

CABINET DOCUMENTS FOR THE MEMBERS ROOM

Monday, 22nd November, 2010
at 5.00 pm

MEMBERS ROOM DOCUMENTS ATTACHED TO THE LISTED REPORTS

Members

Councillor Smith, Leader of the Council
Councillor Moulton, Cabinet Member for Resources
and Workforce Planning
Councillor Baillie, Cabinet Member for Housing
Councillor Dean, Cabinet Member for Environment
and Transport
Councillor Hannides, Cabinet Member for Leisure,
Culture and Heritage
Councillor Holmes, Cabinet Member for Children's
Services and Learning
Councillor White, Cabinet Member for Adult Social
Care and Health
Councillor P Williams, Cabinet Member for Local
Services and Community Safety

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Agendas and papers are now available via the Council's Website

12 PRIMARY SCHOOL REVIEW: PHASE 2 STATUTORY CONSULTATION

1. Pre-statutory consultation full consultation document.

Friday, 12 November 2010

SOLICITOR TO THE COUNCIL

Primary School Review: Phase 2

Full proposals consultation document



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Introduction

Southampton has experienced a big increase in the number of children being born in recent years. This is also happening across the rest of the country. The rising birth rate is now putting pressure on school places. In response to this we have been looking at ways to increase the size of our primary schools.

Southampton's vision for primary pupils, schools and learning is to provide the best educational experience for children and their families. This ambition sits at the heart of our vision, which is designed to provide school buildings that support the transformation of learning for children and young people. If taken forward, the proposals in this document will be implemented with limited disruption and, once completed, will help contribute to a rise in school standards through providing suitable and effective learning environments.

At this stage of the consultation there are no plans to change the Special Educational Needs provision for primary age children in the city.

We have already added places in the City Centre and Freemantle areas of Southampton. However, as the graph below shows, more still needs to be done to:

- ensure every pupil in the city has a school place
- ensure parents have a number of options when deciding on a school place for their children.



We have come up with a number of ideas that we would like to share with you. These are set out in this consultation booklet. Please take time to read through this booklet and let us know what you think. Thank you for supporting Southampton's children and young people, and the schools they need for the best possible start in life.

Why review?

Southampton, along with many other local authorities, is facing an unprecedented demand for primary school places, particularly in 2011 and 2012. This has been caused by: a rise in the birth rate; less families with school age children leaving the city; and, less parents opting for fee-paying schools.

The issue becomes clearer when you compare the number of Year R places (for children aged 4 and 5) available in the city in September 2012 if we do nothing, with the predicted number of children who will need a Year R school place in the same year:

- Year R places available September 2012: 2,645
- Year R places required in September 2012: 2,934 (forecast made in October 2009).

How to have your say

You may have a view on the overall strategy of increasing the size of schools, or you may just want to comment on the schools nearest your home. We would also welcome any other suggestions you may have for adding extra school places in the city. It is entirely up to you how you respond.

Here are all the ways you can tell us what you think:

- Pick up a response form from one of the affected schools
- Complete the online response form at www.southampton.gov.uk/primaryreview
- Email primary.schools.review@southampton.gov.uk
- Write to: Primary School Review: Phase 2, School Organisation Team
Southampton City Council
Children's Services & Learning
Floor 3, Southbrook Rise
4-8 Millbrook Road East
Southampton
SO15 1YG

The pre-statutory consultation closes on Tuesday 26 October 2010.

We have also arranged a number of drop-in sessions at the affected schools where you can come along and speak to us about the proposals.

