

Fernwood Primary School

Overall 206 respondents completed the questionnaire.

Do you agree with the proposal to expand Fernwood Primary School from 840 places to 1050 places?



The following comments were submitted on the consultation forms or via the online consultation link:

We are concerned that there is a risk to the quality of education delivered by Fernwood Primary School should it expand its intake further. This is not a criticism of the excellent teaching that currently is delivered at Fernwood but at a time when more teachers are leaving the profession combined with the management requirements of a larger organisation this excellent teaching and the 'Outstanding' Ofsted assessment may be put at risk through this expansion. In addition, we are concerned about the risk to the pastoral care of the children, especially those in the Infant school when teachers are dealing with such a large cohort.

The school is already large enough. The traffic situation is dangerous and making the school larger will add to this. The school is already struggling to cater at lunch for the numbers it has with them constantly running out of the food the children want. It would be good if the school solely served the catchment rather than having some children from outside catchment (I know it's only a few but it all helps). The school is driven to meet targets in league tables and for members of staff this leads them to struggle to 'tailor' their teaching styles due to these pressures. With more children I feel that the children will lose their individuality. It is a really bad idea. There is space around to build another school. On Thorsby rd the old golf course could be re developed to a school. You could also keep the allotment as they are on Trowell road rather than increasing the pressure on the school.

The school is too crowded already. traffic will be dreadful on Arleston div Drive and its an accident waiting to happen. A new school should be built instead as there is plenty of demand.

They are doing a fantastic job so why not giving them the chance to expand, but not in the expense of compromising the quality and lowering services. This school has gain its name based on the quality the offer. Getting bigger means they will have bigger issue to deal with, plus increasing the number of dedicated people that can provide same level of dedication. You will need to know that dropping and picking up children in the rush of 10 min gap in the morning and afternoon is the biggest challenge already. This has huge impact in the life around the school and enormous economic stress on parents and children. I suggest to study an smart solution before you fully plan this. Thinking that people are forced to walk is very naive, as Nottingham is not Spain and it is raining most days, parents rushing to work, nersuries are picking up, and so on. So expanding means finding a better solution for this issue.

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The school is already too big with 4 classes per year group. With so many children it becomes quite impersonal with children and staff not really getting the chance to get to know each other properly. Expanding the school will only extend this. Also the extra class in each year group will put pressure on the hall space for PE and sport as well as lunch times. This will also apply to more pressure on the play ground space during break time. Another issue is the arrival and departure of children from the school at the start and end of the day. Arlestone Drive in particular is far too busy at the moment with cars, parents and children, to the point where it is quite dangerous. Adding 210 children to the school will only make this situation worse.

Extra pressure on teachers and resources. Lots of traffic around. Every week people just park in front of my drive and others start having arguments in front of children. What impression does that leave? We already have a broken immigration system which will add to more pressure on teachers. People do not even live in this area... coming from Hyson Green and other side of Bilbo Road... rent a house and apply and just leaves the area.

Whilst I agree more school places are needed in the area I have a couple of concerns. Firstly the morning and afternoon drop off and pick up times. Fernwood Primary School already has plans for a Nursery to open in January which will see an additional 100 children. It is already a dangerous situation with parents dropping off in the morning and in the evening and this would inevitably get worse. The roads around the school are already at bursting point made worse by the work parking levy and I do not feel they can cope with any more traffic. Secondly how would this impact on The Fernwood School? The Academy is also massively over subscribed so would this increase the number of places available at the Academy also? I would presume this school would also need extending to accommodate hundreds more pupils? If not then where are all the extra children going to go at 11+?

The school is already a very large primary school for the area. The expansion will have a massive knock on effect on places at Fernwood Comprehensive School which is already full to capacity and highly over subscribed - it's hard enough gaining a place there without more families moving in and trying to take places away from residents who have lived here 10+ years.

We are genuinely concerned that Fernwood is already a very large school and taking on this number of students will cause a decline in standards. Leave it as it is.

Too big already

I have concerns regarding maintaining the quality of teaching and accommodating so many children on such a small site.

Site is too small - adding 60 children to year 1/2 playground and 120 to junior playground will be dangerous. The school halls aren't big enough. The surrounding area at pick up and drop off will be impossible with up to 180 more cars trying to find spaces.

Site is too small - adding 60 children to year 1/2 playground and 120 to junior playground will be dangerous. The school halls aren't big enough. The surrounding area at pick up and drop off will be impossible with up to 180 more cars trying to find spaces.

I strongly oppose this proposal. I agree that catchment children should be accommodated in local schools, but maybe it's time to consider building a new school rather than expanding an already enormous school. In fact, it should have been part of the terms and conditions with CEG that further housing could not be built without a school also being built. If you ask any Fernwood parent what their primary concern about the school is, it would be its size - which is currently impressively managed. However, we were warned by a number of parents that once they progress into year 1, it's very difficult for the children to find their friends in the playground. Sure enough, this has been our experience and my son's wellbeing is taking a nosedive. He is not the only one. I cannot possibly see how increasing the school by such numbers could possibly do anything other than make a bad situation worse. I fundamentally believe that assembly should be a whole-school gathering, but this would be impossible.

