Kent County Council would like to hear your views on a proposal to expand Rodmersham School from 70 pupil places to 105 places from September 2014

**Date of Public Meeting:**
Wednesday 10 July at 7 pm
The Village Hall
Rodmersham Green, Sittingbourne, ME9 0PS (next to the school)

www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations
1. The Proposal

Kent County Council would like to expand Rodmersham School by 5 places per year group, taking the total capacity of the school from 70 places to 105 places. The school would then admit 15 pupils per year from September 2014.

Rodersham School is very popular. More than 50 families named Rodmersham as a preference in their application for a place in Year R for September 2013. The school’s Ofsted report in September 2011 described the school as outstanding, where pupils are exceptionally well prepared for their future lives. Ofsted also commented that the school should rigorously pursue opportunities to extend and improve the internal accommodation of the school, so that the school is less cramped and can provide the best possible learning environment for its pupils.

Many of the children currently attending the school live within a one mile radius of the village. The proposal is, therefore, in line with the expectation of expanding popular, successful schools and providing local schools for primary age children wherever possible, in order to meet future demand.

The school building would be extended to provide accommodation to take the additional children.

2. Rationale for the change

Sittingbourne is a growth area with new housing proposed. More families are moving to the area and the demand for primary school places is predicted to increase as a result of both the new housing and the rise in the birth rate. As well as this proposal to expand Rodmersham School, Kent County Council is also exploring options for expanding primary schools in other areas of Sittingbourne, including Lansdowne Primary School and Lower Halstow School.

3. What Happens Next?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>24 June to 12 September 2013</td>
<td>Public Consultation Period</td>
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<tr>
<td>27 September 2013</td>
<td>Following the consultation, all views received either by post, e-mail or at the Public Meeting, will be reported to the KCC Education Cabinet Committee.</td>
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<tr>
<td>13 October to 10 November 2013</td>
<td>The Cabinet Member decides whether to continue with the proposal. If so, a Public Notice will be published in a local newspaper, at the school and in public places like the library. During this time comments and objections can be made about the proposal. The Public Notice will run for 4 weeks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 November 2013</td>
<td>The Cabinet Member considers all responses made and decides whether to go ahead.</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2014</td>
<td>Implementation should the proposal be agreed.</td>
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4. How To Give Your Views

There are a number of ways you can let us have your views:

**Complete and return the response form below to:**
Marisa White, Area Education Officer, East Kent Education Office, Brook House, Reeves Way, Whitstable, Kent CT5 3SS.

**Come to the Public Meeting** at The Village Hall, Rodmersham Green, Sittingbourne, ME9 0PS on Wednesday 10 July at 7 pm (next to the school).

**Email your comments to:** school.consultations@kent.gov.uk

(We will note all you say, but will not be able to respond individually to response forms, letters or emails).

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Public Consultation Response Form: Rodmersham School

Please return no later than 11 am on Thursday 12 September

Do you agree with the proposal? ☐ Yes ☐ No

I am: *A Parent/Carer; Member of Staff; Governor; Pupil; Other interested party

.................................................................................................................................................. (please state interest).

*Please delete as appropriate

Name: ........................................................................................................................................

Address: ....................................................................................................................................

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Kent County Council is a data controller under the Data Protection Act 1998 and will comply with the requirements of the Act at all times. We will ensure that your personal information is processed fairly and lawfully and in this instance used only for the purpose of validation, which will enable a fair and just consultation.

Please write your comments overleaf
We have completed an Equality Impact Assessment to see if the proposal could affect anyone unfairly. We welcome your views on the assumptions we have made and the conclusions we have drawn. To view the document, go to www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations or contact schoolconsultations@kent.gov.uk.

You can view the Commissioning Plan for Education Provision Kent 2012 – 2017 at:

www.kent.gov.uk/education_and_learning/plans_and_consultations/education_plans.aspx