School names	Drop-in venue	Date	Time
Bassett Green Primary School	Bassett Green Primary School	Wednesday 6 October	3-5pm
Glenfield Infant and Beechwood Junior School	Glenfield Infant School	Wednesday 29 September	3-5pm
Highfield C of E Primary School	Highfield C of E Primary School	Tuesday 28 September	3-5pm
Kanes Hill Primary School	Kanes Hill Primary School	Monday 4 October	3-4.30pm
Mansel Park Primary School	Mansel Park Primary School	Wednesday 6 October	3-5pm
Moorlands Primary School	Moorlands Primary School	Thursday 23 September	3-5pm
Shirley Warren Primary & Nursery School	Shirley Warren Primary & Nursery School	Tuesday 12 October	3-5pm
Banister Infant School	Banister Infant School	Thursday 14 October	3-5pm
Fairisle Infant & Nursery and Fairisle Junior School	Fairisle Infant & Nursery School	Tuesday 12 October	3-5pm
Harefield Primary School	Harefield Primary School	Thursday 7 October	3-5pm
Oakwood Infant and Oakwood Junior School	Oakwood Infant School	Monday 27 September	2.30-4.30pm
Sholing Infant and Sholing Junior School	Sholing Infant School	Tuesday 21 September	3-5pm
St Mark's C of E Primary School	St Mark's C of E Primary School	Monday 20 September	3-5pm
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School	St Patrick's Catholic Primary School	Monday 11 October	2.45-4.45pm
Tanners Brook Infant and Tanners Brook Junior School	Tanners Brook Infant School	Thursday 30 September	3-5pm
Valentine Infant and Heathfield Junior School	Valentine Infant School	Tuesday 5 October	3-5pm

The proposals

Our forecasts show that about 355 extra Year R places will need to be added to primary schools in Southampton to meet our statutory duty to provide a place to every child in the city. We are proposing that 160 places will be added in September 2011 and a further 195 will be added in September 2012.

You will find details of the proposals on the following pages. These have been developed by officers of the council with the help of the schools involved and are now being shared with you so you can tell us what you think.

Each proposal, if taken forward, will need to be implemented carefully to make sure it does not have a negative effect on school standards or on schools in neighbouring areas. This means that the changes which are taken forward will be made in two stages. For example, some schools will admit extra Year R pupils from September 2011, while others will admit extra Year R pupils from 2012. In both instances extra places will be added at the schools involved until the size of all year groups have been increased.

Stage one proposals

The following proposals, if agreed, would be implemented from September 2011:

- Add 15 places in Year R at Bassett Green Primary School from September 2011, increasing its PAN from 45 to 60*
- Add 10 places in Year R at Highfield C of E Primary School from September 2011, increasing its Published Admission Number (PAN) from 35 to 45
- Add 30 Places in Year R at Mansel Park Primary School from September 2011, increasing its PAN from 30 to 60**
- Add 15 places in Year R at Kaneshill Primary School from September 2011, increasing its PAN from 45 to 60
- Add 30 place in Year R at Moorlands Primary School from September 2011, increasing its PAN from 30 to 60
- Add 30 places in Year R at Shirley Warren Primary School from September 2011, increasing its PAN from 30 to 60
- Add 30 places at Glenfield Infant school from September 2011, increasing its PAN from 60 to 90
- Add 30 places at Beechwood Junior School from September 2014, increasing its PAN from 60 to 90

* Please note we have already decided to add 15 places in September 2010 for one year only to meet a higher than expected number of pupils. The proposal in this consultation is to make this increase permanent

** Please note we have already decided to add 30 places in September 2010 for one year only to meet a higher than expected number of pupils. The proposal in this consultation is to make this increase permanent

Stage two proposals

The following proposals, if agreed, would be implemented from September 2012.

- Add 30 places in Year R at Tanners Brook Infant School from September 2012, increasing its Published Admissions Number (PAN) from 90 to 120, **and** add 30 places in Year 3 at Tanners Brook Junior School from September 2015, increasing its PAN from 90 to 120
- Add 30 places in Year R at Fairisle Infant School from September 2012, increasing its PAN from 90 to 120, **and** add 30 places in Year 3 at Fairisle Junior School from September 2015, increasing its PAN from 90 to 120

OR

Add 30 places in Year R at Oakwood Infant School from September 2012, increasing its PAN from 60 to 90, **and** add 30 places in Year 3 at Oakwood Junior School from September 2015, increasing its PAN from 60 to 90

OR

Add another 30 places in Year R at Mansel Park Primary from September 2012, increasing its PAN from 60 to 90. Please note that this would be in addition to the proposals to add extra places at the school in September 2011.

