
Dear Parents/Carers/Local Community Member/Local Education provider/Coventry City Council,

RE: CONSULTATION on increase in physical expansion of the site to accommodate the increase in Pupil Admission Number (PAN) from 240 to 270 from September 2021. This is part of a Coventry City Council and Secondary Headteacher Partnership agreement to ensure sufficient school places for Coventry children.

Finham Park has been asked by the City Council to expand as part of a city-wide place planning strategy. The One Strategic Plan was made available to the general public and interested parties in October 2018. The approval from Cabinet was secured at this time. There is a significant expansion of student numbers over the next few years. To meet the increasing demand for secondary places, as the larger primary cohorts move into secondary, the local authority is working in collaboration with all secondary schools across the city to meet need. Year 7 pupil numbers have increased from September 2018 to September 2021 by 450 pupils across Coventry; this growth is forecast to continue. Forecast pupil numbers anticipate that pupil numbers will increase from September 2021 to September 2023 by a further 131 pupils. Therefore, this expansion is required to meet need. Within the One Strategic Plan, Finham Park is required to provide an additional 30 places on entry point to Year 7. The school will then reach capacity over a five-year period, after which it will remain at capacity. The capacity referred to includes new building proposals. The development has a minimum ten-year window. It is possible that the PAN may then be required to reduce however, equally, local birth rates and population distribution suggest a longer-term capacity may be required beyond 2026. As part of the Coventry Secondary Headteacher Partnership, it was agreed that Finham Park would support the local authority in meeting its statutory obligation to ensure every child has access to a school place.

The increased PAN and physical capacity will see the student population at Finham Park School increase from 1590 (1200 years 7-11 and 390 post-16 pupils) to 1740 (1350 years 7-11 and 390 post-16 pupils) over a five-year period. This requires a capital investment plan and a plan to ensure a cohesive and secure sense of community. To accomplish pupil needs, in conjunction with the City Council, Finham Park proposes that a new block is built, in order to provide new accommodation and re-provide existing from the proposed demolition of an existing single storey block, as well as the conversion of an existing general teaching classroom into a science laboratory (and other associated works, e.g. additional bicycle shelters). Work is underway to finalise the exact requirements. The local authority has not yet proceeded to submit to Planning stage and are gathering the required information for submission, including appropriate mitigations against potential objections. School and academy trust leadership are involved in all meetings and communication in relation to the
proposed works to facilitate expansion; regular meetings and other methods of communication take place to ensure that all stakeholders are updated of the planned works and proposals.

We are now inviting your comments on the proposals starting from Monday 21st September 2020, for a four-week period up to midnight on Monday 19th October 2020.

Your Feedback can be emailed to expansionfeedback@finhampark.co.uk

Or posted to:

Expansion Feedback
Finham Park School
Green Lane
Coventry
CV3 6EA

Deadline for Comments: Midnight, Monday 19th October 2020
Feedback from Consultation: Friday 6th November 2020
Proposed Implementation: August 2022

Yours faithfully,

Mr Chris Bishop
Headteacher