



Consultation on a proposal to expand The Warriner School, Bloxham

1 November 2016 – 13 December 2016

The Warriner School is an academy located in Bloxham village, just outside Banbury in Cherwell District. It is part of The Warriner Multi Academy Trust along with Bishop Carpenter CE (VA) Primary School, Hornton Primary School and Sibford Gower Endowed Primary School.

Currently the school's Published Admission Number is 228 (i.e. the school admits up to 228 children each year into Year 7). The Warriner School was last inspected by Ofsted on 12 November 2014 (before it converted to an academy) and was graded Good.

The total number of students on roll at the start of the September 2016 academic year was 1287 as shown below:

Year Group	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Y12	Y13	Total Y7-Y10	Total All Pupils
Number of Pupils	228	223	223	221	228	99	65	895	1287

What is being proposed?

The Warriner School, supported by Oxfordshire County Council, proposes to increase its Published Admission Number (PAN) in two stages. In September 2017 the PAN will rise from 228 to 256. In September 2019 it will then rise again to 284.

This means that each year group that starts at the school in September 2017 and September 2018 would consist of up to 256 places, and each year group starting from September 2019 onward would consist of up to 284 places. This would mean a gradual rise to a maximum total (by 2023) of 1420 students from Year 7 to Year 11, plus the Sixth Form.

The year groups already in the school pre-expansion would be expected to stay at 228 in size as they move through the school. The school's total numbers would grow gradually each year as increased numbers are admitted into Year 7. However, should housing development or other factors lead to large numbers of older students requiring places, the school may review whether it is able to expand the older year groups as well.

Reasons for proposal

The county council, in its role as the Local Authority, has a duty to ensure the sufficiency of school places and is considering and taking forward several options to achieve this for the future. The initial part of this strategy is to support The Warriner School in expanding.

Planned and anticipated housing development, coupled with the existing larger cohorts of children already moving through primary schools are expected to further increase the demand for places at The Warriner School, which is already oversubscribed.

The school wants to be able to meet the needs of the growing local community. There is an increase in demand for secondary school places, and this is anticipated to rise further as the larger cohorts in primary schools begin to reach secondary school age. The school currently has very few spare places, and is completely full in some year groups. For September 2016 initial allocation of places, the school was oversubscribed and only 17 students living outside the school's designated area, and with no siblings at the school, were admitted.

The nearest alternative secondary schools to The Warriner School are beyond Bloxham, in Banbury town itself: North Oxfordshire Academy, Banbury Academy and Blessed George Napier Catholic School. Some of these currently have surplus places in some year groups but these will be eroded as the rising pupil numbers now in the primary sector reach secondary age. This, together with the significant housing developments planned for Banbury, means forecasts show there will be a shortage of places in 2019, relating to an unusually large cohort currently in the local primary schools. For 2021 and beyond, additional capacity will be required at secondary schools in the area.

Buildings

To accommodate the extra children, the county council plans to provide additional teaching accommodation; classrooms and associated spaces. The cost of extending the school will be met from money the county council has secured from developers building houses in the local area. New developments applied for may also be required to contribute to the extension in the future.

A detailed feasibility study, managed by the county council, will be commissioned to identify how the school could grow in a manner which is cost-effective without compromising the high quality of education provided.

Important points to remember

- The Governing Body of the school supports this expansion and has made the following statement:

The Warriner School is at the heart of the local community and as such needs to respond to the changing demands for school places within that community. We are working closely with the Local Authority to ensure that we have all necessary resources, both in terms of buildings and staffing, in place to ensure that we continue to deliver the very highest standards of education.

- This consultation is about **the principle of expanding The Warriner School**. It is **not** about any decisions to allocate housing development to the area made by Cherwell District Council.
- This consultation is taking place until **13 December 2016**. You have until midnight on that date to respond.
- The next step, after consideration of consultation responses, would be for a final decision on expansion to be confirmed by the Regional Schools Commissioner (Department for Education).

How you can respond to this consultation:

This information is available on both the school's website and Oxfordshire County Council's public website in the consultations section:

<http://myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk>. We would like to hear from you if you support this proposal as well as if you have any concerns. There are several ways you can submit your views:

- respond using the online feedback form for this consultation, on the Oxfordshire County Council current consultations webpage at <http://myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk>;
- email your response to: diane.cameron@oxfordshire.gov.uk putting WARRINER EXPANSION in the subject line;
- hand in a written response to the school's reception office.

Please respond by 13 December 2016