

**PROPOSAL TO ENLARGE
WILLINGDON COMMUNITY SCHOOL
CONSULTATION REPORT**

October 2017

1. Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability (LM) with the outcome of the consultation on a proposal to enlarge Willingdon Community School from 1,000 places to 1,200 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 200 to 240 with effect from 1 September 2020.

1.2 The proposal is part of the Council's strategy to ensure it is able to discharge its legal obligation to provide sufficient school places for local children and young people in the area the school serves. Willingdon Community School is a popular school and is regularly oversubscribed. The current PAN of 200 provides limited scope to meet predicted demand for places in the future.

1.3 If the proposal is accepted the school would grow gradually, with 40 additional Year 7 places offered each year until it reaches its new capacity of 1,200.

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 8 September 2017 and 6 October 2017. The consultation document was available on the Council's website. Interested parties including: pupils, parents and carers, staff, the governing body, local schools, the local member, district, town and parish 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 Willingdon Community School's website. A paper copy of the consultation document was available on request but no such requests were received. A copy of the consultation document is provided in **Appendix A** 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 Willingdon Community School to provide more places for local children and young people?

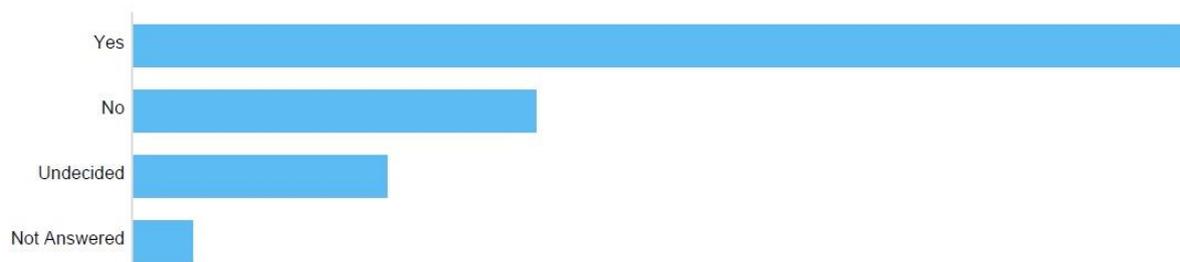
Respondents were given the option of responding by indicating

- Yes
- No
- Undecided

4.2 By the end of the consultation period 119 responses had been received via the online questionnaire and by email. No paper copy responses were received. Of the responses:

- 71 (59.6%) support the proposal
- 27 (22.7%) do not support the proposal
- 17 (14.3%) were undecided
- 4 (3.4%) did not answer this part of the consultation

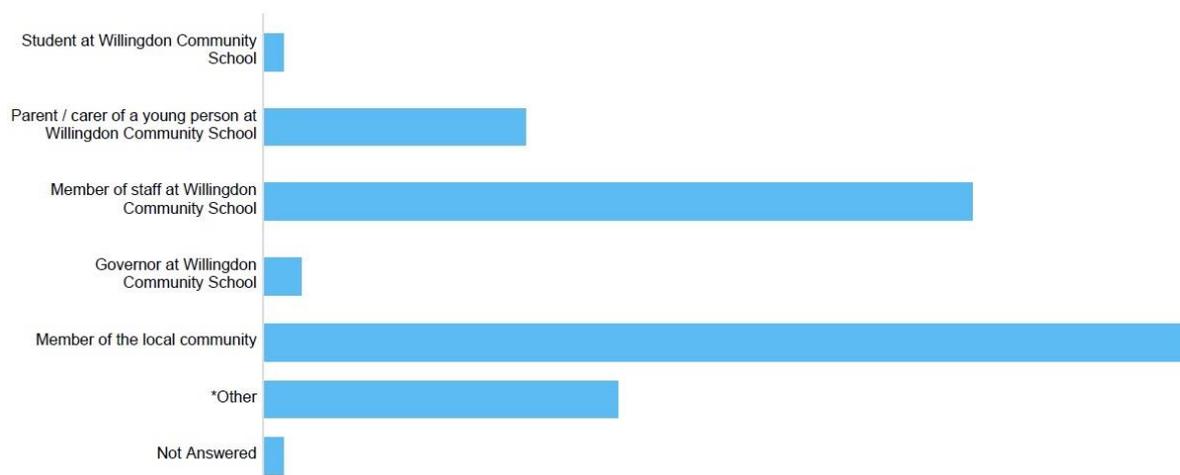
This is illustrated in the chart below.



Respondents identified themselves as:

- 1 Student at Willingdon Community School
- 14 Parents / carers of a young person at Willingdon Community School
- 38 Members of staff at Willingdon Community School
- 2 Governors at Willingdon Community School
- 50 Members of the local community
- 19 Other (including local resident, parent of past/future pupils, ex-pupil of Willingdon Community School, ex-governor of Willingdon Community School, County Councillor, Parish Councils)
- 1 Not answered

It should be noted that some respondents ticked more than one box when identifying themselves. The following chart demonstrates the breakdown of respondents.



4.3 **Appendix B** provides a list of all responses received during the consultation period.

5. Key issues raised by respondents

5.1 In summary the majority of respondents support the proposal to expand Willingdon Community School. Those in favour recognise the need for additional capacity at the school linked to recent and planned housing developments in the local area. Those who raised concerns about the proposal did so generally for the following reasons:

- Traffic congestion and parking
- Anti-social behaviour of students
- Loss of playing field space
- Impact on existing building in particular corridors and circulation
- Potential impact on teaching and learning

5.2 Of the 71 respondents who support the proposal:

- 21 believe that Willingdon Community School provides a good quality of education and pastoral care and that expanding the school would ensure the opportunity is provided to more children in the local area to attend the school.