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I understand the need to expand the school and agree with it in principle, however, the congestion and parking chaos which takes place at the start and end of each day will be further exacerbated. There are already significant safety issues and I don't believe a 'travel plan' will ameliorate the situation. The parking levy which is passed on to staff means some staff park on the road - surely schools should be exempt? Serious consideration must be given to expanding the secondary school as already some children in catchment do not get places. This will only get worse.

There is not enough space for the present number of children in the school. They already struggle to find space in the hall and can barely fit the children in for assembly and school meals. There would need to be a massive building programme in order to create enough space and this is not possible by the next academic intake. Playground space would also be lost and this is very limited already

It's a great idea to expand a well run, well managed school in an area with such high demand.

I have a number of concerns regarding the expansion of the school. 1. Capacity of communal areas within the school to accommodate the increase in children - in particular the indoor infant hall and outdoor playgrounds. 2. Increase in traffic around the school at school drop off and pick up times. This is congested currently posing a safety risk to the children - this will worsen if the number of children attending the school increases. 3. Before and after school care provision is currently inadequate. This provision would be completely inappropriate for a higher number of children. The current standard of teaching and leadership at the school is excellent. The school manage a large number of children currently and still manage to maintain a personal touch which my children and I value highly. Increasing pupil numbers will impact on the school's ability to maintain this standard. It is not appropriate to compromise a child's education in order to increase school places.

Although I have reservations about space available for activities in the school hall which is currently a premium. Also not keen on a class having to split up for activities like school play & trips as this would normally write a class experience.

It is important that children should be able to go to school in their catchment area, to be with pre-existing friends & also not to add a strain on their daily routine by having to travel further to a school out of catchment.

I think expansion is a great idea as long as it is not going to lower the standard of education, as Fernwood is a school of excellence.

We welcome the proposal but hope the school will also adequately increase numbers of teachers and support staff including larger capacity at the extra-curriculum activities.

I think it will be grate for all of us if we can get our kids into the school into the catchment area instead of ending them miles away really happy if school expands can't wait.

The school will be very big and busy. I think the leadership team have the common sense to make appropriate changes to ensure that Fernwood retains its caring approach and the two heads of school retain their school within a larger school system. My only concern is the number of cars - already dangerous around school.

This time but maybe not again in the future. I have concerns how many times the school can expand. I agree if this is necessary to do this time but with the expansion / development of the Martins Pond area will bring further pressure to the school. Can I ask is Middleton also expanding it's intake from the two classes of 30 per year. This only seems fair if Fernwood are doing this?

We live just outside the Fernwood catchment area (Denholme Road) and we knew there was a slim chance of getting our son into Fernwood, so we were overjoyed when we received the email saying he was in, so it would be lovely to give others that chance. We also need to get his younger brother into Fernwood in Sept 2017!

I understand that due to the pressures of an increase population more classes are required but this should be resolved by more schools not making the current schools bigger. It has an impact on the children and also events which become more complicated due to school volume of children per year. This is a waste of money as more new schools will be required eventually unless the plan is for schools to have 10+ classes of 35+ children per year!!

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It is going to be too big. This put massive pressure on existing facilities at no benefit to existing students. School toilets, playgrounds, dining rooms etc will be overcrowded. Already space has been lost (The Den) at the loss of various clubs + activities. Traffic will be even worse and its currently an accident waiting to happen on Arleston Drive.

I'm less concerned about the impact of teaching standards as I believe the school will be able to maintain its high standards with the proposed increase in intake. I am more concerned with the impact on green space within the school grounds and where the new classrooms will be built.

Fernwood School has always been exceptional for its standard reason why I tick No is school is already very busy at the moment because of one extra reception class this year. The idea of expansion is not bad but I think it will add more rush and traffic and parking problems around school area. It also will put extra pressure on school staff including teachers, pupils and parents as well. I am a bit concerned adding more pupils in school might bring the standard of education down and care and attention that's being given to each child.

My main concern is the inability for the surrounding roads to cope with the volume of traffic / parking at the moment, let alone with over 200 extra places. At the moment, walking to school is a hazard for parents and children.

Parking around the school will be increasing and then extra spaces will be needed for the secondary school then. More cars + congestion on the roads since I left school in 1997. All Fernwood Schools have had work done for more space. Inject money into other schools. No schools can close and another good school needs building. Fernwood Infants increased class 1 (30) why does the juniors need extra (200).

I don't believe that there is enough space and resources to stretch to an increase in pupils. I think standards will suffer. I am also concerned that systems to support children's emotional development are not robust enough to cope with more children. For instance I understand that the 'friendship stop' system is not currently working - there are already so many children my son can't find his friends in the playground.

I think the school is more than big enough already!

I think school on City Council check the address for admission time for 2nd children admission. Mostly people used the address in the catchment area often admission on the moved & used address of others.

I fear this may lower the quality of education provided.

Fernwood Primary is already too big. The level of pastoral care is already compromised. There are too many accidents / injuries at break & lunch. This will mean more congestion. The proposed size is bigger than an average secondary school. The pupils attending FPS travel from quite large distances to get to the school. I would prefer expanding other schools in Wollaton and re-defining some of the catchment area. It is not healthy or efficient to have such a large primary school. I am strongly opposed to the proposal.

The infrastructure of roads and parking can barely cope at the moment. Also, the school have reached capacity at lunch and assemblies therefore it would be unwise to expand on these reasons. I am concerned about the space to expand without the loss of vital green / outdoor space.

I feel we have to be realistic that all schools will need more places. It will create more jobs.

