



**WARRINGTON**  
Borough Council

## **STATUTORY NOTICE**

The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England)  
Regulations 2013

### **EXPANSION OF GRAPPENHALL HEYS COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL**

#### **1. SCHOOL AND LA DETAILS**

School: Grappenhall Heys Community Primary School  
Address: Stansfield Dr, Appleton Thorn, Warrington WA4 3EA  
Local Authority: Warrington Borough Council

#### **2. PURPOSE**

The purpose of this statutory notice is to provide notification and clarity on the proposal to expand Grappenhall Heys Community Primary School (GHPCS).

The investment of £3 million will be made to expand GHPCS, from a one form entry to a two form entry primary school (210 additional primary school places), in order to ensure we have sufficient school places which are required to meet projected demand from local housing developments from September 2022.

#### **3. DESCRIPTION OF ALTERATION**

Warrington Borough Council, working with the leadership team of the school, proposes to expand GHPCS from a 1 form entry school to a 2 form entry school. This will mean an increase at GHPCS admission number in September 2022 from 30 to 60 pupils on a permanent basis.

Each year group that starts at the school from September 2022 onward would consist of up to 60 places, making a maximum total of 420 pupils in Reception to Year 6 across the whole school eventually. However, the school may also choose to increase admittance to their older year groups and their nursery provision, if local population requires this.

The school will be fully expanded to accommodate the additional 210 pupils prior to starting to increase its admission number. This is due to the full expansion being carried out throughout the year, where only shared space will be developed during holidays, and 'new' space will be built during term time. Classes will move into new built space while existing areas are adapted and refurbished across the school until the works are complete.

The full alterations include:

- refurbished / reconfigured nursery reception area
- new infant and junior classrooms
- new secure entrance / reception
- increased staff accommodation
- small hall
- other minor internal alterations
- playground and increased car parking capacity
- new pedestrian access into the site off main road

The details of the accommodation are subject to planning permission.

#### **4. EVIDENCE OF DEMAND**

Through the council's formal place planning process, GHCPs has been identified as the nearest central school which has the ability to be expanded to meet the needs of projected demand from local housing developments, with reference to the 1024 new homes in South Warrington.

Expansion of school capacity is needed to meet the forecast demands of growing population in the area, and to allow for population fluctuations and movement into the area by new families, including into new homes already built and being built in the Grappenhall area. In order for Warrington Borough Council to meet its statutory duty to ensure sufficient pupil places for the growing population in Grappenhall, a permanent expansion of GHCPs is required.

#### **5. OBJECTIVES**

The proposed expansion would:

- Ensure the council meets its statutory duty to secure sufficient school places.
- Be supportive of high educational standards and parental choice. GHCPs is rated as Outstanding by Ofsted.
- Maintain parental choice for existing families and those moving into the Grappenhall area.
- Prevent unnecessary increases in travel time and costs for families in the area, who would otherwise have to accept places at schools further away than GHCPs and/or have to be taught in temporary buildings brought onto site.

The £3 million financial investment in the expansion of GHCPs can be contained within the S106 housing development contribution.

#### **6. THE EFFECT ON OTHER SCHOOLS, ACADEMIES AND EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS WITHIN THE AREA**

The school is expanding in line with expected population growth in the area and will provide places for pupils from new developments that would otherwise be putting pressure on surrounding schools. It is not, therefore, expected to have a negative impact on other schools.

## **7. PROJECT COSTS AND FUNDING**

Housing developers are required to fund any additional local pressures as a requirement of planning permission, called an S106. This funding is allocated based on the school most likely to be effected by the additional school place needs, regardless of whether the school is maintained or academy.

## **8. IMPLEMENTATION AND ANY PROPOSED STAGES FOR IMPLEMENTATION**

From 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022, the school will increase its intake into reception. It may also choose to increase admittance to their older year groups and their nursery provision, if local population requires this.

## **9. OBJECTIVES AND COMMENTS**

Comments and objections must be received by the local authority by 9<sup>th</sup> February, four weeks after the publication of the statutory notice to expand GHCPs.

To take part, residents are asked to complete an online survey <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/wbcGHCPs/>

Alternatively, if you have any queries about this consultation and would like more information, please email [schoolconsultation@warrington.gov.uk](mailto:schoolconsultation@warrington.gov.uk) Please contact us if you would like to request a paper copy of the survey.

Further information about the proposals, including some frequently asked questions, and how to get involved can be viewed on the council's website <https://www.warrington.gov.uk/expansion-plans-grappenhall-heys-community-primary-school> .

## **10. DECISION-MAKING**

The decision maker is Warrington Borough Council. The final decision will be made upon completion of the full statutory consultation process.



**Paula Worthington**  
**Director Education, Early Help and SEND (Deputy DCS)**

8<sup>th</sup> January 2021