- 7 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.
- 1 expressed concern about the behaviour of students.
- 1 queried if ESCC had investigated the possibility of building a new school on the Mornings Mill site.
- 5 believed that the current facilities of the school were in need of development and improvement.
- 1 agreed as long as the school was adequately funded to cope with increased numbers of pupils.
- 6 agreed commenting that we need to be prepared to meet the impact of housing demand and the requirement for additional secondary school places.
- 1 had no objection to the proposal.
- 4 were supportive but highlighted that any new development should allow improvements to current facilities such as music, technology and science and include an appropriately sized sports hall.
- 31 offered no reason for agreeing

5.3 Of the 27 who do not support the proposal:

- 21 cited parking and traffic congestion as their main concern and that an increase in student numbers would make the situation worse.
- 2 consider that more schools should be built to accommodate the increasing number of housing developments.
- 4 were opposed to the expansion citing the behaviour of students as a concern and that it may exacerbate the level of anti-social behaviour currently experienced by local residents.
- 1 suggested that the school facilities should be upgraded rather than expanded.
- 3 were concerned about the impact on the quality of education provided for students during the building works and the impact on teaching and learning because of the demands of a large school.
- 1 was concerned about the impact on communal areas because of larger numbers of students.
- 1 was concerned about the loss of playing field space and its impact on children and young people.
- 2 offered no reason for disagreeing.

5.4 Of the 17 who were undecided about the proposal:

- 11 cited parking and traffic safety concerns.
- 3 were concerned about whether the school would have sufficient funding to meet the demands of additional pupils on staffing and resources.
- 2 suggested the LA should build more schools, suggesting Mornings Mill Farm as a suitable location.
- 1 was concerned that the development could have a negative impact on the surrounding views.
- 1 was concerned about the impact on the quality of education during the building works.
- 1 comment suggested the Council should explore whether local academies which are currently under capacity could accommodate the extra numbers.
- 1 local resident expressed concern at the impact of out of school hour's activities on the quality of their life.
- 1 felt that not enough notice of the consultation was given.
- 1 was concerned about the loss of recreation space and playing field.

- 1 felt that a sports complex should be provided which could be used not only by the school but by the local community.

5.5 In response to the concerns raised the Council makes the following comments:

- The design team would work with the highways department to assess any potential impacts on traffic and parking as a result of the proposal. The school's travel plan would be updated and would be utilised by the school to encourage families to find alternative ways of travelling to and from school in order to reduce the number of car journeys. The design and statutory planning process provides a further opportunity for interested parties to raise concerns about traffic congestion and parking.
- The school's facilities would be enlarged and developed 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 and does not significantly impact on playing field space.
- The Council considered a number of options for delivering additional secondary school places in the area including establishing a new school or whether to relocate Willingdon Community School to a new site. The amount of new housing recently built and planned in the local area is insufficient to justify the establishment of a new secondary school which would normally have a minimum capacity of 750 places to ensure financial viability and to offer a broad and balanced curriculum. The need in the area is for only 200 additional places. Relocating Willingdon Community School to a new site is not considered financially viable as the cost of rebuilding and enlarging the entire school would far exceed the cost of expanding the school on its current site.
- The school maintained its judgement as a 'Good' school at its Ofsted inspection in June 2017. The school is popular and regularly oversubscribed. The Council believes the proposed expansion would enable the school to better serve its community area.
- Concerns around antisocial behaviour should be directed to the headteacher of Willingdon Community School.
- The Council has considered whether local academies can accommodate the extra numbers as some are under capacity. All academies in the Eastbourne area are predicted to be full or close to full in the coming years and additional capacity will be needed in Eastbourne to meet demand for places in the town. We believe Willingdon Community School is best placed to serve developments in the local area.
- In the wider Eastbourne area pupil forecasts indicate that Year 7 intakes to secondary schools will begin to exceed the overall Published Admission Number (PAN) from the early 2020s. Additional secondary school capacity will be required to meet the increased demand for places in Eastbourne. Demand for school places at Willingdon Community School is predicted to grow as a result of recent and planned housing developments. In excess of 2,000 new dwellings are planned in the area the school serves during the period to 2027/28. In addition, there is an outline planning application for a further 1,100 dwellings at Mornings Mill Farm, Willingdon. At the moment this proposed development is not included within our pupil forecasts as it is a non-allocated site in the emerging Wealden Local Plan. There are currently 260 places per year group available in the feeder primary schools served by Willingdon Community School. Pupil numbers in these schools are expected to grow in the coming years and it is planned to increase the number of primary places per year group to 290 through the proposed expansion of Polegate School. At present approximately 77% of the children attending Willingdon Community School live in-area, with the remainder largely coming from Eastbourne. We expect the percentage of in-area children to increase in line with recent and planned housing developments. As a result, we predict that future Year 7 intakes to Willingdon Community School will be significantly above its current PAN of 200.

Willingdon Community School Expansion Consultation



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

East Sussex County Council is proposing to expand Willingdon Community School (Broad Road, Lower Willingdon, Eastbourne, BN20 9QX) from 1,000 places to 1,200 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 200 to 240 with effect from 1 September 2020.

Why do we need to expand Willingdon Community School?

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

Willingdon Community School is a popular school and is regularly oversubscribed. The current PAN of 200 provides limited scope to meet parental preference in the future.

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.

Expansion plans are subject to planning permission. 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 in autumn 2017. 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.

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

A traffic and parking assessment would be undertaken and shared with interested parties at the pre-planning consultation event mentioned above. 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.