- Add 15 places to Year R at Harefield Primary School from September 2012, increasing its PAN from 45 to 60
- Add 30 places to Year R at St Mark's C of E Primary School from September 2012, increasing its PAN from 60 to 90.
- Add 15 places to Year R at Banister Infant school from September 2012, increasing its PAN from 45 to 60. This would be in addition to the school, converting from an Infant to a Primary school from September 2013, as a result of the first phase of the primary school review
- Add 30 places to Year R at Sholing Infant School from September 2012, increasing its PAN from 60 to 90, **and** add 30 places to Year 3 at Sholing Junior School from September 2015, increasing its PAN from 60 to 90
- Add 30 places to Year R at Valentine Infant School from September 2012, increasing its PAN from 90 to 120, **and** add 30 places to Year 3 at Heathfield Junior School from September 2015, increasing its PAN from 90 to 120
- Add 15 places to Year R at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School from September 2012, increasing its PAN from 45 to 60

We are also in discussions with Wordsworth Infant, which is a Foundation School with a Trust, about the possibility of increasing its size and changing to a primary school.

More detail about each of these proposals is available on the following pages of this document. Each proposal has been numbered to correspond with the response form.

1. Portswood/Bassett

a. More detail about Bassett Green Primary School

Bassett Green Primary School currently admits 45 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 315 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 15 places are added to Year R at Bassett Green Primary School from September 2011. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2011 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 60. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 420 by September 2017.

Please note: we have already decided to add 15 places at Bassett Green Primary in September 2010 for one year only to meet a higher than expected number of pupils. The proposal in this consultation is to make this increase permanent.

b. More detail about Highfield C of E Primary School

Highfield C of E Primary School currently admits 35 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 245 children in all its year groups. In conjunction with the Church of England Diocese of Portsmouth and Winchester, we are proposing that an extra 10 places are added to Year R at Highfield C of E Primary School from September 2011. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2011 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 45. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 315 by September 2017.

There are no proposals to increase the size of other schools in the area unless they are specifically mentioned in this document.

2. Redbridge/Millbrook

a. More detail about Mansel Park Primary School

Mansel Park Primary School currently admits 30 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 210 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at Mansel Park Primary School from September 2011. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2011 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 60. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 420 by September 2017.

Please note: we have already decided to add 30 places in September 2010 for one year only to meet a higher than expected number of pupils. The proposal in this consultation is to make this increase permanent.

b. More detail about Tanners Brook Infant School

Tanners Brook Infant School currently admits 90 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 270 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at Tanners Brook Infant School from September 2012. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2012 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 120. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 360 by September 2014.

More detail about Tanners Brook Junior School

In addition to the increase at Tanners Brook Infant School, 30 extra places will need to be added at Tanners Brook Junior School from September 2015 to accommodate the extra children admitted to Tanners Brook Infant School as they progress to junior school. Tanners Brook Junior School currently admits 90 pupils to Year 3 each year, which means it has up to 360 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year 3 at Tanners Brook Junior School from September 2015. As pupils admitted to Year 3 in September 2015 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 120. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 480 by September 2018.

There are no proposals to increase the size of other schools in the area unless they are specifically mentioned in this document.

3. Lordshill/Millbrook

There are three sets of schools in this area of the city that we are proposing to expand:

- Fairisle Infant and Junior
- Oakwood Infant and Junior
- Mansel Park Primary

We are proposing that only **one** of these sets of proposals will be taken forward.

a. More detail about Fairisle Infant School

Fairisle Infant School currently admits 90 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 270 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at Fairisle Infant School from September 2012. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2012 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 120. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 360 by September 2014. As an alternative to adding places at Fairisle Infant and Junior, we could add them at Oakwood Infant and Junior or Mansel Park Primary, see below.

