

Maids Moreton CE school
Avenue road
Maids Moreton
Buckingham
MK18 1QA

Buckinghamshire Council
Walton Street offices
Aylesbury
Bucks HP20 1UZ

1. Description of alteration and evidence of demand

- *To become an all through Primary School with a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 15, by extending the upper age limit of pupils from 7 to 11 years old*
- There is strong support for primary conversion amongst the current parent body and amongst those whose children are hoping to join the Reception class in September 2021
- Current admissions information shows an improved parental preference for Maids Moreton CE school in the light of its proposal to expand and increase its age range
- In the first stage of public consultation for school expansion there was massive support from parents, staff, governors, St Edmund's Church, residents and the local community
- Historically the school has lost pupils mid KS1 as a result of uncertainty about Year 3 places in other primary schools. An expanded Maids Moreton CE school would provide the unique offer of a small, all through primary with a maximum of 105 places when full – a key consideration for parental choice. The proposal would offer educational continuity from ages 4-11 years.
- The school would provide the only Church of England Primary school provision for pupils and their parents within walking distance of Buckingham. The proposal is strongly supported by the local church and Oxford Diocese
- The school is within walking distance for many of its pupils – continuing into KS2 would negate the need for parents to drive to a more distant setting. Siblings would also be able to stay at the same school, making drop off and pick up more convenient for parents. This would also encourage more sustainable travel to and from school.
- After the school build program, the building and grounds will provide a unique learning environment and improved facilities.
- Expansion would provide consistency and continuity for existing pupils and parents in an Ofsted rated 'Good' and SIAMS [church school inspection] rated "Outstanding" school.
- The long term viability, security and stability of the village school would be secured. The school would continue to remain a focal point of village life whilst retaining its small school community ethos.

2. Objectives (including how the proposal would increase educational standards and parental choice)

- *To extend the existing high quality educational provision through to Key Stage 2.*
- *To maximise pupil outcomes by building on the skills and knowledge of children as they move into Year 3 and beyond*
- *To improve the physical learning environment of the school by adding high quality teaching spaces and internal remodelling*
- *To increase the breadth of parental choice*
- *To minimise impact of converting to a primary school on our local community.*

- Maids Moreton CE School offers a high quality educational experience and is currently graded as 'Good' by Ofsted and 'Outstanding' by SIAMS.
- By expanding into Key Stage 2 the school will utilise its existing strengths and distinctiveness and provide students with continuity and progression.
- With new facilities the school can continue to provide a bespoke curriculum and further develop its programme of indoor and outdoor learning
- Expanding to create an additional small all-through primary school will extend parental choice
- The school would provide the only Church of England Primary school provision for pupils and their parents within walking distance of Buckingham.
- The proposal would create larger peer groups for pupils to socialise and learn from each other.
- As provision is extended, additional teaching spaces will be provided through internal remodelling with specialist facilities (such as an enlarged hall and new library] added to enhance provision
- Building work will include an enlarged hall, an additional classroom, an expanded library and improved facilities for staff
- The vehicular impact on the local community will be managed through further development of the travel plan

3. The effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area

- *Governors believe that Maids Moreton CE School converting to a primary school will have a positive impact on other local schools. It will achieve this by:*
 - Reducing the amount of in-year transfers and resulting mobility
 - Reducing workload associated with Year 3 admissions and disruption to established classes
 - Supporting schools that are oversubscribed and reduce the pressure on class sizes.
 - Helping to manage projected pupil numbers given proposed housing developments in the local area
 - Extending parental choice and freeing other local primary schools to focus on their own distinctiveness.

4. Project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long-term value for money will be achieved

- Maids Moreton CE school has a strong record of providing value for money within the context of a small rural school.
- It has a history of fiscal prudence and confidence that this will continue through the expansion period.
- The build project will be put out to tender in the 2020 Autumn and the full cost is being met by Buckinghamshire Council

5. Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

- An initial consultation took place in June 2019- there was overwhelming support for the proposal
- The proposal has been agreed by the Governing Body and will be decided by the Local Authority with an outcome expected by the end of the Autumn term 2020.
- Planning permission has been granted for an enlarged hall, an additional classroom, expanded library and improved facilities for staff.
- The conversion to a primary school will be a gradual process over 4 years, with the first Year 3 admissions in September 2021.
- Full capacity (pupils in every year group) would be achieved in the academic year 2024/25. In other words, the school will grow each year with pupils moving through the school until they reach Year 6.

6. A statement explaining the procedure for responses, support, objections and comments

Buckingham Council is publishing a notice in the Buckingham and Winslow Advertiser on 18 September 2020. The deadline for responses is 5.00pm on Friday 16 October 2020.

If anyone has any comments, support for, or objections to the proposal, they should email their response to mmcons@buckinghamshire.gov.uk by 5pm on Friday 16 October 2020.