This consultation deals specifically with the principle of expanding the school to provide more places for local children and young people. There would be a separate consultation stage with the school and local residents, around the development of the proposed building works as part of the usual planning application procedures. Comments on the design of the buildings, traffic and parking can be made at that stage.

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, young people, staff, parents/carers and visitors to the school.

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

It is intended that Willingdon Community School would grow gradually, with 40 additional Year 7 places offered each year until it reaches its new capacity of 1,200.

The following table illustrates how the number of places at the school might grow:

	Academic Year					
	2019/2 0	2020/2 1	2021/2 2	2022/2 3	2023/2 4	2024/2 5
Reception PAN	200	240	240	240	240	240
Total number of places	1,000	1,040	1,080	1,120	1,160	1,200

How can I give my views?

The consultation period runs until Friday 6 October 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 Friday 6 October 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.deny@eastsussex.gov.uk

What happens next?

Following this consultation, a report setting out the responses received on the proposal to expand Willingdon Community School will be submitted to the Lead Member for Education, Inclusion and Special Educational Needs and Disability meeting in October 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 November 2017, followed by a period of four weeks (known as the representation period) when further comments or objections could be submitted. The Lead Member would consider any responses received during the representation period before making a final decision on whether to approve the expansion at a meeting likely to be held in January 2018.

The proposed expansion would be dependent upon planning permission being granted for the building works to the school premises as outlined above.

Willingdon Community School Expansion Consultation Response form



Our proposal is to enlarge Willingdon Community School from 1,000 places to 1,200 places, increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 200 to 240 with effect from 1 September 2020.

East Sussex County Council would welcome your views on the proposal. Please complete this response form by 6 October 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 Willingdon Community School to provide more places for local children and young people?

Yes

No

Undecided

Please provide any comments below:

Which of the following best describes you?

- Student at Willingdon Community School
- Parent / carer of a young person at Willingdon Community School
- Member of staff at Willingdon Community School
- Governor at Willingdon Community 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

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Do you support the proposal to expand Willingdon Community School to provide more places for local children and young people? - understand	Comments provided
Yes	I totally support the provision of additional secondary and primary places to serve the expansion of Westham, Stone Cross and Polegate. An 8 form secondary school is easily managed and the provision of additional specialist accommodation is identified in the planned expansion and the appropriate buildings developed I believe the proposal to be an ideal move.
Yes	
Yes	The school is at the heart of this community and succeeds in welcoming children from far afield to become part of a thriving and exciting community.
Yes	I think that this is an excellent proposal as this school has continuously provided excellent education for the young people of this area for over 50 years and is frequently over subscribed. More people should have the opportunity to send their children here.
Yes	Nationally there is a need for more secondary places, and as there is increased housing in the Stone Cross and Polegate areas there is a desperate need for more school places at Willingdon Community School.
Yes	It would be great for the school and residents in the area
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	Some of the proposed new housing could fall within my county council boundary, it is very important that we are prepared and not caught out. The area will expand and it is imperative to be ready for when the growth starts.
Yes	
Yes	Wilmington is an excellent school and to be able to open it up to more students can only be a step forward.
Yes	The area is becoming hugely populated with still a lack of school places. This places families and children under undue stress. Willingdon community school is an excellent school with a dedicated team.
Yes	
Yes	<p>Providing it provided the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adequate PE facilities as they are already inadequate. Any new development should include an appropriately sized sports hall, which if correctly designed and funded could provide additional community sports facilities. - Music, Technology and Science should also be improved to accommodate the additional capacity.
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	Seems logical, as long as the school is adequately funded for the extra pupils. The school is reasonably old and could do with some new classrooms.
Yes	All schools need to expand to meet demand if building new schools is not a viable alternative. This is our catchment area school despite being several miles away with other senior schools a lot closer and my child will have to attend a school somewhere so I have to support the proposal.
Yes	My worry is staff parking. May I suggest the grass verge in Broad Road is dug up. Slanted parking would accommodate many more cars. I live in Farmlands Avenue and am concerned about any building that may happen at the bottom of the garden.
Yes	New buildings not to exceed the height of the existing buildings. New buildings not to close to the boundaries of the private dwellings i.e. Farmlands Avenue. Could more parking spaces be made available in the school grounds for the teaching staff or a layby in Board Road where the wide grass verge by the school boundary.
Yes	This is an important expansion however it must not be at the cost of quality of life to local residents with further increased traffic problems and parking issues. Parking enforcement needs to be strongly considered and this also needs to be considered against the proposed development on the land opposite Broad Road and the additional strain that will put on the transport infrastructure both during construction and once developed.
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	Whilst I support the need for more school places in all areas, I feel that schools should be more proactive in their consideration and support of local residents. The main areas being parking and the behaviour of students. In my opinion the speed of some cars can be excessive; the parking can be obstructive to residents, and on 'Open Evenings', downright dangerous with no due thought to the required access to any emergency vehicles. The students' inevitable 'pre-school' and 'post-school' smoking clubs gather in groups which show no consideration of property or residents. The amount of litter is definitely higher during term time. Language can be 'quite colourful' at times. And 'fun rides' on some students motorised scooters very scary.

