

Appendix 3

Responses to consultation about proposed expansion of St Andrew's Primary School to three forms of entry by September 2015 as at 01.07.14 (Final)

The proposal: to expand St Andrews C of E school from two to three forms of entry by September 2015 in order create more school places in Hove.

In support: 26 online portal, E-mail: 2, paper: 23 (including Parish Church of St Andrews)

Against: online portal = 98 online, paper: 227, E-mail: 6

Total in support: 51

Total opposed: 331

Methodology: Please note that the totals above represent actual numbers of responses received. The numbers below reflect all of the points made by each respondent. The numbers above and below, therefore may not match.

Comments in support of the proposal

Responses in support of the proposal

- Good to have an accessible school in the heart of Hove (2)
- Builds community spirit if children attend a school in the neighbourhood. (2)
- Will ease pressure on places in Hove including neighbouring schools that are oversubscribed. (4)
- Retain ethos of C of E School. More places for children with faith. (4)
- Will create capacity at the local school for those without faith. (3)
- Positive to increase capacity at a school of such a high standard. (2)
- More choice for parents applying for school places in their locality. (2)
- Proposed changes to the Plans look excellent. (2)

Concerns from people in support of the proposals

- The neighbourhood is already congested and parking is already extremely difficult. (5)
- Careful extension of the building and grassy playground is needed. (2)
- There are school places in Portslade. (1)

Other Responses

- The Governors of Benfield Primary School expressed concern because Benfield is currently undersubscribed by 25%. A similar concern was expressed by West Hove Infant School. (2)

Responses opposing the expansion:

- The neighbourhood needs more infrastructure and is already densely populated. Health and safety concerns must be addressed. (30)
- School transport should be used to take children to schools with places that are less central. The infrastructure in the neighbourhood of St Andrews will not support the proposals. (3)
- Traffic congestion makes parking very difficult, especially in the mornings and particularly since the Infant school at Connaught Road was set up. (45)

- A sustainable solution should be found which eases rather than increases congestion. (1)
- Must be allowed to build classrooms on Haddington Street car park. Do not abolish the cycle racks (also used for scooters) in/near the car park. (45)
- Will increase capacity for children without faith and dilute the Christian ethos. The whole school will no longer fit in St Andrews Church. (14)
- Only half the places at St Andrews are available for 'non-church-goers.' The expense will not be worth it for an additional 15 local places. (8)
- Expanding a popular church school should not take precedence over undersubscribed state schools. (1)
- Change the ethos of the school (impact on achievement, happiness, pressure on staff including SEN department, impact of overcrowding on safety.) Staggered break and lunch times will change the ethos of the school and segregate infant from junior school pupils. School trips will become more difficult to organise. Evidence suggests young children in particular, thrive in smaller schools. (52)
- Planning related concerns: Loss of current playing field to accommodate extra pupils. There will be no separate play area for infants. The building work will also be disruptive. There are more appropriate sites elsewhere. More information is needed about proposed plans for development of the St Andrews site. Plans should include an additional SEN room and a lockable playground, available to local children after school. Hove needs a new school which should be built further out where there is space, for example the Bingo site on Portland Road, Dyke Road, Cardinal Newman playing fields or next to the King Alfred. (102)
- An alternative site should be found rather than expanding St Andrews (9)
- Build on the staff car park. (1)
- More information should be published and proposals should not be rushed through in the summer term. Brighton and Hove City Council should consult the neighbourhood early and undertake long-term financial planning. (20)
- The expansion of St Andrews Primary School will undermine the development of neighbouring schools. (15)
- The available space will not be sufficient for an extra 210 pupils. (5)
- There are already sufficient places in Brighton & Hove primary, infant and junior schools, including at the West Hove Infant School Annex at Connaught Road, Benfield Primary School and in Portslade. The places are needed in West Hove, not central Hove. The Council should publish an up to date assessment of the demand for school places across Hove, Portslade and Hangleton. (32)
- Expand the West Hove Annex at Connaught Road to two form entry instead. (1)
- Will the expansion mean that St Andrews CE Primary School becomes an Academy? (1)
- Brighton & Hove City Council should be accountable for its failure to plan and provide adequate places. St Andrew's Primary School should not suffer as a result. (2)
- Brighton & Hove City Council should justify this use of Council Tax and public money. (4)

- Long-term residents of Brighton & Hove should be given priority over newcomers to the area. (1)
- It is very difficult for disabled parents to travel both in an adapted vehicle and on a bus, when taking their child to school. (1)

Where households submitted 2 separate responses (one from each parent) they have been counted separately.