



Approval to permanently expand Twyning Primary school from a Published Admission Number of 15 to 20 from September 2024.

Dates between which decision will be taken	Earliest date: 8 th March 2023 Latest date: 31 st March 2023
Cabinet Member	Cllr Philip Robinson, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Bus Transport
Key Decision	Yes
Purpose of Report	Following the publication of statutory notices and the conclusion of the four-week period for representations to be made, approval is sought to implement the permanent expansion of Twyning Primary school from a Published Admission Number of 15 to 20 from September 2024.
Recommendations	That the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Bus Transport should approve the permanent expansion of Twyning Primary school from a Published Admission Number of 15 to 20 from September 2024.
Reasons for recommendations	<p>This proposal is to expand the school in order to meet rising local demand for places at the school. The school has sufficient site area to accommodate additional teaching space and the Headteacher and Governors support the proposed expansion with the assistance of Gloucestershire County Council (GCC).</p> <p>No representations were received during a six-week consultation period which began 15 December 2022.</p>
Resource Implications	<p>The capital cost of providing the required accommodation to facilitate the expansion will be met from Basic Need capital grant funding received from central government to support school accommodation needs arising from population growth.</p> <p>The scheme to expand Twyning Primary School is included as part of the Council's approved capital programme. There are no revenue resource implications to GCC arising from this proposal; ongoing revenue costs associated with the expansion will be funded through the Dedicated Schools Grant</p>

Background Documents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EIA Statement • Cabinet Decision (22/06/2022): Children & Families Capital Programme Update • Gloucestershire School Places Strategy • Pupil forecasts – contact: paul.kear@gloucestershire.gov.uk • Director of Children’s Services Decision to commence consultation (06/09/2022) • Consultation document • Consultation report • ICM Report to publish Statutory Notice (30/11/22)
Statutory Authority	Gloucestershire County Council’s statutory duty under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 and the School Admission Regulations 2012
Divisional Councillor(s)	Cllr Cate Cody
Officer	<p>Any representations should be sent to:</p> <p>Name: Paul Kear, Education Planning Manager Tel: 01452 328680 Email: paul.kear@gloucestershire.gov.uk</p> <p>By 5pm on 7th March 2023</p>
Timeline	If recommendations are accepted: Final decision on expansion –March 2023

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Twyning Primary School is a community school located in Twyning, Tewkesbury. The school is a co-educational provision for children aged 4-11. The school currently offer 15 places in Reception each year and has a total capacity of 105 places.
- 1.2 In September 2022, the Executive Director of Children's Services took the decision to consult on the proposal to permanently increase Twyning Primary school from a Published Admission Number of 15 to 20 from September 2024.
- 1.3 As a result of the feedback to the consultation, a report was produced and the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Bus Transport agreed to the publication of a Statutory Notice dated 15th December 2022.
- 1.4 This report summarises the response to the publication of this notice and makes a recommendation to proceed with formally approving the expansion.

2. Background

- 2.1 In September 2022, the Executive Director of Children's Services took the decision to consult on the proposal to permanently increase the capacity of Twyning Primary School from 105 places to 140 places to enable the school to provide 20 places in Reception from September 2024.
- 2.2 The council has a statutory obligation to ensure there are sufficient primary places to meet demand. The current rise in population of under five year olds and housing developments has resulted in the need for additional primary places at Reception.
- 2.3 The school have gone over their PAN in Reception for local children in previous academic years. The need identified is local to Twyning Primary School.
- 2.4 The increase in numbers will enable the council to meet its statutory duty to provide sufficient primary school places in the county to meet demand.
- 2.5 There were no representations received during the six-week consultation period which began 15th December 2022.

3. Options

- 3.1 There are 2 options open for the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Bus Transport to consider:
 - 1) To approve the proposal to permanently increase Twyning Primary school's Planned Admission Number from 15 to 20 from September 2024.
 - 2) Not to approve the proposal to permanently increase Twyning Primary school's Planned Admission Number from 15 to 20 from September 2024.

4. Risks

Risk 1

- 4.1 The Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places where they are needed. Failure to provide sufficient school places to meet local demand would result in children being allocated places some distance from their homes. This may result in Gloucestershire County Council being liable for the cost of transport and result in children having to travel by vehicle.

Mitigation

- 4.2 The need identified is local to Twyning Primary School who have been identified as the school most suitable to meet the need for local children. Officers have worked closely with the school to ensure that this proposal will provide sufficient capacity for children.

Risk 2

- 4.3 Increased traffic and congestion at drop off and pick up times.

Mitigation

- 4.4 The Council will work with Gloucestershire Highways, the Governing Body and the contractor at an early stage to minimise any parking or road safety concerns. The increase in places available at the school is to meet local need and is relatively small, therefore we do not anticipate a great impact to current access arrangements.

Risk 3

- 4.5 Adverse impact on current pupils

Mitigation

- 4.6 Additional accommodation will be provided to meet the increase in additional places, minimising the impact on existing pupils.

5. Financial implications

- 5.1 The capital cost of the expansion will be met from Basic Need grant funding received from central government to support school accommodation needs arising from population growth.
- 5.2 On-going revenue costs associated with the expansion will be funded through the Dedicated Schools Grant

6. Climate change implications

- 6.1 Reduced environmental impact as children will be able to access local primary places.
- 6.2 Any new building will be designed to at least meet current building regulations and where possible better this to meet Gloucestershire County Councils climate pledge.

7. Equality implications

- 7.1 An Equalities Impact Assessment has been produced. The proposal does not discriminate against any of the protected groups and actively seeks to improve outcomes for children.
- 7.2 Cabinet Members should read and consider the Equalities Impact Assessment in order to satisfy themselves as decision makers that due regard has been given.

8. Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) implications

- 8.1 There are no Data Protection considerations to note.

9. Social value implications

- 9.1 Supporting children and families to find school places in the immediate locality.
- 9.2 Reducing the need for pupils to be transported long distances to a school that can provide a primary place. Improving family life.
- 9.3 Further employment opportunities if the school expands.

10. Consultation feedback

- 10.1 A Statutory Notice of this proposal was issued on 15th December 2022 and was displayed in a prominent position at the school and published in the local press. Respondents were able to give their views in via e-mail. There were no representations received during the six-week consultation period which began 15th December 2022.

11. Officer recommendations

- 11.1 That the Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Bus Transport should approve the permanent expansion of Twyning Primary school from a Published Admission Number of 15 to 20 from September 2024.

12. Performance management/follow-up

- 12.1 This project will be kept under review by the Head of Education Planning & Infrastructure .