Cranmer Primary School

Consultation on proposed permanent expansion from 2FE to 3FE (60 to 90 pupil places per year)

Responses to be returned by Wednesday 11 May 2011

www.merton.gov.uk
Summary of the proposal

Cranmer Primary School is currently a two-form entry (2FE) school, admitting up to 60 pupils in two classes per year, 420 pupils across the school excluding the nursery. Following a request from the council the school took an extra class in reception year in September 2010 and will again admit a further class in September 2011.

The council wishes to permanently expand the school from September 2012 to be a three-form entry (3FE) school, admitting up to 90 pupils per year in three classes. This will mean it would eventually have up to 630 pupils on roll excluding the nursery, but expansion of the school places would be gradual until reaching all year groups in 2016/17.

Purpose of the consultation and the next stage

The council is following the process defined by statute for the significant enlargement of a school. This is the statutory consultation, to close on 11 May 2011. Following this consultation the council will decide whether to submit a formal statutory proposal. This would be a further four-week period for anyone to comment or raise an objection. The council would then make the decision on whether this proposal should proceed, subject to planning permission for the building.

Consultation evening for parents & education stakeholders

A consultation evening will be held at Cranmer Primary School on Wednesday 6 April at 7pm. Parents and other interested parties are invited to attend to discuss the educational merits of the school’s expansion and to see initial outline building plans. Local residents without a direct interest in the school’s education are also invited to the meeting to raise any issues from this perspective.

Wider background to expansion plans for Cranmer Primary School

There is a significant increase in demand for school places in Merton, with more children entering school age, fuelled by a birth rate that has risen by over 30% in the last six years. Our population forecasts indicate that much of this rise will be sustained.

The expansion of Cranmer is part of an overall programme of school expansion in Merton. From 2008 to 2010 nine schools including Cranmer have provided additional reception classes. In the autumn Merton also consulted on nine further school expansions required in reception year for 2011/12 and 2012/13. The consultation and the decision document from the Council’s Cabinet is available on the council’s website http://www.merton.gov.uk/council/getinvolved/consultation/schoolsconsultations.htm or can be requested from the address for this consultation.

As illustrated by their most recent Ofsted inspection (2009), Cranmer is a good school with strong leadership. In November 2010 Ofsted carried out a History Subject Specific Inspection, Cranmer was judged outstanding in all aspects. The school has been oversubscribed for its 60 permanent places and even with the extra class from September 2010 it is oversubscribed. Cranmer is therefore a popular and successful school with the site capability to expand.
Schools vision for the permanent expansion of the school

At Cranmer, we aim to be an excellent school and to strive to provide the very best educational provision for every child. Our vision is to put the child at the centre of Cranmer’s growth and his/her needs will be paramount within all considerations for the school’s expansion. Following consultation with parents, Merton has agreed to support our vision to create a one form entry building, alongside our current two form entry building. Our aim is to have a state of the art new school building which will provide a high quality and modern school environment for Cranmer pupils. Cranmer’s vision and ethos (this is attached) will be central to the educational provision for all. Pupils in both buildings will integrate for a range of activities and will therefore all feel a part of our three form school.

Please provide comments in the box below or a separate sheet by Wednesday 11 May 2011 to: Contracts and School Organisation, Children, Schools and Families Department, London Borough of Merton, Merton Civic Centre, London Road, Morden SM4 5DX E-mail: schconsult@merton.gov.uk.

Alternatively they can be given by hand to the office at Cranmer Primary School, who will forward them to the council.

Please provide comments on the proposed expansion of Cranmer Primary School to 3 forms of entry (90 pupils per year), including any specific concerns you may have that the Local Authority and school could address

Are you:
A parent with a pupil currently at Cranmer Primary School ___
A parent with pre-school children ___
A member of staff ___
A local resident without a direct interest in the school’s education ___
Other e.g. representing an institution please state ____________________________

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Cranmer:-
- a welcoming school where everyone matters
- with opportunities for all to learn and succeed
- instilling a life-long love of learning
- where all opinions are welcomed and heard
- where everyone feels included, proud of their achievements and valued as individuals
- a school with high standards where all aspire to excel
- where learning is fun, challenging, creative and fulfilling
- where everyone feels cared for, safe and secure
- a community in which everyone shows respect for themselves, for others and for the environment
- where everyone takes responsibility for their learning and actions
- working in partnership with parents, governors and the community to enrich the learning experiences for all
- a school strengthened by its rich cultural diversity and harmonious relationships