More detail about Fairisle Junior School

In addition to the increase at Fairisle Infant School, 30 extra places would need to be added at Fairisle Junior School from September 2015 to accommodate the extra children admitted to Fairisle Infant School as they progress to junior school. Fairisle Junior School currently admits 90 pupils to Year 3 each year, which means it has up to 360 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year 3 at Fairisle Junior School from September 2015. As pupils admitted to Year 3 in September 2015 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 120. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 480 by September 2018. As an alternative to adding places at Fairisle Infant and Junior, we could add them at Oakwood Infant and Junior or Mansel Park Primary, see below.

b. More detail about Oakwood Infant School

Oakwood Infant School currently admits 60 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 180 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at Oakwood Infant School from September 2012. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2012 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 90. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 270 by September 2014. As an alternative to adding places at

Oakwood Infant and Junior, we could add them at Fairisle Infant and Junior, see above, or Mansel Park Primary, see below.

More detail about Oakwood Junior School

In addition to the increase at Oakwood Infant School, 30 extra places would need to be added at Oakwood Junior School from September 2015 to accommodate the extra children admitted to Oakwood Infant School as they progress to junior school.

Oakwood Junior School currently admits 60 pupils to Year 3 each year, which means it has up to 240 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year 3 at Oakwood Junior School from September 2015. As pupils admitted to Year 3 in September 2015 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 90. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 360 by September 2018. As an alternative to adding places at Oakwood Infant and Junior, we could add them at Fairisle Infant and Junior, see above, or Mansel Park Primary, see below.

c. More detail about Mansel Park Primary

Mansel Park Primary School currently admits 30 children to Year R each year, which means it has up to 210 pupils in all year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at Mansel Park Primary from September 2012. This would be in addition to the 30 extra places that are being added in September 2011. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2012 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 90. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 630 by September 2018. As an alternative to adding places at Mansel Park Primary, we could add them at Fairisle Infant and Junior or Oakwood Infant and Junior, see above.

Please note: we have already decided to add 30 places at Mansel Park Primary in September 2010 for one year only to meet a higher than expected number of pupils and we are proposing to make this increase permanent from September 2011. This would increase the school to a 2FE Primary (60 places per year group). The proposal above would be in addition to the September 2011 increase and would see the school expand to 3FE (90 pupils per year group) from September 2012.

There are no proposals to increase the size of other schools in the area unless they are specifically mentioned in this document.

4. Thornhill

More detail about Kanes Hill Primary School

Kanes Hill Primary School currently admits 45 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 315 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 15 places are added to Year R at Kanes Hill Primary School from September 2011. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2011 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 60. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 420 by September 2017.

There are no proposals to increase the size of other schools in the area unless they are specifically mentioned in this document.

5. Townhill/Harefield

a. More details about Moorlands Primary School

Moorlands Primary School currently admits 30 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 210 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at Moorlands Primary School from September 2011. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2011 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 60. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 420 by September 2017.

b. More detail about Harefield Primary School

Harefield Primary School currently admits 45 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 315 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 15 places are added to Year R at Harefield Primary School from September 2012. As pupils admitted to Year R move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 60. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 420 by September 2018.

There are no proposals to increase the size of other schools in the area unless they are specifically mentioned in this document.

6. Shirley/Shirley Warren

a. More detail about Shirley Warren Primary School

Shirley Warren Primary School currently admits 30 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 210 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at Shirley Warren Primary School from September 2011. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2011 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 60. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 420 by September 2017.

b. More details about St Mark's C of E Primary School

St Mark's C of E Primary School currently admits 60 pupils to Year R each year, and once it completes its transition from a 3FE Junior to a 2FE Primary, it will have up to 420 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at St Mark's C of E Primary School from September 2012. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2012 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 90. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 630 by September 2018.

Please note: St Mark's C of E Primary School is currently in the process of changing from a 3FE junior in to a 2FE Primary school, as agreed in phase 1 of the Primary Review. This proposal to make it a 3FE primary, is in addition to the school changing from a junior to primary.

