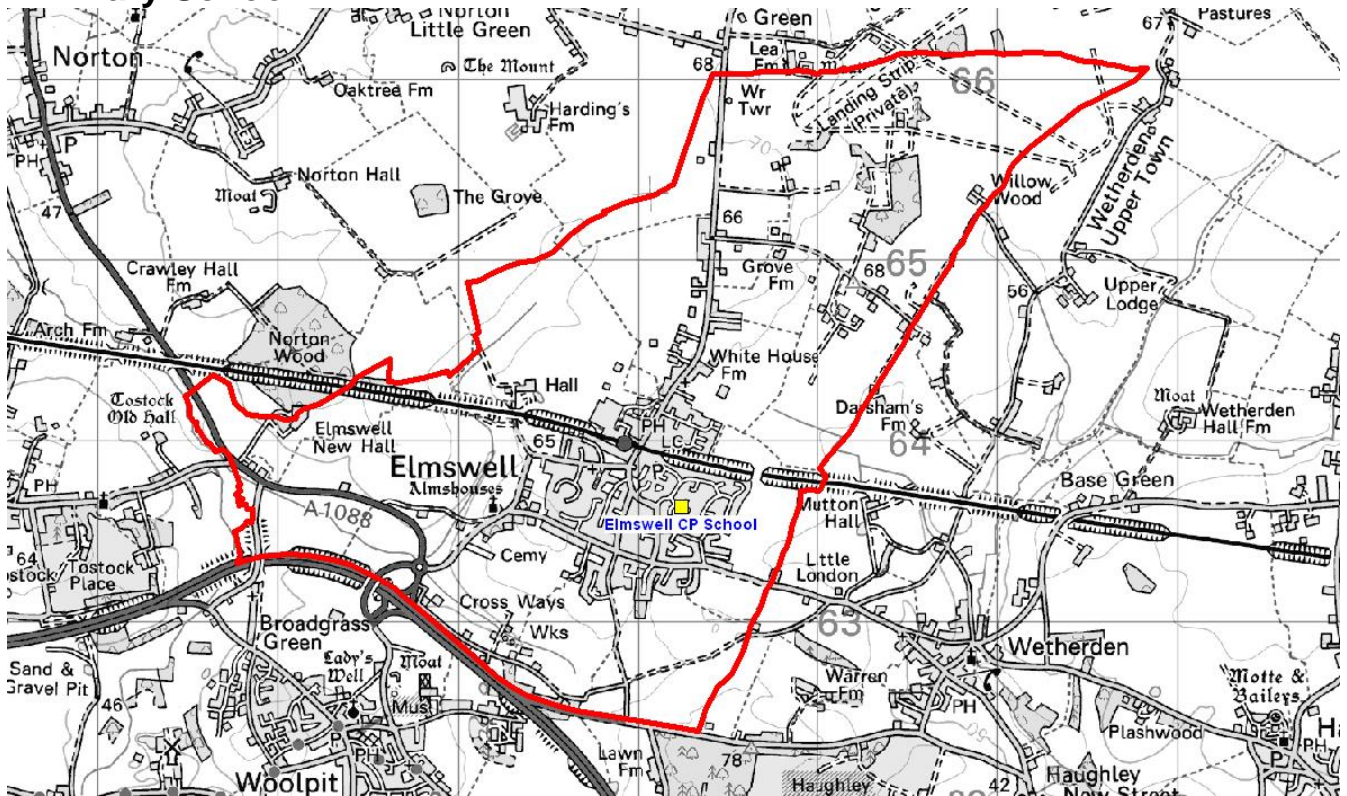


Consultation on Increasing the Size of Elmswell Community Primary School



© Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Suffolk County Council Licence No. 100023395 2014

Our vision

To encourage and enable all children and young people in Suffolk to aspire to and achieve their potential.

Background

Recent and proposed housing developments in the Elmswell and Woolpit areas has led to an increase in demand for primary school places in those areas.

The Need for Permanent Places

There are a number of housing developments progressing within the catchment areas for Elmswell Community Primary School and Woolpit Primary Academy. The expansion of Elmswell Community Primary School from 315 to 420 places will mitigate much of the development in the catchment area. Any unmet demand will be met via additional accommodation in Woolpit. To facilitate this, provision of a pedestrian and cycle link between Elmswell and Woolpit is included within policy LA095 of the Babergh and Mid-Suffolk Joint Local Plan Regulation 22 Submission (31 March 2021).

The Proposal for Elmswell Community Primary School

Increase the size of Elmswell Community Primary School from 315 places to 420 places altering the Published Admission Number (PAN) from 45 to 60 from September 2022. The school would grow gradually with the addition of 15 places each year in the Reception year only. Full capacity would be reached in 2028.

Although Elmswell Community Primary site is surrounded by residential development the site would be able to accommodate the proposed expansion of a permanent 0.5 additional form of entry (15 places per year group).

Additional classbases and ancillary spaces including a studio, toilets, storage and staff facilities would be added to the school in order to accommodate the extra pupils. The governors of the school are in favour of the expansion proposal.

Transport to School and Parking

The school is committed to encouraging sustainable travel to school and will look at ways in which it can reduce parking and congestion in the immediate vicinity. The school will work closely with the county council to develop a new travel plan which will cover the following measures (where appropriate):

- Education (health, road safety, sustainability)
- Engineering (cycle parking, pedestrian facilities and other measures as advised by Highways and Road Safety)
- Encouragement (walking buses, car sharing, cycling initiatives if appropriate)
- Enforcement (parking restrictions, respect zones)

What would stay the same under the proposals?

We are not proposing to make any changes to the catchment area for Elmswell Community Primary School at this point. This is because we can no longer guarantee places to children living in defined catchment areas.

We are also not proposing to change the arrangements for secondary school provision although Suffolk County Council will continue to monitor the need for additional places at local secondary schools.

Although pre-school provision is not part of this consultation, the need for places for very young children is kept under review.

If changes were made in line with these proposals, parents would retain their right to express preferences for school places in accordance with the admission arrangements that are published annually. The right to appeal against admission decisions would also remain.

Free Transport to schools, if appropriate, would be provided in accordance with Suffolk County Council's normal policy available online at: [Suffolk on Board - School travel / Policies](#)

Consultation - Have your say

Who are we consulting?

This consultation document is being provided to families of pupils, staff at the school, governors, MPs, county and district councillors, Early Years settings, and other interested parties.

What happens after consultation finishes?

The results of this consultation will be considered by Suffolk County Council. If there is support for the proposal, the county council will publish a statutory proposal in the local paper and on the Suffolk County Council website. There will then be a four week period for final comments to be made on the proposal before the final decision is made in September 2021.

If the statutory proposal is approved, work will begin on building the new accommodation needed by the school for September 2022.

How you can have your say

You can let us have your views on the proposal to increase the size of Elmswell Community Primary School from 315 to 420 places by the following methods:

- Email your comments to schools@suffolk.gov.uk
- Visit www.suffolk.gov.uk/consultations and complete the comment form online.
- Write to us or return the hard copy comment form to
Elmswell Consultation
Schools Infrastructure Team
Suffolk County Council
Endeavour House
8 Russell Road
Ipswich
IP1 2BX

Because of current restrictions we are unable to hold a local drop-in session. However, if you have any questions on the proposal please include your email address and/or phone number with your comments, to allow us to contact you.

All responses must be received by Suffolk County Council by **Friday 28 May 2021**.