Already problems with parking/drops offs near school. School hall not large enough for all parents to watch plays / show etc. Increasing the size will make matters worse.

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The school is already exceptionally large for an infant school. The traffic problems on Arleston Drive are already too hazardous and unsuccessfully managed by the school/council. There is already quite a small set of playgrounds for the number of children currently on roll. The building work to expand the school will have a negative impact on my childrens' school experience. There are other schools nearby (Middleton, Bluecoat Primary, Firbeck) that are all smaller and could expand to the size of Fernwood to meet rising numbers in the community. The catchment area for Fernwood could be made smaller and others larger to accommodate for the rising pupils numbers. There is already concern locally about the decline of Fernwood High School and I feel that this expansion could also result in the decline of standards at Fernwood Junior and Nursery School for the reasons I have stated above.

It will help ensure more families within our catchment area are able to attend the school.

I think there are not enough quality school places in the area and this expansion is welcome. The population will be increasing with the new houses being built.

The school has no clear strategy to deal with the extra children; no idea how to deal with lunchtimes, increase in traffic or maintaining the high standards. Children will not have access to the same outdoor space at play times as the new classrooms will take up some of the current playgrounds. The schools answer to any issues raised has been "we'll figure it out..." This is not fair to existing families whose children are at the school nor to any new parents moving to catchment whose children will also be affected. The council should delay expansion until all issues affecting the school are properly investigated and resolved.

The school is already too big for a primary. There are issues with parking and road safety. As a teacher in a 2 form entry primary I feel that building a super school is not the right thing for primary aged children. Children will not benefit from a small nurturing environment for their first school years in such a large establishment.

The school and it's grounds are not big enough to house more buildings the kids need room to play

The school is already at breaking point. There is limited room in the playground, not enough time at lunch to feed everyone, parking is already dangerous and where will they go after the juniors as the comp won't be able to cope with this extra influx

My child is in year 2 at Fernwood and quite often comes home without eating a proper lunch as the food has ran out and there is practically nothing left, she has even been made a sandwich instead by the kitchen staff, what sort of nutritious lunch is that, it's appalling. The amount of people "parking" if you can call it that, all over the pavements now with no regard for pedestrians is shocking, more traffic would be dangerous, catchment means walkable, cars should be banned on that area of road at school times or a traffic warden in place, there will be a fatality before long as most of these drivers do not care where or certainly how the park

It's not possible to support the proposal to expand the school. It is already large and I question whether this is a good environment for the children. It's unclear whether Middleton will also expand, leaving a need for an additional class to be provided. Why not build an additional school? also, the travel plan needs to be carefully considered and put out for consultation: what is no suitable plan can be implemented considering the existing difficulties. the FAQ section response in this gives no reassurance and are simply vague words. Also, without a clear way forward for secondary education does this mean that children who access a feeder school may no longer be assured of a place at the local comprehensive?

I agree that due to more and more families moving into the area that more school places are needed. I do think parking and road safety is an issue and hope the council can consider a temporary closing of the road or instigating one way traffic to help with this. I also wonder if dramatically increasing much needed before and after school care could reduce the increased numbers all leaving at the same time. Fernwood has always been big and I do think it can continue to run very successfully with a 20% increase in numbers. I feel parents need to consider that going to a very big primary school is far preferable to not getting a place at a local school.

WITH INCREASED POPULATION GROWTH and a need for more local school places I fully support Nottingham City to implement this expansion.

As a parent of children already attending the infant school I feel this increase in pupil numbers would make the school drop off and collection even more stressful and dangerous. Congestion and lack of parking are major issues already. Also we have been told that the woodland area will be destroyed to make way for the new classrooms. This is totally wrong as it is a special part of the children's enrichment activities.

1. Where are the new classrooms going to go to accommodate the additional children? With the site being bounded on all sides by housing, does this mean that the playing fields/playgrounds will be reduced (considerably) in size to accommodate the 7 additional classrooms + nursery that are required? I appreciate that the additional school places are needed and that many people want their children to go to this excellent school, as I do, but if it involves taking away their space to play sports and generally run around that is a big negative. 2. What about the senior school? This is out of local authority control and I assume that the council aren't able to guarantee that there will be additional places there as a result. Again, there is no space for this school to expand so this will put the senior school places under additional pressure. Since the Fernwood Primary catchment is closest to the senior school won't this put additional pressure on the catchments for Middleton and Sout

There are significant concerns about parking to address. Also need to ensure sufficient hall and catering facilities for increased numbers. Also need to ensure that school still has facilities to maintain 'outstanding' status. E.g. The room taken up by increased 2015 intake has led to less space for break-out activities.

Whilst I recognise the need for more school places I have grave concerns about the ability of the infrastructure to cope with the added numbers. Parking is a major issue and the roads around the school are already overcrowded and dangerous at school drop off and pick up times. If the current buildings are to be enlarged some real provision needs to be put in place to cope with the extra people and vehicles.

To many children already not enough space and facilities for lunch. To many cars parking

School already has problems with traffic which will be made worse with more children. The School are clearly struggling with school meal portion sizes how will this affect children when expansion happens

I have serious concerns about space, resources and well being of so many children in such a small space but if these can be properly addressed then in principle I am in favour of the expansion to cater for the increase in catchment children.

I think building new schools would be better than overcrowding existing schools in the long term but understand a quick solution needs to be found. The school and teachers should therefore be given all the extra funds and support they need to maintain the current quality and standards of education which they have - I worry this may not happen.