More details on Wordsworth Infant

We are also in discussions with the Governing body of Wordsworth Infant school regarding the possibility of expanding their school. Wordsworth is a Foundation school and a member of the Upper Shirley Learning Community Trust. As a Foundation school it would have to run its own consultation in order to increase its age range (i.e. change from an infant to a primary). Any changes to the age range at Wordsworth Infant would have to be agreed on, proposed and published by, the governing body of the school.

Wordsworth Infant School currently admits 60 pupils to Year R, which means it has up to 180 pupils in all year groups. We are in discussions with the school regarding the possibility of adding an extra 30 places to Year R from September 2012 **and** changing to an all through primary school by allowing 90 children to transfer from Year 2 to Year 3 in 2015. This would mean that the number of places at the school would increase to 630 by September 2018.

There are no proposals to increase the size of other schools in the area unless they are specifically mentioned in this document.

7. Bitterne

More detail about Glenfield Infant School

Glenfield Infant School currently admits 60 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 180 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at Glenfield Infant School from September 2011. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2011 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 90. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 270 by September 2013.

Beechwood Junior School

In addition to the increase at Glenfield Infant School, 30 extra places will need to be added at Beechwood Junior School from September 2014 to accommodate the extra children admitted to Glenfield Infant School as they progress to junior school. Beechwood Junior School currently admits 60 pupils to Year 3 each year, which means it has 240 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year 3 at Beechwood Junior School from September 2014. As pupils admitted to Year 3 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 90. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 360 by September 2017.

There are no proposals to increase the size of other schools in the area unless they are specifically mentioned in this document.

8. City Centre

More detail about Banister Infant School

Banister Infant School currently admits 45 children to Year R, which means it has up to 135 pupils in all year groups. We are proposing that an extra 15 places are added to Year R at Banister Infant from September 2012. This is in addition to Banister's change from an Infant to a Primary, agreed in phase 1 of the Primary Review, which is due to begin in September 2013. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2012 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 60. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 420 by September 2018.

Please note: Banister School is due to change from a 1.5FE infant in to a 1.5FE Primary school from September 2013, as agreed in phase 1 of the Primary Review. This proposal to make it a 2FE primary, is in addition to the school changing from an infant to primary.

There are no proposals to increase the size of other schools in the area unless they are specifically mentioned in this document.

9. Sholing

a. More detail about Sholing Infant School

Sholing Infant School currently admits 60 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 180 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at Sholing Infant School from September 2012. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2012 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 90. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 270 by September 2014.

More detail about Sholing Junior School

In addition to the increase at Sholing Infant School, 30 extra places will need to be added at Sholing Junior School from September 2015 to accommodate the extra children admitted to Sholing Infant School as they progress to junior school. Sholing Junior School currently admits 60 pupils to Year 3 each year, which means it has up to 240 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year 3 at Sholing Junior School from September 2015. As pupils admitted to Year 3 in September 2015 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 90. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 360 by September 2018.

b. More detail about Valentine Infant School

Valentine Infant School currently admits 90 pupils to Year R each year, which means it has up to 270 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year R at Valentine Infant School from September 2012. As pupils admitted to Year R in September 2012 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 120. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 360 by September 2014.

More detail about Heathfield Junior School

In addition to the increase at Valentine Infant School, 30 extra places will need to be added at Heathfield Junior School from September 2015 to accommodate the extra children admitted to Valentine Infant School as they progress to junior school. Heathfield Junior School currently admits 90 pupils to Year 3 each year, which means it has up to 360 children in all its year groups. We are proposing that an extra 30 places are added to Year 3 at Heathfield Junior School from September 2015. As pupils admitted to Year 3 in September 2015 move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 120. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 480 by September 2018.

There are no proposals to increase the size of other schools in the area unless they are specifically mentioned in this document.

10. Woolston

More detail about St Patrick's Catholic Primary School

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School currently admits 45 to Year R each year, which means it has up to 315 children in all its year groups. In conjunction with the Roman Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, we are proposing that an extra 15 places are added to Year R at St Patrick's Catholic Primary School from September 2012. As pupils admitted to Year R move through the school, the size of each year group would increase to 60. This means the number of places at the school would increase to 420 by September 2018.