Do you support the proposal to expand Willingdon Community School to provide more places for local children and young people? - understand	Comments provided
Yes	Westham Parish Council has no objections to the number of places being increased from 1000 to 1200 and additional accommodation being provided to enable the school to expand.
Yes	In theory I support this but am concerned about parking. I live in Millstream Gardens which has been used occasionally by parents collecting children from the school.
Yes	I support the school expansion but something must be done about staff parking. In fact this needs looking at now as there is some very dodgy parking taking place.
Yes	Has ESCC investigated the possibility of building a new larger school on the "Mornings Mill" site as part of the development of that land? It would solve the problems inevitably caused by continuing to expand a school that was never intended to be this large.
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	The school is too small even with the current number of students that are there so I think it is about time there were proposals to expand the school.
Yes	There is much housing expansion in the area and new school places in the locality will be needed to manage this. Willingdon also has provided good quality education for a while and it makes sense for them provide this for more students.
Yes	As Headteacher of Willingdon, I support this proposal. This is really exciting times for our school. As an over subscribed school, it would be fantastic to welcome more young people to our community.
Yes	We feel this school is the best in the area and would benefit the community hugely by increasing its size, it is already full and we feel privileged to have a daughter there.
Yes	Willingdon is a truly special environment and should be opened up to more pupils.
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	Great for children in the area
Yes	Needs careful consideration of how it will impact on the local community but new local housing developments do need a local school to absorb the extra 11-16 year olds generated
Yes	It is wise to enlarge a strong school in an area with future housing development.
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	
Yes	I think this would be an amazing opportunity for Willingdon Community School to continue their amazing work in the local area providing a fantastic education for all the students in their care.
Yes	The are needs more school places and doctors due to the huge amount of new housed built and planned
Yes	
Yes	Our school is already over subscribed and it would be fantastic to be able to increase our intake each year.
Yes	It is very important due to the proposed building in the area.
Yes	expansion of the school will provide much needed room for the current students as well as providing for future cohorts. Corridors are a squeeze now so more facilities would help with the smoother running of lesson change over
Yes	think it is a very exciting time for the school
Yes	
Yes	Future demand for places is clear. Willingdon has been a good school for many years and regularly over subscribed. Redevelopment offers an opportunity to improve and/or replace some of the current mediocre specialist facilities in the school. A strong leadership team is well capable of handling the future incremental growth. One challenge will be to design for student traffic flow along the narrow school corridors. Another will be the planning of traffic control in the school vicinity which will be of concern to a supportive local community.
Yes	
Yes	This school is long overdue for expansion and building improvement. The current facilities are in need of updating and renovating and the addition of more places is the perfect opportunity to combine the two.
Yes	

Do you support the proposal to expand Willingdon Community School to provide more places for local children and young people? - understand	Comments provided
Yes	
Yes	New buildings will be essential, not just classrooms but sports facilities, assembly space, toilets etc.
Yes	It is an Outstanding School, and needs to expand. The staff and students are due a reward for how hard they work.
Yes	Willingdon has over the years been consistently providing good academic success and pastoral care to the surrounding community. This should not be denied to children in the local area. I feel Willingdon would also be an ideal school for a 6th form.
Yes	I think all secondary children within the catchment area of Willingdon should be able to attend and as the area is growing then the school needs to expand.
Yes	
Yes	No problem with the expansion, seems very sensible and gradual increase. But please incorporate a new big sports hall, which could then be used by the community.
Undecided	Parking a major issue already on adjacent roads
Undecided	With the increase in housing in Stone Cross, I believe that the road system to Willingdon School will need to be improved to allow the School busses to arrive on time in the morning. At present the busses are often late due to the rush our traffic and road works. Also a increased bus service to Willingdon Community College. Also is the school going to be provided a adequate budget to supply the extra teaching and support staff and equipment for this to take place?
Undecided	I understand the need to expand. However, with my son just entering year 10 I am most concerned with noise disruption. Are you proposing to only be working outside of school hours?
Undecided	We live on a close opposite the school which during start or end of school meanw living the close or coming into it is a nightmare traffic everywhere including parents blocking th close with there cars.
Undecided	I am aware of two academies within easy commuting distance of the Willingdon area that are currently under their maximum roll. Has ESCC thoroughly explored the possibilities of these academies, particularly The Eastbourne Academy, accommodating the increased number of pupils needing secondary schooling? Having just had an Ofsted inspection rating of 'Good', The Eastbourne Academy has much to offer - including capacity.
Undecided	Provided that the expansion of the school is funded by the local authority and the projected pupil numbers will mean that the funding per pupil will be secured in future years to provide the quality of education that the pupils currently receive I am in favour. However the impact of an increased site and teaching staff will depend on future numbers being at capacity in school to ensure the education the children receive will not deteriorate.
Undecided	I appreciate the need for increasing school capacity to accommodate raising demand. However, this is also a reason for opposing the development on Mill farm as all the primary school children will need secondary, therefore the school would need to be infant to secondary thus maintaining a balance in the area. Traffic is a major issue around Coppice Avenue , broad road as the roads are narrow with parked vehicles , it is a bus route and drivers use it to avoid long queues on the main A272. The narrowing and humps in the road to stop the racing through but on the downside they add to the congestion and road blocking when people park in stupid places? Telling parents to find alternative travel does not work. You only need to look around coppice close at school run time, they have broken the kerb stones and sometimes you can not leave the close between 8.30 -9 15! The junction of broad road coppice avenue gets blocked daily. The roads simply cannot cope and it is only a matter of time before a child gets injured. The Uk needs to adopt a better school bus system like USA to serve the area, so parents do not need to drop their children off. Perhaps the school could also have a drop off bay or off road visitor parent parking within the plans ?
Undecided	<p>As Willingdon and Jevington Parish Councillors and also Committee Members of Willingdon Residents' Association we are well aware of the need to provide more school places for both primary and secondary education. However, as one of us is a past pupil and as we often visit the Community School we are also well aware that the school, especially the corridors, are no longer fit for purpose as at class changeover times we understand they are heaving and not wide enough. We are also very much aware both as residents in the area and from complaints we receive, about the parking issues both from staff parking on roads in and around both our Primary School and the Community school and parents who drive to pick up their children. We know that buses often have a problem getting through and often have to resort to going on our grass verges resulting in damage to the verges. Many parents are inconsiderate and certainly at pick up times, park across residents' driveways as witnessed recently in Farmlands Avenue causing snarl ups and blocking the views from exits of adjacent roads as they park right on corners blocking the sight line of oncoming traffic. We have had residents complain that when motorists are asked politely to move their cars so they can get out, they have often been met with verbal abuse. Any proposed expansion needs to think very carefully about having sufficient parking spaces on site for staff and also drop off and pick up points that do not affect residents livelihoods.</p> <p>Several years ago when we were told we had to have hundreds more houses in Willingdon, we suggested to East Sussex that a new state of the art school complex should be built on Hindsland/Mornings Mill sites which could be purpose built for today's needs and have sufficient parking arrangements and lovely playing fields and joint community facilities but East Sussex County Council were not interested. We suggested any new houses went on the sites which would have been vacated by the two schools.</p> <p>We are assuming that to extend the school and provide on-site parking will necessitate taking away valuable playing fields. Any expansion should consider providing some sort of sports complex which could be used not only by the school but also the local community - hence another reason why it would be better to move the schools. There is as lot of emphasis these days about obesity and the need to keep active, so any loss of recreational space is to be deplored. In Willingdon we also do not have the recommended amount of playing fields. This is an ideal opportunity to think ahead and the long term future, not to mention putting in the necessary infrastructure. This could also link up with the Movement and Access Corridor from Hailsham to Eastbourne.</p> <p>Willingdon School is a victim of its education success and parents across the district want to get their children into the school. Had past rules been kept of children going to the school in their catchment area, many of these problems wouldn't exist. We do, however, acknowledge that our local schools especially the Primary school have specialist units for the deaf which is to be applauded.</p> <p>East Sussex County Council need to think positively about the future of education in this area but also respect the present residents and their quality of life in this most beautiful part of the County. We already suffer from the traffic on the A2270 and rat runs through our Parish and we know that the worst time of day is not work going home time but school leaving times because so many pupils come, not only from a catchment area around the school but also further afield resulting in parents using cars to pick their children up. Therefore another consideration would be to supply school buses as many other places do in other parts of the world and indeed the UK where many children live in villages - eg Cornwall.</p>