I think it's great that the school wishes to expand as there is a need for more places but I think it will have a negative impact on the children with lack of space. Also kids have to deal with a lot and having extra children will impact on their performance

It is already enormous. Drop off and pick up is a mine field with many parents parking badly, blocking pavements, and generally making it very unsafe. School dinners are already suffering with not enough food to go round. How can the school cope with even more pupils?

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This will be on top of the new nursery development of 52 places. This has not opened yet so the possible effect on the existing congestion and sometimes gridlock that occurs on the road has not been assessed. Further school places will exacerbate this which is already dangerous on frequent occasions. In addition the school is already very large, probably one of the largest in the city with 120 pupils per year, moving to 150 per year with this proposal will be too large like an " education factory", for young infants and junior children. The council should focus on raising standards in its other schools so that people don't feel forced to move into the area to get a good education for their children. There are many other city schools with far fewer pupils which could be expanded and still be smaller than fernwood is now. However parents are not choosing them as they are not meeting the expected standards. Extending fernwood school is short sighted in tackling the symptom of the proble

The school is big enough

Not against the expansion in principle but existing and future pupils must be adequately catered for e.g. Size of playgrounds & school hall, meal times, facilities, parking at drop off & pick up.

I fear this is inevitable but we're not ready - there's not enough playground space, toilets, assembly space. We need to make sure we get this right

Whilst new classrooms would be built, I would be concerned about sufficient space in the hall and playground. Will the secondary schools also be able to expand as these children move through?

The school is already crowded. Small playground and also assembly hall is tiny. I think the council are not considering the impact this expansion will have on current students, parking and also general well being of community. Standards will drop

I agree and understand that the school needs to expand but I have major concerns about the traffic on arleston drive. It already feels like the walk to school is a dangerous one and this many extra pupils will only increase thus issue. Something serious needs to change with the speed people go, the parking om double yellow lines and cars bumping up curbs at full pelt before there is a fatality.

Concerns over traffic,ability to accommodate numbers in class, lunch time & playground

As much as I appreciate that the school is already over subscribed, I do not believe that expanding the school is the correct answer. To expand the school would mean losing valuable play space for the children, parking outside the school will become unbearable (I write this as a non-driver, exasperated by the already crazy driving and parking of the cars which already cause chaos every morning and afternoon) and the children's education will suffer as the school already struggles to cope with it's extra Foundation class this year. There already appears to be an issue with serving children enough food for their free school dinners as my child (who is Year 2) regularly complains that he has not had enough to eat and just on Thursday (and not for the first time), he was given a dessert that was not even on the school menu. I have also heard of children being fed Vegetarian options as the regular food has 'run out'. Not good enough for what is deemed an 'outstanding' school!!!

The school is overcrowded already. Road leading to the school is very busy. Parking is not managed sufficiently. No ,wide enough,pavements for waking to/off school. Fernwood Comp children and families add another 1000 to already hectic traffic . Residents of this area already suffers from cars and other disturbance.

The school is already too big with v limited outdoor playarea which already now is being built upon to accommodate new nursey building

I feel the school's standards will drop 5 reception classes is extreme when space and dinner hall space is already stretched. Will teaching standards be stretched also if pupils with additional needs arrive surely looking at expanding other schools would be more favpurable

I am concerned about parking safety

Whilst it may not be ideal to expand, if there are children in catchment who require a place, we need to provide those places somehow.

Cannot afford to feed the existing children sufficient good quality food.

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Traffic around the school is crazy. The costs to increase capacity of the school staff and buildings the demand in the future will increase in secondary school. NHS struggling, DR appointments waiting times days or weeks to be seen, education dept next but don't worry English tax payers will keep coughing up to bail out for these problems that have not been thought of i don't think public can afford to keep paying for the demand of people wanting to live here where is it going to stop. The gov spending is not getting better not just one development in the pipeline for building in Wollaton but 2 developments, 15 houses just a block away and Behind Russell Drive another 1000. Rush hour traffic and road works is bringing the area to standstill. Roads surfaces pavements need maintenance extra litter. Different languages and other issues special needs and special care size of the playgrounds inside space when bad weather. Hazardous and disaster waiting to happen. Small children are going to

I am concerned that since Sept 2015, the increase in an additional class has had some impact on the traffic around the surrounding area, which seems more hectic than usual, once upto capacity there will be additional 210 children throughout the years, plus parents which approx. could mean an increase of 420 parents/children at anyone time.

Parking issues, already far too busy on arleston drive and surrounding streets. After school activites have already been cut due to an additional classroom this year, so there will be no room at all if this goes ahead. The catering facilities are already stretched to the limits. The playgrounds are already too busy and staff are unable to manage things in a morning such as children on scooters, playing on equipment etc. The pathways along arleston are already too congested, I for one have experienced a senior school boy landing on top of my baby at just 3 months old in her pushchair! It is so stressful with all the pushing and shoving outside the gates, along arleston, getting through the playgrounds, both before and after school. Local residents have to put up with parents parking over their driveways. People still pull up on the chevrons to drop off their kids, imagine an extra 200+ cars each day, it doesn't bare thinking about!

It's already enormous as a primary school - children will become faceless and personalization will be non existent.

Already too much students,no parking available on the school side;

Where will the children go once they have finished at the primary?

