

Elmswell Community Primary School

Statutory Proposal to Enlarge the Premises

Full Proposal Document

1. LA details

Suffolk County Council
Endeavour House
8 Russell Road
Ipswich
IP1 2BX

Suffolk County Council is the Proposer.

2. School details

Elmswell Community Primary School
Oxer Close
Elmswell
Bury St Edmunds
IP30 9UE

The school is a Community School

3. Description of alteration and evidence of demand

Enlarge the Premises: Enlarge the physical capacity of the school from 315 places + 26 part time Nursery places to 420 places + 26 part time Nursery places.
The current Published Admission Number (PAN) is 45 and it is proposed this will increase to 60 with effect from 01 September 2022.

4. Objectives and reasons

Elmswell Community Primary School is currently a 1.5 form entry (1.5FE) school with permanent accommodation for 315 pupils. There are a number of housing developments progressing within the catchment area of Elmswell CP School and the adjoining catchment area of Woolpit Primary Academy. The expansion of Elmswell CP from 315 places to 420 places will mitigate much of the increased demand from developments within the Elmswell catchment area. Any unmet demand from Elmswell 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).

Elmswell CP School is a popular school rated Good by Ofsted. Expansion of the school will provide more places to meet the growing demand in the Elmswell CP catchment area. Additional permanent 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.

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

There will be little effect on other primary schools in the area as the increase to a two form entry school is driven by local new housing.

Currently the majority of pupils living in the catchment area choose to attend Elmswell CP School. Parents will still be able to express a preference for one of the other local primary schools if they wish.

6. Project costs and an indication of how these will be met

The estimated cost of the project to expand the premises from 315 places to 420 places is £2.225m. Funding is included in Suffolk County Council's 2021-23 Capital Programme, subject to approval of the statutory proposal to enlarge the premises.

7. Implementation date

01 September 2022.

8. Consultation

An informal consultation was held between 17 and 28 May 2021. The consultation was advertised to parents/carers of pupils at the school, staff at the school, local schools and pre-schools, dioceses in Suffolk, local councils and councillors and local parish councils.

9. Related proposals

There are no related proposals.

10. Procedure for making representations (support, objections and comments)

Any person may object to, express support for, or make comments on the proposal by email to schools@suffolk.gov.uk or by writing to Elmswell Primary School Statutory Proposal, Schools Infrastructure Team, Children and Young People's Service, Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich Suffolk IP1 2BX within 4 weeks of the publication of this proposal (by 13 August 2021).