

Consultation on the Expansion of Low Ash Primary School in order to increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) of the school

This letter is to seek your views on the proposed enlargement of Low Ash Primary School.

We are proposing to increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Low Ash Primary School from 60 to 90. The net capacity of the school is currently 420 and would be increased to 630.

The demand for reception places in this area continues to increase particularly with regard to the number of housing developments approved or awaiting a decision. Some homes have been completed and children have been accommodated in other recently expanded schools.

Actual numbers (May census) at Low Ash and other schools within a reasonable distance are shown in the table below. The PAN is the intake number (438 as shown below) and clearly shows a shortfall in reception and year 3.

School	PAN	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
BLAKEHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL	60	62	60	62	58	61	59	56
Christ Church CE Academy	30	30	23	28	29	30	26	28
Grove House Primary School	60	60	56	60	61	60	59	60
High Craggs Academy	60	55	55	48	60	58	53	56
Low Ash Primary	60	64	59	60	58	59	60	56
POPLARS FARM PRIMARY SCHOOL	30	29	30	30	34	30	30	29
SHIPLEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL	30	30	30	25	32	30	29	31
St Anthony's Catholic Primary School	18	19	18	16	18	16	19	16
St Francis Catholic Primary School	30	32	29	30	31	28	28	28
Swain House Primary School	60	61	60	63	64	64	65	60
Total	438	442	420	422	445	436	428	420

Primary schools are grouped into 26 planning areas as required by the Department for Education (DfE) in order to produce pupil forecasts. The forecasts for the planning areas which include the above schools show a shortfall of places in the future. Please note that the Council is only allowed to include additional children expected in the pupil forecasts once housing developments have been granted planning permission. The Council is however aware of significant developments over which a decision has not yet been made and recent completed developments that may not yet be occupied. Examples of developments within a reasonable distance to the school are shown in the table below:

Site	Number of dwellings	Status
Arthur Street	41	Pending
Ashfield Road	35	Pending
Bolton Woods Quarry	700	Pending
Cavendish Road	29	Granted
Dock Lane	10 apartments, 70 houses	Pending
Fagley Quarry	600	Granted
Frizinghall Road	18 apartments, 24 houses	Pending
Livingstone Road	59	Granted
Norman Lane	27 apartments	Granted
Otley Road	17	Granted
Poplars Park Road	145	Pending
Roundwood Avenue	440	Completed
Valley Road, Wallbank Drive	38	Pending
Wrose Brow Road	10	Granted

If all these pending developments are granted, it will place additional pressure on school places in the area and could mean children are placed at schools a considerable distance from their homes.

Low Ash Primary is in Shipley 1 planning area and currently there are 168 places available per year group. The health authority data showing the number of children registered, which is used for pupil forecasting shows the following:

Planning Area	Age 0	Age 1	Age 2	Age 3	Age 4	Age 5	Age 6	Age 7	Age 8	Age 9	Age 10
Shipley 1	191	191	190	192	201	185	174	200	180	177	176
Reception year	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010

This data indicates that there are more children registered with the health authority than there are places and therefore children have had to travel to schools in other planning areas. The neighbouring planning area North East 2 also shows a shortfall (in the table below) as there are currently only 330 places available per year group, although following consultation we are to expand Poplars Farm Primary School to admit an additional 30 per year group. 2019 however will still show a shortfall.

Planning Area	Age 0	Age 1	Age 2	Age 3	Age 4	Age 5	Age 6	Age 7	Age 8	Age 9	Age 10
North East 2	341	380	336	361	343	351	362	370	334	346	333
Reception year	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010

Low Ash Primary School is a popular school and usually applications exceed the number of places available. Their most recent Ofsted inspection rated the school as 'Good'. The school has sufficient space to be expanded, the Council would work closely with the school to ensure that educational requirements continue to be met and that least disruption is caused to the pupils and staff during expansion. Any expansion would of course be subject to planning permission.

There would be no changes to the admission arrangements for the school other than increasing the number of reception children allocated each year to 90 as from September 2019.

This letter is therefore to gain your views and comments, on the Council's proposed enlargement of the school premises and an increase in the school's published admission number, as part of the overall consultation prior to any decision being made. We will also be informing the local community and other stakeholders in the area.


The consultation process will continue until 20 October 2017 after which a full analysis will be carried out and a report with recommendations will be made to the Executive of the Council in December 2017.

Letters of consultation are also to be sent to all schools within the District, to parents of known Early Years children in the area, the Catholic and Church of England Diocese, the Muslim Association and other relevant bodies and Local Authorities.

Any comments or suggestions can be made on the response form which is included. This should be forwarded to Nina Mewse at the above address or alternatively emails may be sent to: educationconsultation@bradford.gov.uk quoting changes to Low Ash Primary School.

Online responses can be made on the Bradford Council [consultation website](#) under current consultations.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nina Mewse". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N'.

Nina Mewse
Senior Provision and Places Officer

Response form

Please complete details and return to:

Nina Mewse

Senior Provision and Places Officer, Education Client Services,

1st Floor, Margaret McMillan Tower, Princes Way, Bradford BD1 1NN by 20 October 2017 at the very latest

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Name (optional)

Full postcode (of your home address) eg *BD1 1NN*

Please indicate which of the following applies to you - *please tick all that apply*

- Parent/carer
- Member of school staff
- School Governor at Low Ash Primary
- School Governor at another school
- Local Councillor
- Member of the Local Community
- Parent of a younger child, not yet attending a primary school
- Other

If other please give details

Please indicate your response to this consultation below

- I agree that Low Ash Primary School should be expanded to enable it to increase it's admission number from 60 to 90
- I disagree that the school should be expanded and feel the admission number should remain at 60

Please add any further comments below

