date completed:	September 2017	Signed by (person completing)	<i>Catherine Denyer</i>
		Role of person completing	Project Officer
Date:	September 2017	Signed by (Manager)	<i>Gary Langford</i>

Part 6 – Equality impact assessment action plan

If this will be filled in at a later date when proposals have been decided please tick here and fill in the summary report.

The table below should be completed using the information from the equality impact assessment to produce an action plan for the implementation of the proposals to:

1. Lower the negative impact, and/or
2. Ensure that the negative impact is legal under anti-discriminatory law, and/or
3. Provide an opportunity to promote equality, equal opportunity and improve relations within equality target groups, i.e. increase the positive impact
4. **If no actions fill in separate summary sheet.**

Please ensure that you update your service/business plan within the equality objectives/targets and actions identified below:

Page 45	Area for improvement	Changes proposed	Lead Manager	Timescale	Resource implications	Where incorporated/flagged? (e.g. business plan/strategic plan/steering group/DMT)

6.1 Accepted Risk

From your analysis please identify any risks not addressed giving reasons and how this has been highlighted within your Directorate:

Area of Risk	Type of Risk? (Legal, Moral, Financial)	Can this be addressed at a later date? (e.g. next financial year/through a business case)	Where flagged? (e.g. business plan/strategic plan/steering group/DMT)	Lead Manager	Date resolved (if applicable)
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Agenda Item 5

Report to: Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability

Date: 26 September 2017

By: Director of Children's Services

Title of report: School age range change – Sandown Primary School

Purpose of report: To seek Lead Member approval to lower the age range at Sandown Primary School to enable the governing body to take on management of the onsite Maplehurst Nursery, currently run by East Sussex Children's Centres.

RECOMMENDATION

The Lead Member is recommended to:

Authorise a change of age range at Sandown Primary School from 5 to 11 to 2 to 11 with effect from 30th October 2017.

1 Background

1.1 Maplehurst Nursery is currently run by East Sussex Children's Centres for 2-5 year olds on the Sandown Primary School site. Children's Centres are no longer required to provide education and childcare as part of their service offer. The governing body of the school wishes to lower the school's age range from 5-11 to 2-11. This will enable the school to take on the management of the nursery and maintain the 'outstanding' rated provision for children in the community, both now and in the future.

1.2 The aim of the proposal is to integrate nursery provision into the Early Years Foundation Stage within the school. The governing body wishes to ensure that the nursery continues to support the local area and to offer high quality early education delivered by experienced and well-trained staff across the Early Years Foundation Stage. This will build on the work already done by the school and nursery to secure good outcomes for all children in the future.

2 Supporting information

2.1 The governing body consulted between 27 January and 3 March 2017 on a proposal to lower the school's age range. The governing body consulted with staff, families of children at the school and nursery, the local community and other interested parties. No responses were received during the consultation period.

2.2 On 19 June 2017, the Lead Member considered the outcome of the consultation and approved the publication of statutory notices in relation to the proposal. A copy of the Lead Member report can be viewed by following the link below.

<https://democracy.eastsussex.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=456&MIId=3094&Ver=4>

2.3 The statutory notice was published on 14 July 2017 in the Hastings and St Leonards Observer. The notice was also posted at the entrance to the school. The notice and full proposal was available on the Local Authority's website.

2.4 Publication of the notice was followed by a four-week period of representation, when comments or objections could be made to the Local Authority. At the end of the representation period, no comments or objections had been received.

3. Factors to be considered by the decision maker and types of decision

3.1 Proposed changes to the organisation of maintained schools have to follow a prescribed process established by the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

3.2 The process set out above complied with these requirements.

3.3 The regulations set out a number of factors to which the Lead Member should have regard before making a final decision on the proposed changes. These are set out in **Appendix 1**.

4. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

4.1 In conclusion, East Sussex County Council believe the proposal to lower the age range at Sandown Primary School will help to build on work already done by the school and nursery, ensuring a fully integrated Early Years Foundation Stage to help secure good outcomes for all children.

4.2 For this reason, the Lead Member is recommended to authorise a change of age range at Sandown Primary School from 5 to 11 to 2 to 11 with effect from 30th October 2017.

STUART GALLIMORE

Director of Children's Services

Contact Officer: Jane Spice, EYEE Manager

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LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillor Laurie Loe

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Factors to which the Lead Member should have regard before making a final decision

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Lead Member report and minute from 19th June 2017:

APPENDIX 1

The Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability should have regard to the following factors before reaching a final decision on the proposed change of age range from 5-11 to 2-11 at Sandown Primary School.

1	Did the published notice comply with statutory requirements	The notice complied with statutory requirements as set out in 3.1 of the report.
2	Are the proposals related to other published proposals	The proposal to lower the age range at Sandown Primary School is not related to other published proposals.
3	Was consultation carried out prior to the publication of notices	The governing body undertook a period of consultation between 27 January and 3 March 2017 on a proposal to lower the school's age range from 5-11 to 2-11 to allow them to take on the management of the on-site nursery provision run by East Sussex Children's Centres.
4	Have any particular comments or objections been raised during the representation period which could directly affect the proposals	No comments or objections were received during the representation period, and there is no new information or evidence since the notice of proposal was published.
5	The effect on education standards and diversity of provision	The Local Authority does not believe the proposal will have a negative impact on other providers, schools and academies in the surrounding areas as it will simply change the management arrangements of the nursery.
6	The demand for places	The proposal is about changing the management arrangements for the nursery to support its long term sustainability and promote excellence across the Early Years Foundation Stage; it will not provide additional places. Based on current eligibility criteria, forecasts of need in the area indicate there are sufficient early years places to meet demand over the coming years.
7	The impact on school size, premises and funding	The proposal will not affect the size of the school, which will remain at its current capacity. The proposal does not require a change to the premises and as such will not require capital funding to implement them.
8	The proposed admission arrangements	The proposal will not affect the admission arrangements of the school, which will remain as published.
9	National curriculum	Sandown Primary school will deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage for children aged 2-5 years.
10	Equal opportunities issues	The Local Authority does not believe there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues arising from the proposed changes. The proposal will have a positive impact by integrating, fully, nursery provision into the Early Years Foundation Stage within the school. The governing body wishes to ensure that the nursery continues to support the local area and to offer high quality early education for all, delivered by experienced and well-trained staff across the Early Years Foundation Stage. This will build on the work already done by the school and nursery to secure good outcomes for all children in the future.
11	Community cohesion	The Local Authority believes that the proposal will enhance community cohesion by bringing the nursery under the governing body's management.
12	Travel and accessibility	The Local Authority does not believe the proposal will have any impact on travel and accessibility as the nursery provision will remain in its current location.

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