

PROPOSAL TO EXPAND THURSBY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the School Organisation (prescribed alterations to maintained schools) (England) Regulations 2016.

1. The name and contact details of the LA or governing body publishing the proposal, and the name, address and category of the school proposed for closure.

Cumbria County Council. School Organisation Team, Parkhouse Building, Baron Way, Kingmoor Business Park, Carlisle, CA6 4SJ.
The school to be expanded is Thursby Primary School, School Road, Thursby, Carlisle CA5 6PN. This is a community school.

2. Description of alteration.

An additional classroom would be added to the school. This would allow the current published admission number (PAN) of 15 to be raised to 20, meaning that the capacity for the school would increase from 105 to 140.

3. Evidence of demand

In September 2018 Thursby Primary School had 103 pupils on roll against a capacity of 105. Projections show that the school is likely to remain full for the foreseeable future. A new housing development in the village of Thursby will yield approximately 17 primary aged children, which is more than can currently be accommodated at the school.

4. Objectives of proposal.

The objective of the proposal is to increase the capacity of Thursby Primary School in response to the development of new housing in the village. This will allow children in the village to be taught in a sustainable environment of an appropriate size and gives parents the option of having their children taught in a local village school.

5. The effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area

The proposals are in response to the development of a housing estate within the catchment area of the school (under 0.5 miles away). The next nearest primary school is Rosley CE School which is over the 2 miles statutory walking distance. There is likely to be no effect on other schools.

6. Project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved

A section 106 agreement with the developer provided £224,000. This, when combined with £156,000 from delegated Schools Grant and brought forward maintenance funds, will provide sufficient funds to build a single classroom and make other alterations necessary to improve access and safeguarding. Potential transport costs for displaced catchment children will be avoided through the provision of the additional classroom space.

7. Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation.

The additional places at the school will be available from September 2019. As much work as possible will be carried out during the school summer holidays; work that is carried out during term time will be in a separate compound away from the children.

8. Objections and comments

Within four weeks of the publication of this notice any person wishing to raise objections or make comments on the proposal may do so in writing to the School Organisation Team, Cumbria County Council, Parkhouse Building, Baron Way, Kingmoor Business Park, Carlisle CA6 4SJ or by emailing school.organisation@cumbria.gov.uk by 8 February 2019.