Do you support the proposal to expand Willingdon Community School to provide more places for local children and young people? - understand	Comments provided
	We were also disappointed only to hear hours before the consultation began. It would have been nice as a Council to have had prior notification including notifying our residents who live around the school.
Undecided	We are very concerned about the increase in traffic along Broad road that the proposed expansion would create, also the speed at which the cars travel. Parking at school arrival and leaving times is another big concern and also parking for the extra teachers that will be needed during the school day.
Undecided	The associated pressure on roads, parking and safe access is a major concern if it not going to be addressed at the same time.
Undecided	The current school already creates parking problems principally due to staff parking in neighbouring streets and not on the school premises. Additionally too many parents insist on driving their children to the school rather than the children cycling or walking. An increase in school size will inevitably cause further congestion unless parking facilities for staff and for the delivery and collection of children are provided. Any increase the school size should provide for both current and future staff parking on the school grounds and not local roads. Further it should be accompanied by a program of getting children to walk or cycle to school with secure bike storage provided.
Undecided	As long as more places mean more funding, staff and resources
Undecided	My concerns regarding the proposed expansion is that there will be an increase in the volume of traffic and an increase in parking problems which already exist in the area. Broad Road is a residential area and does not have the infrastructure to accommodate more disruption caused by new buildings being built which may require extra entrance and exit facilities. The countryside surrounding the school is very beautiful with stunning views, will this be spoilt by another blot on the landscape?
Undecided	As a local resident I have concerns about the amount of additional traffic. The area is already heavily congested at school times and I think parents will continue to bring and pick up their children by car. There also seems insufficient parking for staff who park on surrounding roads. How will it be possible to ensure a greater number of pupils will come from the local area?
Undecided	I am the direct neighbour, life can be fairly miserable living next door to the school out of school hours 7 days a week sometimes 24 hours a day when it rents itself out as a campsite . If this is how the school has to operate to balance the books for the pupils it already has , I can only imagine adding more pupils will stretch the school even more and make my life tougher .
Undecided	Parking to be provided on site for the staff. Yellow Lines to be investigate for adjacent roads. A layby to be created in Broad road by removing the grass verge allowing vehicles to park. Corridors in the school are not fit for purpose. Loss of recreation space and playing fields. Loss of gym space. New purpose built facility could be built on Mornings Mill Farm
Undecided	arrangements need to be made to manage extra traffic and parking by parents delivering or collecting children. Traffic lights or roundabout needed to control access from Broad road to Eastbourne road, arrangements to promote safe cycling to school.
Not Answered	The real problem this is going to cause is an increase in the parking in the vicinity of the school. There must be more on site parking facilities for staff and visitors. The current situation is horrendous during term times particularly at arrival and dispersal times. It is already dangerous for drivers, students and residents and more pupils can only exacerbate the situation.
Not Answered	I am a resident of Broadview Close. The parking has become a nightmare over the last 16 years I have lived here. I suggest that there should be NO parking immediately outside of the school from the zebra crossing to Coppice crossroads. The double yellow lines should extend along the crossroads to stop the bottle neck of traffic, which often comes to a standstill situation.
Not Answered	<p>I am a long-time resident of Wannock Avenue and want to express my concern about the obvious issue of traffic and parking if the size of the school intake is proposed to be increased. I recognise that an increase in school places is necessary so am not against it per-se. I just want to have the council deal with the consequences of doing so as well. Here are my points:-</p> <p>There are inadequate off road parking facilities and very high volume of traffic at school times and much danger currently. Broad Road already cannot cope with the existing amount of persons trying to park/drop off/pick up and generally visit the school. When coupled with the fact that teachers and staff already take up most of the upper end of Broad Road by 8.30, this leaving no space for drop offs etc. This overflows into the narrower Wannock Avenue where the issue is compounded by exactly the same issues as above in respect of Rapsons Road School. This results in many daily angry alteractions, dangerous driving over verges and pathways, parking in front of driveways and on verges and a general dangerous situation for those sensible children and parents who attempt to walk to school. Thus meaning they give up and also drive, compounding the situation. Ambulances and Fire services would have no hope of accessing households during the peak period hours of school start and finish. The whole area of Wannock Avenue and Upper Broad Road already lacks any sense of contemporaneous planning in respect of the existing volume of traffic and opportunities for safely walking or cycling to school in what is an already busy double- school area. There is no attempt to ensure residents have safe access to properties, with no restriction of parking at all and no markings offered to secure access to peoples driveways in what is a predominately elderly community where people rely on their cars and taxis to get out. There is no safe speed limit people may drive at 30 mph past infants, toddler and other children who are trying to navigate parked traffic and jammed roads with bus services and delivery lorries going up and down amongst all this. The problems are there now and will vastly increase if the council agrees to increase the size of Willingdon School. If an increase is agreed I urge the council also agrees:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Imposing a 15 mph speed limit on Broad Road (from Coppice Ave to Wannock Lane) and along the length of Wannock Avenue - at least from 8AM to 5 PM - Developing -and comitting funds to- a sensible safe walk/cycle route in Wannock Avenue/Broad Road - Restricting parking to one side only of Wannock Avenue and Broad Road. - Providing adequate parking in school grounds for staff so they do not jam up the roads all day. - Widening Upper Broad Road to install off-road parking bays. - Providing resident only permit parking. - Restricting the parking across resident driveways through installing no parking lines across them . <p>Please do take this into account in the consultation and please feedback to me as appropriate. I am very willing to engage in any consultation excercises and/or help carry out any surveys required to gather data to look at the problem and solutions.</p>
Not Answered	I write as a local resident, Parish Councillor and former long term Governor of the school to express my concerns about this proposal. There is clearly a need to increase capacity at our excellent Willingdon Community School as a result of the new housing developments. However, it is a great pity that long term planning was not undertaken and the opportunity to provide a new educational campus for primary and secondary education at Mornings Mill Farm and Hindsland Playing Fields was not taken. The current sites in the middle of housing estates could have then been used for extra housing to offset the cost. My concerns about the current proposals are that the school was built in the early 1950's for a much lower number of students. The corridors, gymnasium, hall, canteen, library and administration areas were all built for