This would significantly jeopardise the ability for the school to maintain a safe, friendly environment. Traffic would be even more dangerous and physical space (places to play, eat, etc) would be compromised even further.

Wollaton is gridlocked st school times, add this to the 50 extra children in the morning and afternoon at the new nursery on site it is actually an addition of 260 at each end of the day. The space in the area is already bursting with children having accidents in the playground as it is look at the health and safety aspect

The school can't cope with providing dinners now. Let alone adding another class for each year group. Traffic is already a nightmare. Those of us that walk to school have to dodge enough bad parking and driving already

Arleston drive is very dangerous during school times with parents who drive taking little or no care for the safety of the children. With an additional 200 pupils I believe the road situation will become extremely dangerous.

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1. It is already a large school. The proposal is to make it a huge school. People are, rightly, horrified when I mention the size of the intake. I do not think it is possible to nurture small children in such a large environment. They won't know who staff are and won't recognise their peers easily. 2. Playground space for Foundation children is inadequate. They can't run without bumping into each other, they can't let off steam properly which results in them being less able to concentrate and learn adequately. 3. There are already worrying reports that basic infrastructure cannot cope eg multiple toilets being broken. 4. It has already been expanded over the years. Compared to other schools it is dark and poky. 5. Parking and driving up Arleston is already dire. Lots of parking across driveways, near misses, parking on junctions, increasing the pupil numbers will only add to congestion. I live on Fernwood but don't want to see anything like permit holders only or shutting Arleston. I h

This is madness. The School is already too big, the traffic and parking is a nightmare (I don't drive myself but the walk to school is extremely stressful due to idiots who have to park as near as they possibly can to the School, regardless of where that is, parking right up on the pavements) and too much traffic on the road. It's too crowded in the playground at drop off and collect time, and what about space for the poor children to play, space to eat their dinner etc?? The existing site isn't that big. I don't believe that the increase in places will be matched by the required extra facilities, this is just not possible. Why not increase the numbers at Middleton Primary and other schools in the area, or build a brand new school if this is what's needed?? Leave Fernwood alone before you ruin it completely.

Local families need a place at a local school

Do what ever traffic plans you like, but the previous expansion of fernwodd school (comprehensive) has caused chaos with traffic down our road. We have car parking on our drive, we have seen many arguments between motorists that cannot move in the gridlock; not to mention the high risk placed on the children as they egress the school. This is only going to make this situation worse.

I initially supported this but now have grave concerns regarding: Parking and traffic, the current traffic. Poor parking is bad enough now with parents parking on yellow lines, half on pavements, preventing children passing the cars and potentially knocking a child over. Several parents also reversing out of Fernwood Avenue and racing off when they have dropped off their kids. I walk my children and fear for them everyday. This can only get much worse. Space within the school to feed all the children at lunchtime and providing enough food and variety of choice for later sittings. Playground space is currently very full, expanding the school will put pressure on a very small area. Loss of grounds for school buildings, reducing the amount of space around the school. The comprehensive has not agreed to take children from Fernwood. The new housing estate will also put pressure on places. I believe this is a sticking plaster on a broken leg. Expanding a small school to try and

The proposal has a narrow focus and addresses the needs of children entering the school system at foundation level only. The issue of school places is broader than that and therefore a fuller proposal to address the needs of children (at any age) requiring a local school place is needed. I also have concerns over the capacity at Fernwood Comprehensive to take the additional children and as the City Council can only appeal to the Academy to expand, this presents a weak position and with such uncertainty, I feel an expansion without a clear plan in place could create a problem in future years. I would like to see consideration given to building a new school (a free school could be a valid option) or to consider devolution as an opportunity to look at collaboration with counterparts in the County as there is more land available just outside the city boundary. It would have been useful to have seen the plans for the Fernwood extension to demonstrate social space not just classrooms are b

Primary school need to be nurturing and small

Building onto the current site isn't the answer, look for alternative sites such as the old Bramcote golf course, this will alleviate residents issues and concerns. If Fernwood juniors/primary is made bigger do should Fernwood comp to allow for the extra children.

Please add any comments you wish to make.

Every effort needs to be made that the school's outstanding performance and underlying ethos is maintained. Additional resource to the school is to be welcomed, especially where it can help enhance facilities and further contribute to the education and welfare of our children. However, the devil is in the detail and continued communications with parents and teachers is essential. This helps ensure that disruption is minimised and that additional resources are put to best use. As a parent I am particularly concerned about ensuring that children do not "feel lost" as the school grows in size. Appropriate measures in teaching as well as in the design and use of school facilities need to be assured (including: classrooms, hallways, entrance areas, sport facilities, dining hall, assembly area, library space, break-out areas, playground, garden and vegetable patches). Due consideration also needs to be given to already stretched facilities; especially with regards to After School Clubs a

If you are going to increase spaces then there needs to be changes in areas thus affected by that, mainly parking and traffic issues, perhaps increase incentives for walking? Maybe even make the surrounding roads residents only parking or no stopping between 8-5? Also will there be capacity for these new children to attend the junior and comprehensive school next door when the time comes for them?

