More middle school places in Windsor
Autumn 2017

We’re asking you about providing new school places in Windsor.

We need more middle school places in Windsor in time for September 2019.

We are proposing to expand St Peter’s CE Middle School in Old Windsor.

The school, which currently takes 60 children per year group, would be expanded to take 90 per year group.

We now want your views on this proposal.

You can read about the proposal inside this consultation document.

You can give us your views by completing the form in the centre of the booklet.

You can also respond online at: https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/consultations

Responses must be received by Tuesday 19th December 2017.
Your views needed

The number of children needing middle school education in Windsor is set to rise over the next few years and we need to make sure there are enough places for them.

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead has created nearly 350 permanent middle school places in the town since 2013, which is about 90 extra school places per year group. Nevertheless, we need to provide even more places from September 2019. This is because:

- The number of children starting middle school is likely to continue rising.
- We want to make sure that there are some spare places.

That’s why the Royal Borough is working with St Peter’s CE Middle School on a proposal to expand the school. St Peter’s, an academy, is part of the Oxford Diocese Schools Trust (ODST), which also supports this consultation.

What you say matters...
Parents, staff, governors, dioceses and community organisations are all being consulted. Your views are vital so please take time to be part of this consultation. You can tell us what you think by:

- Completing the online response form at [https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/consultations](https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/consultations).
- Completing the paper response form (in the centre of this document) and:
  - returning it to your school, who will forward it on to us; or
  - posting it to Windsor Places Consultation, Zone B, Town Hall, Maidenhead, SL6 1RF.
- Writing to the address above.
- Emailing windsor.places@achievingforchildren.org.uk.

The closing date for your comments is Tuesday 19th December 2017.

What happens after the consultation finishes?
The school, the Oxford Diocese Schools Trust and the Royal Borough will all consider the outcome of the consultation and decide whether the proposal should proceed. The Royal Borough’s Cabinet will consider the proposal on 22nd March 2018.

First, middle and upper schools explained...

Windsor has a three tier system of first, middle and upper schools. This is different to other parts of the borough, which have primary and secondary schools.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Ages</th>
<th>Year Groups</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First schools</td>
<td>Ages 4 to 9</td>
<td>Reception to Year 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle schools</td>
<td>Ages 9 to 13</td>
<td>5 to Year 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper schools</td>
<td>Ages 13 to 18</td>
<td>9 to Year 13</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Where is the school? See back page map.
A summary of the proposal

The proposal is to expand St Peter’s CE Middle School. The school currently has 60 places per year group, giving it 240 places overall. It is proposed that the school would expand to take 90 places per year group, which is a total of 360 places.

The proposed expansion would start with the new Year 5 intake in September 2019. The Year 5 intakes in the following years would also be 90, until all year groups have 90 places.

Why do we need extra school places?

What have we done so far?
In recent years the Royal Borough has consulted with parents, staff, governors and residents twice on proposals to middle school places in Windsor. These consultations resulted in decisions to permanently expand St Edward’s Royal Free Ecumenical Middle School and Dedworth Middle School. Further expansion of middle school places is, however, now required.

Growing demand for middle school places...
The number of children expected to transfer from first schools to middle schools is growing, as set out in the chart on page 4. The grey bars in the chart show the number of children on roll in a Windsor first school and resident in the borough. The black line on the chart shows the actual and projected numbers of children starting in the Year 5 in the town’s middle schools. The grey line shows the number of Year 5 places available in those schools.

The chart shows that:

- The cohorts transferring from the town’s first schools are expected to keep growing.
- The number of places available rises from 450 in September 2016 to 510 in 2018.
- Even with these places, there is still expected to be shortage of Year 5 places in 2019, 2021 and 2022.

A further 30 Year 5 places would increase the number of available spaces to 540. This would be enough to meet the demand and provide a small surplus of places.

Having some spare places available...
The Royal Borough would also like to provide more middle school places so that there are some spare – surplus - places in the system. This is important because it means that:

- More families are likely to be offered a place at their preferred school.
- There are spaces for available for families moving into the area;
- There is spare capacity in case demand for places is higher than anticipated.
What options have we considered?

There are four middle schools in Windsor:

- **Dedworth Middle School** is already being expanded from 120 to 180 places per year group, with the increase to Year 5 numbers phased across 2017 and 2018.

- **St Edward’s Royal Free Ecumenical Middle School** was expanded in September 2013 from 93 to 120 places per year group. There is now little space for further expansion without a radical, and expensive, redesign of the whole site.

- **St Peter’s CE Middle School** has not yet been expanded and does have the space to grow. The school has 60 places per year group, with 90 places proposed in this consultation.

- **Trevelyan Middle School** has considered expansion and can accommodate it, but has decided that the time is not yet right for growth. Trevelyan has 150 places per year group.
**Funding new school places**

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead is the local authority for the area and is legally responsible for making sure that there are enough school places to meet demand. The borough receives a grant from the government, called the ‘Basic Need’ grant, for the purpose of providing new school places. This can be spent at all types of state schools, including academies, community schools, free schools, voluntary aided and voluntary controlled schools.

Over the next four months, the borough will be working with the school and its trust, the Oxford Diocese Schools Trust, on the design of the new accommodation for the school. This will then be reported to the Royal Borough’s Cabinet when they meet in March 2018 to consider the outcome of the consultation.

**What happens if no new places are provided?**

If St Peter’s CE Middle School is not given the go-ahead to expand then it is very likely that some Windsor children will be left without school places in September 2019. Other children would find themselves taught in schools that are overcrowded or farther away from their home than their families would like.
St Peter’s CE Middle School

St Peter’s CE Middle School is situated in the village of Old Windsor, about two miles southeast of Windsor. The school is a Church of England academy, and is part of a Multi-Academy Trust called the Oxford Diocese Schools Trust (ODST). The ODST was set up by the Oxford Diocese (i.e. the Church of England) in 2013.