Do you support the proposal to expand Willingdon Community School to provide more places for local children and young people? - understand	Comments provided
	that size of school. Although some expansion has taken place I would hope that these areas will be expanded properly to meet the needs of the higher numbers of students and staff. There are problems already arising from staff parking in adjacent roads to the degree where the Highway Authority are about to consult on further parking restrictions in this area to reduce highway danger and improve traffic flows. Any expansion will exacerbate the problems and in my view parking should be in a specifically constructed layby on the school side of Broad Road or within the school grounds. I trust that the travel plan will strongly encourage walking and cycling to and from school along safe routes or to use public transport with a view to encouraging physical activity and reduce the number of cars visiting the school twice a day causing some inconvenience to local residents. The plan should also encourage parents to be sensible with their dropping off/picking up arrangements preferably in specially provided laybys. Clearly new accommodation will be required for the increased number and I am concerned this will lead to the loss of playing fields. I also have some concerns over the size of classes as a result of this proposal. I hope whether or not the expansion takes place that every opportunity will be taken to engage with the Parish Council and local community and that the school may be used more fully for community activities in future. I would be pleased to discuss any of these points with you
No	I believe that the proposed plans would be a negative change. - no matter how well planned, there will be disruption to the school and students during the building stage. I believe this will have a negative effect on my children who will be at the school still. Particularly my youngest who will be approaching her GCSE year. - I fear the quality of teaching staff may well be affected, diluted, it's hard enough now to train and retain quality, committed staff let alone in a school of 1200 students. - the increased traffic is a large concern. The roads around the area are already frequently congested and dangerous for those students who walk, some of the parking leaves a lot to be desired. Short double yellow lines on crossroads and junctions allow for parking too close to busy junctions as it is. - the increased capacity in communal areas of the school. As it is the corridors are rammed between lessons.
No	As a student at WCS, i believe upgrading the school building and making it better to the current and future students should come before an extension to make the building able to hold 1,200. The main building will not be able to cope with stress and demand needed. The corridors of the main corridors are already to small without adding 200 in the long run. The current building should be upgraded and corridors widened before be able to add the 200 extra students. This will also cause the school to need more teaching staff and assistant staff within the school and again the school doesn't have enough at the moment. I understand that the proposal is for 2020 but really that not that far away. A new upgrade to the main building to make it more modern and better for the students inside should take more priority than expanding at this moment in time. I wish the proposal well but i don't believe this is the best for Willingdon Community School at the moment and i don't believe that it will improve school life for the current students.
No	I am very concerned about the impact of building work during the run up to my child's GCSEs. Since the school already uses portacabins I am concerned at the scope of the building work expected. Since the council stopped funding travel to Willingdon, bus prices have risen. 3 years ago a return ticket was £1.20 and this summer it rose to £2.00 a day. With costs at this level parents WILL use cars and traffic congestion will rise. Additional traffic problems may impact on my ability to use the toads to get to work in the morning, which is a real worry.
No	The parking problems and disruption to local residents is already unbearable. Parents are rude and inconsiderate to those who live on and around Broad Road. Parking is bad enough for residents without the school staff who park on Broad Road, Farmland Way and Wannock Lane and Gardens. Add parents dropping off children who think it's ok and a given right to block driveways and the carriageway, they have no respect of their children's safety. I'm surprised no has been hurt or killed. The area infrastructure is two small for goodness sake Willingdon and Wannock are small villages not towns.
No	Traffic would be a major issue, as would parking. Stop building, problem solved..... lets keep our fields and countryside. By keep building on our open spaces there are less and less places for our children to entertain themselves, therefore making sitting at home on social media more and more inviting!
No	There are already far too many cars using Broad Road at school pick up and drop off times. I have a driveway, but sometimes it's difficult to get into my drive, due to inconsiderate parking of others. Extra children would create extra vehicle problems in my locality. (I know the school will try the usual things to encourage less use of vehicles, but the fact remains that most people will use them, as most of the extra children will be coming from outside of this locality). This leads me to state that it's obvious the extra places are not for children who live nearby, as they are already catered for. The extra places would be for children not of the locality, whose parents wish them to attend one of the best schools in Eastbourne. I understand that sentiment, as I have the same wish. My wife and I moved to Broad Road because of the local schools and neighbourhood. The new builds around the area all came with the same promises of more schools, doctors & dentists etc. As usual these have all failed to materialise and it's left for the current amenities to pick up the pieces and "work around" the issue. Willingdon school has just received excellent exam results. If more children are crammed into its facilities, will this form remain? Who can I turn to for answers if my children are failed due to expansion progress? Please rethink this consideration and build new schools and employ more staff if there are are insufficient school places. You wouldn't build in the back gardens of existing homes if you needed more housing space. Are Ratton, Cavendish, the Academy and all the other senior schools in Eastbourne also being expanded? If not, why is that?
No	The expansion of this school would bring further disruption to this area. There is insufficient parking already without the additional number of extra cars this proposal would bring. We are unable to leave our house between 8 and 9.30 a.m. and 2 to 3.30 pm every school day due to the amount of traffic. This area is also a rat run used by dividers trying get to avoid the congestion on the Eastbourne Road. There are not that many school age children living in this area which is predominantly made up of elderly people. If the new housing development goes ahead at Morning Mill farm, which I am sure will be houses predominantly built to accommodate families would it not be sensible to have both the community school and the infant and junior school rebuilt in development.
No	there is a parking issue around the area, the school teachers have to park out in the road that increases the congestion. maybe the school could reduce the playing field and make a car park first to see if that reduces congestion and the parking issue.
No	
No	The approach roads to the school, especially Broad Road are totally congested with cars, commercial vehicles and busses at school attendance times and are frankly dangerous. Cars and commercial vehicles will regularly resort to using the grass verges and even the pavements at these times. We have even had a bus stuck on our grass verge for 4 hours until a rescue truck big enough has been found to remove it. If this scheme does go ahead, Broad Rd needs to be widened which could be done quite easily. Or the stretch of Broad Rd from Wannock Lane to Wannock Avenue should be made into pedestrian only
No	I do not support the expansion of the school due to the increase in traffic along Broad Road at school dropping off times. Currently the traffic is hideous, with an outrageously poor standard of driving exhibited by the majority of parents. This includes stopping on the crossing zigzags to allow their children to get out and stopping on the crossing to do the same! Parking in Broadview Close obstructing driveways and the junction onto Broad Road. Driving over the green verges to get past other cars and damaging said verges (its two weeks into the term already and the verges are already getting ploughed by impatient cars). In 17 years of putting up with this I and my neighbours never once seen the police enforcing the law regarding stopping on zigzags or pedestrian crossings. Should the Emergency services need to visit the school or a local residence at peak time crucial time would be lost and another 200 cars is not going to improve the situation.
No	To many cars already
No	The parents park irresponsibly currently and with more children it will prove dangerous for the students and community alike.