Whilst I appreciate the strong need for more school places in Wollaton, and I am conflicted in my decision as our young family is growing, I strongly feel that this expansion to 1050 pupils will have a detrimental effect on the overall quality of my child's school experience. I am concerned about the inevitable lack of intimacy and familiarity necessary for a primary school, where the heads and staff can get to know the children individually, and where the children (many of them very young) can feel part of a community, as opposed to being completely lost in one. Surely, the ability of staff to provide a nurturing and caring environment for small children on such a massive scale would be compromised? I cannot see how pupils, particularly those with special educational needs could possible thrive in such an environment. I'm also worried about how this expansion may compromise safeguarding issues. Wollaton NEEDS ANOTHER SCHOOL, and this is where I feel the local authority should be conce

It is necessary due to the number of children in catchment, the required changes will be made to the school buildings to accommodate the additional children, and individual class sizes won't be increased so it shouldn't have a negative impact on our children's classroom experience.

The expansion is inevitable and necessary. My only concern is traffic on Arleston Drive and the surrounding area. The situation is already terrible at drop off and pick up times, and adding an extra 200 children will exacerbate the problem. There will need to be a traffic management plan in place.

I feel that traffic congestion is already an issue on Arleston Drive and with the impending opening of the nursery, will bring additional traffics problems. If you allow the school to grow, the traffic problems will continue to grow. Currently there are huge problems with congestion and poor parking and nothing is done about it; it's an accident waiting to happen.

I'm concerned about traffic issues and whether there will be enough places at the secondary school if the primary continues to grow. Having uncertainty about places at the secondary, when you currently live in catchment area, only for the catchment to grow and you no longer qualify for a place. Where would my child go to school. I have lived in Wollaton for 11 years, because I wanted to live I an area with great schools; I bought a house in catchment for both schools and now the goal posts are being moved. This is unfair on me and all other parents in the same situation.

I have foundation 2 children (twins) that without the expansion will have no proper class rooms for the next 6 years. Therefore, I feel bound to support the expansion. I also understand that new housing developments in the area will put great pressure on an already over-subscribed school, making necessary the expansion of Fernwood (and possibly Middleton) or the building of a new school (which, ridiculously, is out of council control now that only Academies can be built, and there is no obvious site to build upon). Despite my support of the proposed expansion I have great concern over a number of points: (1) How to manage increased traffic outside the school, which is already dangerous for those of us trying to walk our children to school, with cars parked on curbs all down the roads, and is difficult for people who need to drive; (2) Provision of places at Fernwood Secondary school will need to be increased in line with expansion of the feeder primary school(s); (3) That the buildin

Please add any comments you wish to make.

I believe that the expansion to Fernwood should not go ahead for a number of reasons. The infrastructure around the school is already at breaking point in terms of roads and the effect that it is having on the local area. The roads around the school are already at breaking point how long will it be before there is a serious accident around the area due to cars parked upon kerbs and double yellows? The hemlock stone pub which lets parents park there cars there is getting to the point in the winter months where its nearly full? Residents in the area are having there drive and path ways blocked. Another major point is that the schools are already at capacity and at a point where it is getting to a point where its becoming an unmanageable situation with most classes already at capacity. I fully understand that there is a need for for school places but i don't believe that this is the solution which will have a detrimental effect on both the school and the area. The council needs to b

Whilst I appreciate all children need to have a school place the school is already huge in comparison to others locally and making it bigger makes me very unhappy, I was upset when I found out my daughter's year would have 5 classes instead of 4 as expected. My main concerns are the safety of the children (and adults) whilst on the school run, people already drive too fast near the school, park incredibly badly (on double yellows) at drop off and pick up and with so many people in the vicinity already at drop off and pick up I already find it stressful and unpleasant. The playground is also like bedlam dropping off the kids, the humps in the reception playground make it very hard with a pushchair at pick up as the lessen the available space for people collecting children. It is all very well saying you'll talk to the traffic team and see what you can do if the expansion goes ahead, but I imagine these conversations are already ongoing with little changing. Having potentially a lot more

The school is already very large. There is no room to expand the school buildings without taking away more of the outside space and playing fields, which have already decreased in size owing to the children's centre expansion and building of the nursery. The communal areas of the school will be overcrowded; there is not enough room in the halls for the children at lunch time or during assembly. Play areas will be overcrowded, particularly as some of the play areas will have to be built upon. Pre- and after-school club provision is already oversubscribed. Expansion will make this worse. Expansion of Fernwood primary will mean that children in Middleton and Southwold schools will not be able to get into Fernwood Academy. It may solve the problem at Primary level, but it could make the situation worse at senior school level. People are moving into Wollaton because the schools are good. The council should ensure that all the schools in Nottingham are just as good so that parents don't f

I am worried that this is just being imposed on the school by the local authority without the correct forward planning to ensure the quality of education is maintained. The school is already at capacity. There are no spare class rooms or communal space, the roads are gridlocked with ignorant drivers showing no consideration for children walking to school. 18 months ago, we were told that letting our son into the school would prejudice the educational quality of the other pupils. Now the local authority s saying the same school can accommodate an additional 25% (210 pupils) It appears to be a done deal based on the mixed messages coming from the school via the senior management team and governors. However when we ask questions about the future plans, it appears to be very vague. How can you expect us to make an informed decision without providing a comprehensive plan ?

there is no capacity on the roads around the school for additional traffic/people, there are already significant issues with parking and movement around the school opening/closing times, if this goes ahead then they MUST be considered with the traffic/parking issues that are already present as the proposal will have significant negative impacts on the local population

Please add any comments you wish to make.

