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**WOKINGHAM  
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

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Dear Parent / Member of Staff

### **PROPOSED EXPANSION OF LODDON PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Wokingham Borough Council proposes to expand Loddon Primary School to provide in total an additional 30 school places each year (210 additional places in total). If agreed, this would take effect for entry to reception classes from September 2017 onwards.

The Governors have agreed to admit up to 30 additional pupils in September 2016, as this can be done by remodelling the lower school building and by relocating the local Authority teams using the Riverdale Office. We intend to make this a permanent expansion and to continue admitting additional children in future years, and this will require additional accommodation.

Additional places are needed so the Council can respond to the rising numbers of births and migration in the local area and so that it is able to offer all children a primary school place reasonably near to their home. If agreed, the capacity of Loddon Primary School would be increased from 420 to 630, providing a three form entry (90 pupils for each year group).

In the Earley neighbourhood, the number of primary age children on roll was 3,096 in January 2016. Based on birth data and current trends, future school numbers are projected to rise to beyond 3,152 by 2021. At present the local primary schools have a combined capacity of 3,115 places. To provide additional capacity in the area, the local authority has proposed the expansion of Loddon Primary School and working on feasibility for Aldryngton Primary School.

Feasibility studies have been carried out by the local authority which shows potential for the school to be expanded on its present site without harm to the existing school community and quality of provision. There are potential benefits for the existing and future school community if the proposal proceeds, due to the opportunities we should be able to draw from a corresponding increase in staff and other resources.

The purpose of this letter is to formally invite responses from anyone with an interest, with a view to publishing a statutory proposal under section 19 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. A statutory proposal is required whenever it is intended to increase the size of a school by more than 30 pupils in total and to increase its physical capacity by more than 25%.

If you have any views that you wish to submit, please forward them to me at this office, see contact details above or by email to [expansion@Loddon.wokingham.sch.uk](mailto:expansion@Loddon.wokingham.sch.uk) to arrive by 16<sup>th</sup> December 2016.



If, following this consultation, the Council decides to proceed with a proposal to expand the school; this will be formally published in January 2017, with a further 4 weeks for representations before a final decision is made.

This decision would still be subject to planning consent being obtained for the proposed changes to the school buildings. The planning process would provide additional opportunity for families and other local residents to comment on more detailed proposals at that stage.

A public consultation event is being held at the school on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016 from 6.00pm-7.30pm where you have the opportunity to view and comment on the proposed building plans and the school organisation process. The Architects and Officers from Wokingham Borough Council will be present to answer any queries you may have

Yours sincerely



Piers Brunning  
Service Manager Policy, Strategy and Partnerships  
Wokingham Borough Council