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No	Parking already is a big issue around the school. They would be better creating a bigger car park for their staff as it creates chaos along Farmlands Ave and Coppice Ave. Also the volume of traffic dropping children off is horrendous at start and end of day.
No	This will increase the traffic volume and parking issues in the area in particular during school term times.
No	Since moving into Oldfield Road 3 years ago there has been a steady increase in the amount of traffic using this road as a cut through particularly during the rush hours and school starting and finishing times. This road is a typical residential street, it is narrow and has many cars parked along it. Many young children walk along this road to get to the local junior/infant school. Increasing the capacity of Willingdon school may be necessary but not at the expense of the safety and well being of the local community. Serious consideration needs to be given to the impact of traffic in this area.
No	it will increase the number of the cars .No one believes in walking anywhere these days.We have trouble getting in and out of our drive now, almost sometime impossible.
No	Same reason as me !!!!
No	
No	Unless there will be provisions made for extra parking at the school, then the situation will get worse, especially for the buses which have a problem now.
No	The area is already heavy with traffic and causes problems with so many secondary schools which use access from the main road (Willingdon, Ratton & Cavendish). Allowing more space will cause the main road to be gridlocked.
No	The majority of the pupils in this school are not local. They are not part of this community, and do not support the people of this area and have no respect for us. Some of them sit on our garden walls, rolling their wacky Baccy cigarettes and throwing their butts on the pavement outside our property's. We don't need anymore of them.
No	I do not believe that the school should be allowed to increase numbers. The school has done nothing substantial to deal with the issues of parking and whilst it talks about encouraging parents to consider other options for travel for children fails to acknowledge the severe problems caused by its own teachers who clearly have little respect for the community or the impact that their poor parking practices has on the community. An increase in school size will worsen the current litter problems caused daily with pupils, parents and teachers dumping food and drink containers both on pavements and in the hedges and gardens bordering the school in Broad Road. While the sign might say Willingdon Community School the leadership it seems to have no comprehension of its broader responsibility to the local community which it ignores.
No	We are against this due to Parents parking within yellow zig zags of crossing, on the actual crossing and dangerous parking on corners of Broadview Close where we live. There is not enough parking spaces at present in the surrounding area for additional cars. Coppice Avenue and Farmlands Avenue are becoming extremely dangerous with parked cars. The buses cannot move through freely as it is. Also if there is an evening function at the school Resident's visitors cannot park outside the property they are visiting. Also Teachers and children are smoking in Broadview Close and then flicking their cigarette ends into the road. Also Teachers smoking at the main school gate and again disposing of their cigarette ends on to Broad Road. A number of children seem to think that the place to sit and wait for parents is on garden walls which to elderly residents can be intimidating.
No	This is a very bad idea. I am utterly opposed to this proposal. No one knows, as yet, how much new housing will actually be built in the greater Willingdon and Polegate areas. The total number of new dwelling units hinges in part on the amount of destruction this will cause to the Ashdown Forest National Park, which is at present suffering the bad effects of an increased level of nitrogen pollution. Research into this is currently being undertaken, I understand. Broad Road is already suffering the negative effects of parents parking all along the entire length of the road while waiting to collect their offspring when the school day ends at 3 or 3.30 pm (as are the nearby roads, e.g., Farmland's Way, Coppice Avenue, Oldfield Road and all the little residential closes and quiet side roads). This is a very quiet and pleasant residential area, and the shouting and shrieking by teenagers walking along the road is very annoying, as is the litter they throw on the pavements, the grass verges and into people's gardens. Vandalism is also an issue, such as the glass panes of the nearby bus shelters being smashed, plastic panes being ripped out or badly damaged, bus time tables being removed and/or the plastic protecting these being destroyed or ripped put, as well as branches being broken off trees and thrown around. Furthermore, there is the issue of the now very congested Eastbourne Road, the A2270. Any increase in the number of pupils at this school will inevitably generate even more traffic on this particular road. Broad Road is decidedly NOT the right location for a large, extended school for adolescents and teenagers!
No	I am a resident of Broad Road/Wannock Avenue and I strongly oppose the decision to enlarge Willingdon School. The traffic is unbelievable already at school times, without having more cars, which of course it would be if you extend. It is difficult enough at the moment to get out of our drives with people parking on the grass verges. Apart from that we would have endless lorries with building materials for possibly a year. I strongly think some thought should be given to the residents of the area.
No	<p>We are against this proposal in its current form for the following reasons:</p> <p>1. Expansion at St Richard's [in Bexhill] should be part of the solution because:</p> <p>a) The same pressures apply to St Richard's as Willingdon Community School: As East Sussex County Council officers and members are aware, St Richard's Catholic College recruits from a wider area than most community schools. The pressures outlined for Willingdon School in the consultation document apply equally to St Richard's which recruits over of a quarter of its intake from the Eastbourne area (i.e. over 50 students a year from Eastbourne).</p> <p>b) St Richard's Catholic College is at capacity: Last year 188 Catholics applied to St Richard's Catholic College. The current number of places is not sufficient to provide for the number of Catholics, let alone for any other children whose parents would like them to attend St Richard's. With the further housing mentioned in the consultation document that are planned in the area, the pressures on St Richard's will become even more acute.</p> <p>c) Relative popularity of St Richard's and Willingdon: The consultation document says that Willingdon 'is a popular school and regularly oversubscribed'. However St Richard's has a considerably higher number of first preferences (last year 289 for 190 places) than Willingdon (218 first preferences against a PAN of 200).</p> <p>d) The Council's stance on ensuring parental preference: At a meeting in summer 2106 with the then Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Cllr Bennett, the Diocese raised the point that surplus places</p>