There are a number of concerns I have with regards to the proposed expansion which overall come down to the ability of the school to cope with this many additional children for the following reasons: 1. The increase is being proposed as a long term solution to the shortage of primary school places. How can this possibly be seen as a long term solution? An additional class has already been introduced in F2 due to the number of local children needing a school place. This is before the building takes place of the new dwellings on Glenwood Road and the Radford Bridge Allotments. Therefore, once these new dwellings are in place surely the problem will only grow? What will be the plans for once Wollaton grows even more? Surely the best solution is to find a long term solution now, not put a sticky plaster in place and affect the outstanding school that we have in Fernwood. The teachers currently do an amazing job at what is already a big school but by introducing a further 210 childre

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Infrastructure of surrounding area will not support the expansion.

The school already feels impersonal at times - this will only make this problem worse. Children / families struggle with building sustainable relationships when there are so many people / they are moved around so much.

The current school size is already large for a primary, with a bigger yearly intake than most. The school does achieve a remarkable degree of personal treatment and staff seem to have good knowledge of all kids and parents, but I don't know how well this personal touch could be maintained if the school was even bigger.

Without a coherent 4-18 strategy for the City, the expansion of Fernwood will just dilute a good school. Is there a plan to increase the size of Fernwood Academy to cope with the increase in due course? Rather than increase the size of Fernwood, why not fund decent training and support for other City primaries. Should Fernwood become an Academy and take on other primaries? The City Council doesnt't seem to do much.

The concern I do have about an increase in places is the traffic congestion on Arleston Road and the surrounding area. At drop off and pick up times it is already chaotic and even as an adult, I sometimes find it difficult to cross the road. Glennwood Road usually had double parked cars. I believe the traffic issue needs to be addressed further.

Better checks need to be made to ensure that pupils actually live within catchment. There is traffic chaos already, more pupils would increase the traffic. If there are more pupils then something needs to be put in place to prevent dangerous parking.

I worry as to how the infrastructure around the school will cope with more traffic and people. The situation on Arelston Drive and the surrounding area is already chaotic and extremely dangerous at times to pupils. Is there a plan in place to fix this situation before you add to it?

I am in agreement overall with the expansion if there are going to be more Primary age children within our catchment area over the next few years. At our intitial meeting with Lucy Juby, our governors raised the concern that funding would be needed to improve all our facilities e.g. halls, kitchens, play areas and that we would not be happy to agree if only funding was given for extra classrooms. It would cost alot more to build another school!

Please add any comments you wish to make.

The schools feels like it is already 'challenged' by becoming a primary / nursery build. Examples include: - Access / parking ischaotic and risks being unsafe for childdren - Pre/post school care is vastly under-provided (30 spaces for 800+ children) - The halls are already small so parent tickets for plays / events etc are limited - Lunch clubs / Afer School Clubs are already very limited with few children able to participate. All football clubs were banned form using the pitched recently, meaning no local clubs now provided. - Already 38-40 children in subject groups regularly, compromising learning in my view. How is this a 'consultation' process - it seems the decision has already been made byu bringing 5 classes into Reception.

It may affect the standard of education.

Children won't get quality of education due to the expansion of chidren.

I just hope enlarging the school will not affect the quality of school facilities or childrens learning. The parking situation around the school needs to be seriously considered. It is already a great problem!!! Will get considerably worse if expansion of the school goes ahead.

1) Fernwood Primary school is already a large school. My observation is that teachers work hard to make it feel less "big" and seek to value each individual pupil, however my opinion has always been that the school was at maximum capacity prior tot he expansion of FY2 in September. I mean this both in a physical capacity (eg space in communal areas space for performances to parents and the paly areas) and for a child at that school to feel significant and known. 2) I am very disappointed and upset that FY2 expanded from 120 - 150 pupils in september without (to my knowledge) any consultation. To my mind once that the decision was made the rest of the expansion was a done deal, or is the proposal to remove pupils from the school for Year 1? ! In conclusion therefore this consultation process is a waste of time and resources. 3) I if there is a shortage of places for children in catchment, siblings outside catchment should not be accommodated! 4) Build a new school with room for

We understand the reasons for the expansion, but are concerned it could affect the quality of education by incresing pressure on staff and facilities. We would like to know more about the steps being taken to ensure there is no adverse impact on the quality of teaching.

A nursery provision would be excellent and allow a good start to those attending Fernwood. The school is vastly oversubscribed so that the addition of an extra class in each year is much needed.

Already the school is very crowded. This is clear from the fact that walking down the footpath from all directions becomes so difficult. What Council needs to look at is building a new school at another site instead of increasing the number of classes. Arleston Drive is already so busy at school times causing near misses. Rather than parking on footpaths, Council should use free areas around to create dedicated drop off areas and widening the entrances.

I feel that the school is large enough already in terms of the amount of pupils attending. Because of the volume pf parents/carers and their children going to and from the school the pavements, paths and palygrounds get congested. As a result of this I have seen pedestrians walking on the road and this will only increase once the nursery opens in January. I am also concerned about more traffic along Arleston drive and nearby roads and the dirvers who park and drive irresponsibly.

There are laready too many children at the school and it is extremely busyat the sart / end of each day. Teh additional traffic will make it even more dangerous. I am concerned about the impact this will have on the school results as it will be more difficult to support so many additional pupils.

Excellent idea because of very popular school.

