

Appendix 6: Diocese of Chichester response to proposed expansion of St Andrew's Hove from 2FE to 3FE, received 30th June 2014

The Diocese has considered the responses to the consultation for the expansion on grounds of meeting basic need for projected demand in the Hove area for pupil places. Whilst some parents were concerned about increase to 3FE so oppose 215 against and 45 in favour of the change we have considered the issues raised, and feel that these have been addressed by the Local Authority or would be throughout the development of the project.

- Traffic – potential problems will be addressed through the planning process
- Data – the Diocese accepts the LA advice relating to pupil numbers data and potential impact on neighbouring schools, and is satisfied that the LA see the need for additional places within the Hove area.
- Haddington Road Car Park – in response to the consultation and due to the LA bringing forward new information this area should be included within the scheme.
- Ethos – National and Diocesan view is that the Church of England ethos of the school will not be adversely impacted by expansion of the school and the increased places will further strengthen the Christian ethos.

The National Society was founded and exists on the basis of providing inclusive education to the poor of the parish and to meet the needs of the local community. The expansion of St Andrew's Hove school is supported by the Diocese to this end and in line with the aim to provide primary education to local children, not solely on grounds of faith. Whilst there is local support for smaller schools, the reality of inner city demographic changes is leading to sustainable larger primary schools. We feel the ethos of the school and meeting the needs of every individual child; can be maintained with strong leadership.

"Church schools are rooted in the Christian tradition and are committed to providing an education system that seeks to build character and enable students to develop as whole, rounded, spiritual human beings. The ethos provides a framework for the kind of character we want our children to develop so that our schools can draw out the full potential of each child. A vital part of that ethos comes through understanding the person and teachings of Jesus Christ who is at the heart of our faith and who also provides an example to aspire to.

The Christian values which underpin the life of the school will be experienced through worship and teaching and will be reflected in every aspect of the school's life."

National Society.

Sally Collins
Schools Buildings Officer
Diocese of Chichester

30 June 2014