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	<p>elsewhere rather than parental preferences for St Richard's had been used as a reason not to expand St Richard's in recent years. Defending the case of taking additional pupils at South Malling when there were surplus places elsewhere in Lewes, Cllr Bennett made clear the Council's stance on ensuring parental preferences and looked forward to a submission for basic need expansion at St Richard's.</p> <p>e) St Richard's is an outstanding school and one of the highest performing schools in East Sussex. Why is East Sussex at present not wanting to support and expand one of its best and most popular schools when that school takes a significant number of children from Eastbourne?</p> <p>f) Despite the important principles of proportionality and diversity, East Sussex has not, despite many basic need expansions, expanded any Catholic primary or secondary schools. East Sussex should be following a balanced approach to expansion of places.</p> <p>g) Catholic schools have helped East Sussex with bulge classes at Eastbourne and Hastings in recent years.</p> <p>2. There has not been adequate consultation</p> <p>a) The consultation document does not provide any significant detail to back up the proposal.</p> <p>b) The expansion of secondary places in Eastbourne has not been raised at recent Joint Diocese Planning Place Planning Meetings. The last reference to secondary places in Eastbourne was in the minutes of the 7 Feb 2017 meeting [REDACTED]</p> <p>c) The Education Commissioning Plan at paragraphs 7.4.1 and 7.4.2 does make some reference to Eastbourne secondary places and exploring potential options with schools. St Richard's and the Diocese have not been included in any discussions on this prior to the consultation document being published.</p> <p>Thank you for the opportunity to give our comments</p>