There are no proposals to increase the size of other schools in the area unless they are specifically mentioned in this document.

Frequently Asked Questions

How many places are needed?

We need to add 355 new Year R places over the next two years – 160 in 2011 and 195 in 2012. More places would need to be added each in each year group as the children moved through primary education.

Why are the places needed?

There has been a steady increase in the number of children requiring a school place in Southampton over the past few years. Reasons for this include a reduction in the number of pupils applying to fee paying schools and fewer families moving out of the city when their children reach school age. However the main reason for the increase in the number of places required is due to the rising birth rate in the city. We know this because of:

- figures given to us by the Primary Care Trust
- the number of children in pre-school's and children's centres
- evidence from the Office of National Statistics that birth rates are increasing throughout the country.

How will the extra places be added?

At this stage there are no confirmed plans to totally rebuild any of the schools listed in this document. Depending on the outcome of this consultation, extra places will be added to several schools throughout the city by:

- the addition of buildings to existing schools (modular, temporary and permanent)
- re-claiming spaces that are currently being used for non-teaching purposes
- re-modelling and re-furbishing existing school buildings and rooms

Why aren't you building new schools?

At this stage we are not considering building any brand new schools because:

- the extra places are required in 2011 and 2012 and we do not have the required time to plan and build new school buildings
- at present we do not have the funding required to build new schools. Adding places to existing schools is a more cost effective solution

Why these schools?

The schools listed in this consultation booklet have been selected on the basis that they have suitable indoor and outdoor space, which could accommodate extra pupils and buildings, as well as being in areas of the city that have been identified as needing extra school places.

For those schools where additional buildings may be required, the city council will do its utmost to ensure that there is little or no encroachment onto existing playgrounds or playing fields.

Is there money available to create new schools places?

In November 2009, the city council received £1m from the Department for Education's Emergency Basic Need Safety Valve grant. This funding was

distributed to the council after we said we were experiencing a large increase in pupils applying for a school place. This grant will be used to help fund the Primary School Review: Phase 2.

The city council receives other money from central Government in relation to school buildings. Funding for 2011/12 will not be announced until the end of the year, and is obviously subject to change bearing in mind the current economic situation. If funding continues at current levels, over £9m per year could be available to help fund the Primary School Review: Phase 2.

How much will it cost to add extra places?

At this stage it is difficult to say exactly how much it would cost to add the 355 year R places in 2011 and 2012. The Department for Education suggests that adding one new school place costs around £11,000 per pupil. Using this as a guide it would cost approximately £4m to add places in 2011 and 2012. If this number of places were added to each year group we estimate this would cost around £28m over a period of eight years. Please note that at this stage these are estimates only and the final cost of the projects may change.

What happens next?

We know that extra school places will need to be added by September 2011. The consultation on these proposals runs from 14 September 2010 to 26 October 2010. After this we will collate the responses we have received and produce Statutory Proposals to add extra primary school places. In January 2011 these will be published at all the schools included in the proposals, in the Daily Echo and at www.southampton.gov.uk/primaryreview. A four week consultation period will follow. The final stage would be to get Cabinet approval to implement the proposals that have been agreed. We hope this could happen by March 2011.

Once the changes have been agreed they will be phased in over a number of years to ensure that the correct number of school places are added at the right time. If we made all the changes at the same time there would be too many new places in the city with not enough children to fill them. We also have to make sure none of the existing schools loses pupils because too many places are available elsewhere in the city. Some of the extra places will be added in 2011 and others in 2012. For those proposals which include infant and junior schools, the junior school places will be added three years after those at the infant school. We are proposing that the size of each year group would expand year-on-year (i.e. YR in 2011, Y1 in 2012 etc) until all year groups have expanded.

While we are confident that these proposals would add the correct number of school places, we have put forward options which will be implemented in stages. This means that if there is a change in the number of places that are needed, the plans can be altered.

Will any schools be closed or opened?

There are currently no plans to open or close any schools in the city.