Dear Parents/Carers, Staff and Other Interested Parties

Proposal to expand South Borough Primary School

Information Drop-In Session: Thursday, 28th January 2016 from 4.30 – 6.00 at South Borough Primary School, Stagshaw Close, Maidstone

The Swale Academies Trust, in collaboration with Kent County Council, is today commencing consultation on a proposal to permanently increase the capacity of South Borough Primary School, Stagshaw Close, Maidstone, Kent from 210 places expanding incrementally from September 2017 to a total capacity of 420 places in September 2023. The published admission number (PAN) for the school would increase from 30 to 60 from September 2017.

Published Admission Number Planned Increase

Kent County Council as the Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places are available. The County Council’s Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent for 2016-20 is a five year rolling plan which is updated annually. It sets out our future plans as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision across all types and phases of education in Kent. A copy of the plan can be viewed from this link:
https://democracy.kent.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=832&MId=5824&Ver=4

A detailed analysis, at District level, identifies the future need for Primary and Secondary provision which needs to be commissioned, where, and when. The forecasts for Maidstone indicate a continued growth in demand for Reception year places with a deficit of places forecast for seven of the 12 planning groups. The growth is predominantly from incremental increases in the birth rate and significant new housing across the Borough. South Borough Primary School is located within the Maidstone Central and South planning group of Schools. Table 1: School-based surplus/deficit capacity summaries: Year R (below) highlights a deficit of Reception Year places of -12 places rising to -21 throughout the five year forecast period. These figures do not include additional pressures as a result of new housing developments within the area.
The Academy Trust has determined that a consultation should be carried out on permanent expansion of the school.

Having additional students on roll at the school will have financial benefits for the school. This may potentially provide the opportunity to enhance teaching and career opportunities for staff, which in turn will benefit the learning experience of the children.

The consultation period will take place from 11th January until 8th February 2016. Following the consultation the Academy Trust will consider all the views expressed by stakeholders and then make a decision on how to proceed. If the Academy Trust agrees to continue with the expansion, then approval will be sought from the Secretary of State. If the Academy Trust agrees to proceed, it is proposed that building work will commence late Summer 2016, subject to statutory approvals such as planning approval.

The planning application process for the new classrooms and facilities will include consideration of issues arising out of the physical expansion of the school such as parking and the impact on traffic as a result of any potential development. Please note that the planning application process is dealt with and consulted on separately. There will be an opportunity for those that are interested to respond directly to the planning application as well as this education consultation.
The costs of the expansion would be met by KCC and permanent accommodation will be provided. We will work closely with KCC to ensure that building works are carried out safely and in a way which minimises disruption to pupils and staff during the project.

If you wish to comment on this proposal, please return the response form by midday on **Monday, 8 February 2016** either by handing it in at the school office or emailing your views to 2feconsultation@sbps.kent.sch.uk

If you would like to discuss these proposals further before responding, we will be holding a drop in session at the school on **Thursday, 28th January 2016 from 4.30 – 6.00** where there will also be an opportunity to view some of the initial concept designs.

Copies of all documents related to this proposal can be found on the school’s website: [www.southboroughprimary.org.uk](http://www.southboroughprimary.org.uk) and on KCC’s website at [www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations](http://www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations)

Yours sincerely

Mrs J Olivier
Headteacher
South Borough Primary School

Mr M Wilson
Executive Headteacher
Swale Academies Trust
EDUCATION CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM
Proposal to expand South Borough Primary School from 210 places to 420 places by September 2017

Please complete this response form by **no later than midday 8 February 2016** and return it to:
- South Borough Primary School Office, Stagshaw Close, Postley Road, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6TL
- email 2feconsultation@sbps.kent.sch.uk

**Do you agree with the proposal?**
☐ Yes  ☐ No  ☐ Undecided

Which of the following best describes you?
☐ Parent of child(ren) currently attending South Borough Primary School
☐ Member of staff at South Borough Primary School
☐ Governor at South Borough Primary School
☐ Parent of child(ren) not currently attending South Borough Primary School
☐ Member of staff at another local school
☐ A Governor at another local school
☐ Other Interested Party (please specify) ……………………………………………………………………………………

Name *(Optional)* ………………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Address: *(Optional)* …………………………………………………………………………………………………………………

Comments

Continue overleaf …..

In accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 Swale Academies Trust 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.
South Borough Primary School
Education Consultation Response Form

Proposal to expand South Borough Primary School from 210 places to 420 places by September 2017.

Your comments….

Please return no later than midday on Monday, 8th February 2016 to:
- South Borough Primary School Office, Stagshaw Close, Postley Road, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6TL
- Email: 2feconsultation@sbps.kent.sch.uk