It is inevitable that more school places will need to be created, however, provision across all the services provided by the school will also need to. Dinner time increase, i.e. larger hall for plays etc, more admin staff, more teaching staff, assistants.

The parking around the school at staff end is really busy and according to others is dangerous. What can be done? What about secondary school places? I work at Fernwood Secondary School and our intake is 200 per year group so with Fernwood + if middleton expands we will be even more over subscribed . What is the plan?

Please add any comments you wish to make.

I am concerned about traffic around the site. I am concerned about the logistic of having more children on site (in the lunch hall, in the playground etc)

The important thing is it shouldnt effect on quality.

The infrastrucrure is already stretched to its maximum

Insufficient infrastructure to cope. Adjacent school only have 2 classes per year group

Access is becoming incredibly difficult, cars double parked and walking to and from the school is dangerous

The school is it capacity unless it is extended substantially

Though I agree with the proposal as the only viable solution to the pupil numbers increase, I do have serious concerns regarding the impact on the pupils or school performance. I would like to see this expansion as an opportunity to improve facilities + space available to the teachers an dchildren. Both indoor and outdoor space needs to be increased / expanded beyond the extra classrooms. I hope these space issues will be seriously considered - addressed when the building plans are developed

Yes with reservation. While understanding that additional children in catchment need to be accommodated there are concerns about: Space in hall, size of kitchen, additional traffic, available spaces at secondary school. With all the additional housing being built are we going to be in th same situation (too many children in catchment) in a few years time?

This will benefot the community in Wollaton (Fernwood catchment and sibling outside the catchement) since children in the school will live near the school will be critical to maintain the standards and ethos of the school to remain at the forefront of producing high quality science and technology students / graduates in the future.

whilst I understand the need for more school places, there are many disadvantages to large school. The sheer scale scale of the building, number of staff & pupils undermines a familiar environment which is essential for pupils to feel they can be recognised as individuals in a school wide setting. Currently the headteacher and most of the teachers know all the kids by name and can remember personal things about them - add another 120 pupils and I think this personal touch would be lost, to the detriment of the pupils and the wider school school family. Plus organising school events, trips, clubs, school plays etc becomes a much bigger undertaking & I fear in the end, some of these aspects will be lost. Its already too much for all three years (of the infant school) to have full christmas plays for example - with so many additional children this would be made harder. Also its harder for the kids to get to know everyone in the year and to know all the members of staff. I think it

Ridiculous ! Too many classes now, too much pressure on lunch times / play. Will be bringing non-catchment kids in - kids not in catchment are already taking places. Traffic - more congestion - more danger.

Dinner time wioll be too busy and play space will be reduced. Too many kids the school is bursting. The school has not got enough room for parking as it is so provisions will need to be made. Focus on ensuringonly children living in the catchment get into the school. Home owners children should get priority over those who are renting in the area.

My maion concern is that even at the current, large intake, traffic is AWFUL in many surrounding streets. There was a near miss involving a child recently and a petition set up. Even as it is this problem has not been dealt with so to increase numbers is ridiculous . Also the Council would be better to put extra money into increasing standards of surrounding school so Fernwood doesnt become a victim of its own success.

Please add any comments you wish to make.

I would agree with a different proposal to expand the primary school by the same number of additional classes, but to reduce number of children down in all classees. By setting the maximum class size of 27, with 5 forms in each of the 7 years there would be a total school size of 945 rather than 1050. This wouls wtill provide much needed additional school places. However it recognises that existing class sizes are very large. By providing a reduction in all class sizes to all children every pupil will benefit and performance will improve. The proposals as it stands only provides a benefit for the 30 additional places in each school year and I am concerned that more children will struggle in a very large school with maxed out class sizes.

Congestion and traffic around the school area is already at a risk hazzard to children, parents and local residents. Physical space would be greatly compressed for thje children and supervising staff. Younger children would suffer due to volume of children having to be catered for in playground, dinner hall and toilet facilities which are already compressed and limited !!

I dont believe enough consideration has been given to the logistical issues of the expansion and, the unsatisfactory answers from staff and the Council, that adeqaute planning and provision is being put in place to deal witht he increase in traffic (already noticable with the foundation "bulge year") around the school or how the increased numbers will be catered for in the school hall, palygounds and at lunchtimes placing an unreasoinal strain on facilities and resources.

I think other local schools should extend their catchment areas into the edges of the Fernwood catchment area and they should then expand to be three to four classes. It seems iniquitous to keep other nearby schools at 1 to 2 classes whilst expanded Fernwood to 5. 5 classes is too large for the school to feel like a cohesive united primary community.

For children this age, they would get lost in the sheer size of the proposed expansion. It would increase the problems that already exist in the playground especially at dinner times, regarding injuries, accidents, bullying and children cannot locate their friends in the playground at present. Staggering lunches would cause some children to be very hungry by the end of the day.

Without wanting to seem selfish, we wonder if the council should focus on other schools in the area, instead of making this one bigger. we know a proportion of pupils got a place at Fernwood who lived out of the catchment area in the past few years. If other schools eg Firbeck were made more attractive to parents (through improvements) then maybe this would take the strain off fernwood Primary school. More information as regards to plans is also needed.

Please help us present your information clearly and accurately by giving the following details about yourself.

Please tick all boxes that apply to you. (Please note that parents who have another role e.g. governor, staff, are primarily counted as parents)