The school is currently the smallest middle school in Windsor, with 60 places per year group, compared to 120 at St Edward’s Royal Free Ecumenical Middle School, 150 at Trevelyan Middle School and 180 at Dedworth Middle School.

The proposal for the school involves increasing the Published Admission Number from 60 to 90 for the September 2019 intake. Subsequent intakes would also be for 90 children. As these larger year groups move up through the school, the overall number of places at St Peter’s would increase from the current 210 to 360.

If St Peter’s CE Middle School is expanded to 360 pupils then the current plan is to demolish the four classroom modular building, now used for Maths/English/Humanities at Key Stage 3, and French/Religious Studies across all year groups. This would be replaced with a two-storey block of six classrooms. The school’s kitchen would need to be enlarged. A feasibility study is being carried out over the next few months to confirm exactly what is needed. It will also be necessary to re-organise the access and onsite parking to minimise the impact on local roads.

No changes to the criteria for admission to St Peter’s CE Middle School are proposed. For more information about the criteria, please see the school website.

Headteacher: Mr Andy Snipp
School Address: Crimp Hill Road, Old Windsor, SL4 2QY
Website: https://sites.google.com/site/stpetersoldwindsor/
School Type: Academy
Ofsted Inspection Judgement: Good (October 2017)
Net Capacity: 271
Admission Number: 60

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<th>2015</th>
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<tr>
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<td>62</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>(50)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>234</td>
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<td>222</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>(204)</td>
</tr>
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</table>

View of the Headteacher and Governing Body of St Peter’s CE Middle School:

“We welcome the opportunity of going ahead with this consultation as we believe there will be significant benefits to the proposed expansion of our school”.

This position is supported by the Oxford Diocese Schools Trust.
Advantages:

☑ The school is graded ‘Good’ by Ofsted.

☑ The site has enough outdoor playing field space, even with 360 pupils.

☑ Expansion here would provide all of the required places for 2019.

☑ Expansion would make St Peter’s more comparable in size to the other middle schools in the Windsor area.

☑ Expansion at St Peter’s is currently expected to be comparable in cost to other projects of a similar size. More detailed feasibility work now being carried out will provide a more accurate cost estimate.

☑ An extension could be built without major disruption to existing pupils.

☑ With more children on roll, the school would receive more funding, benefit from some economies of scale and, in turn, would be able to use more funding for teaching and learning.

☑ Larger schools can find it easier to recruit staff, and there are more opportunities for professional development; and

☑ Bigger budgets and additional staff can make it easier to deliver a broad curriculum and improve outcomes for all.

Disadvantages:

☒ The school is located in the village of Old Windsor, and most of the additional demand for new middle school places will come from Windsor itself.

☒ Increasing a school’s size is not always popular with parents, although a 360 place middle school would still be smaller than average in Windsor.

☒ The expansion could lead to issues with congestion, parking and safety on-site and on Crimp Hill Road which will need to be addressed. Traffic is, of course, a major concern with all school expansions.

☒ The school is located in the Green Belt, and so the borough will need to demonstrate ‘Special Circumstances’ to justify the new buildings. Most of the new accommodation will, however, be in the footprint of the existing modular building which is to be demolished.
The map above shows the location of the middle schools in Windsor. St Peter’s CE Middle School is shown by the black circle.

1. Dedworth Middle School
2. St Edward’s Royal Free Ecumenical Middle School
3. St Peter’s CE Middle School
4. Trevelyan Middle School
**Pull-out Response Form**

Have your say about the proposed expansion of St Peter’s CE Middle School.

You can respond by:
- Using this pull-out form and sending it either direct to the address below or to your school (who will send it on to us).
- Writing to Windsor Places Consultation, using the address below.
- Emailing [windsor.places@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:windsor.places@achievingforchildren.org.uk).

You can respond to this consultation online at [https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/consultations](https://www3.rbwm.gov.uk/consultations).

The closing date for your responses is Tuesday 19th December 2017.

**Section 1 – About You**

You do not have to provide this information but it would be helpful if you would complete these details about yourself. The information will be used solely for consultation analysis.

1. **Name:**
   
2. **Address:**
   
   Postcode:

3. **I am** (please put an ‘X’ in the appropriate box or boxes and insert school name(s) where applicable):
   - A parent of a pupil at: [ ] 
   - A governor at: [ ]
   - A member of staff at: [ ]
   - A resident (please specify area): [ ]
   - Other (please specify): [ ]

Please return this form either to your school for them to return to us or to:

**Windsor Places Consultation**

Zone B, Town Hall, St Ives Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1RF

All views received by **Tuesday 19th December 2017** will be taken into account before any final decisions are made. All responses will be publicly available (with personal details blanked out) unless expressly requested otherwise.

If you have any questions about the proposal or need further information, please call 01628 796572 or email [windsor.places@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:windsor.places@achievingforchildren.org.uk).
Section 2 – New Middle School Places – Your Views

4. Do you agree that St Peter’s CE Middle School should be expanded from 60 to 90 places per year group, starting with Year 5 in September 2019?

Please put an ‘X’ in the appropriate box.

Yes, I agree that St Peter’s CE Middle School should be expanded from 60 to 90 places per year group. ✗

No, St Peter’s CE Middle School should not be expanded from 60 to 90 places per year group. ✗

I don’t know whether St Peter’s CE Middle School should be expanded from 60 to 90 places per year group. ✗

I have no view on whether St Peter’s CE Middle School should be expanded from 60 to 90 places per year group. ✗

5. Comments. If you have any comments relating to the proposal please give these below (you may use a separate sheet if necessary).

The closing date for your responses is Tuesday 19th December 2017