

EXECUTIVE BOARD – 17 DECEMBER 2013

Subject:	Proposed expansion of Heathfield Primary School, Basford		
Corporate Director(s)/ Director(s):	Alison Michalska, Corporate Director for Children and Adults		
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor David Mellen, Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services		
Report author and contact details:	Jennifer Shadbolt, Project Manager, School Organisation jennifer.shadbolt@nottinghamcity.gov.uk 0115 87 65629		
Key Decision	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No		
Reasons: Expenditure <input type="checkbox"/> Income <input type="checkbox"/> Savings <input type="checkbox"/> of £1,000,000 or more taking account of the overall impact of the decision			Revenue <input type="checkbox"/> Capital <input type="checkbox"/>
Significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in an area consisting of two or more wards in the City			<input type="checkbox"/> Yes No <input type="checkbox"/>
Subject to call-in <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes No <input type="checkbox"/>	Total value of the decision: Nil		
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:	Wards affected:		
World Class Nottingham <input type="checkbox"/>	Basford and Bulwell Forest		
Work in Nottingham <input type="checkbox"/>			
Safer Nottingham <input type="checkbox"/>			
Neighbourhood Nottingham <input type="checkbox"/>			
Family Nottingham <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s):		
Healthy Nottingham <input type="checkbox"/>	11 September 2013		
Leading Nottingham <input type="checkbox"/>			
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users):			
On Monday 30 September 2013, a four week consultation with parents, carers, staff, governors and community members on the proposal to expand Heathfield Primary School commenced. 66% of responses to the consultation were in favour of the proposal. This report updates Executive Board on the outcomes of the consultation and seeks approval to move to the next stage of the consultation process.			
Recommendation(s):			
1 Note the outcomes of the consultation, outlined in Appendix 1, and approve the move to the next stage of consultation, the issuing of Statutory Notices			

1 BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 1.1 The recent increase in Nottingham’s population has put pressure on the availability of primary school places and the city, like many other major UK cities, is experiencing a shortage of places in primary schools.
- 1.2 In April 2013, Central Government announced the Targeted Basic Need Programme, which is additional capital funding available to local authorities to help mitigate the pressure on primary places. Nottingham City Council submitted a bid for some of this funding and this bid was successful. Part of the criteria for applications was that land to be used for expansion had to be in the possession of the local authority and cleared for building work, so additional places could be provided for September 2015.
- 1.3 Pupil projection data had already identified Basford as an area requiring additional primary school places and, as the former Henry Mellish site was available, a bid was submitted for funding to expand Heathfield Primary School. The proposal is for Heathfield to become a split site primary school when the new school building on the ex Henry Mellish site opens on 1 September 2015.

- 1.4 £3.8 million has been awarded to Nottingham City Council from the Targeted Basic Need Programme and early estimated costs indicate the expansion of Heathfield will cost £4.387 million. The remaining £587,000 will be funded from the Basic Need Grant.
- 1.5 The Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services gave approval to start consultation on this proposal on 11 September 2013:
<http://open.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/comm/download2.asp?dltype=inline&filename=1070/DD1007.pdf>
- 1.6 Heathfield will have 280 primary places at the Scotland Road site (the current school building) and a further 420 places at the new site, which will equate to 100 places per year group from years Reception to Year 6. The new school building will have 60 places per year group, which is two forms of entry, and a 52 full time equivalent (FTE) place nursery.
- 1.7 Both the Scotland Road site and the new site will have a nursery and years Reception through to Year 6, so they will be run as mirror image primary schools retaining the primary school experience for children.
- 1.8 Parents will make a single admission application for their child to attend Heathfield Primary School and the site their child will be allocated will be determined by the school. The criteria for this are likely to be distance from home to the two sites, as well as sibling related criteria.
- 1.9 There is no intention to close the Scotland Road site or for children who currently go to Heathfield Primary School to be moved to the new school building.
- 1.10 Consultation ran from Monday 30 September until Sunday 27 October. The majority of people who responded to the consultation, 66%, were in favour of the proposal. 11% were against the proposal and 23% had no opinion. The consultation events were well attended and a full report detailing the outcomes of the consultation can be found in Appendix 1.
- 1.11 The following is a summary of the main questions/objections raised during the consultation period and responses:

1.	Parents were concerned they would have children at the two different sites or their children would be moved from Scotland Road to the new school building when it opens - This is unlikely to happen. When a parent applies for a place at Heathfield, whether they already have a child at the school will determine which school site their other child/children will attend. Some parents were concerned Key Stage 1 would be at one site and Key Stage 2 would be at the other, but this is not the intention. We are aiming to maintain the primary school ethos at both sites. There is also no intention to move children who currently go to the Scotland Road site.
2.	Many people raised concerns about traffic and parking in relation to the Henry Mellish site - As yet, we do not know where on the site the school entrance will be located, so the traffic implications cannot be fully understood. However, these issues will be given very serious consideration during the planning application and design stages.

3.	Some parents were concerned children would be asked to walk between the Scotland Road site and the new building, and that Vernon Road wasn't safe for this - Although children from the Scotland Road site will go to the new building from time to time to benefit from the new facilities, this will not be a daily occurrence and will be done using mini buses. The safety of the children will be considered, as it is with all activities like this.
4.	There was some confusion about what the proposal was; whether we were proposing to create an infant school on one site and a junior school on the other - As mentioned above, the proposal is to create a mirror image primary school on the new site
5.	There were some concerns about staff and resources being stretched too thin - Heathfield will have the same management arrangements when it is expanded, but there may be more senior leadership roles created to support the increase in pupil numbers. There will also be more staff employed as a result of this expansion so the staff numbers will grow to reflect the increase in pupils.

1.12 Following the statutory notice period, a follow up report will be submitted to Executive Board.

2 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Following the positive response to the consultation, moving to the next stage of consultation, the issuing of Statutory Notices is recommended. This will allow the expansion of Heathfield to be completed for 1 September 2015.

3 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

3.1 No other options were considered as there is a demand for schools places in the area.

4 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

4.1 The report is seeking approval to move to the next stage of consultation. Funding for the expansion has been secured as detailed in paragraph 1.4 so there are no financial implications as this stage.

4.2 It is worth noting future financial implications relating to the timing of the proposed expansion and intake of additional pupils.

4.3 The budget for 2015/16 will be based on the pupil numbers as per the Autumn (October) 2014 census. As these additional pupils will not be in place at the time of the Autumn 2014 census the local authority will have to fund the places from the pupil growth contingency the period September 2015 – March 2016. This allocation will be based upon the assessment of the school organisation team against the pupil growth criteria.

5 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES (INCLUDING LEGAL IMPLICATIONS AND CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS)

5.1 The school organisation regime is set out in the Education and Inspections Act 2006 ("EIA"), regulations made under the EIA and guidance made by the Secretary of State, both statutory (using powers in the EIA) and non-statutory. It should be noted that whilst this law and guidance is currently in force, with the current government taking office in 2010 and the formation on 12 May 2010 of the

Department for Education this law and guidance may no longer reflect government policy and may be changed in the near future.

- 5.2 Under section 19 of the EIA, a local authority is required to publish a proposal to make a prescribed alteration to a maintained school. In essence, a prescribed alteration is one designated as such by regulations. Currently, the relevant regulations are the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (“the Prescribed Alterations Regulations 2007”).
- 5.3 The proposal referred to in this report to expand Heathfield Primary School (“the School”) by increasing the number of pupils to be accommodated from a 280 place primary school to a 700 place primary school by September 2015 would appear to be a prescribed alteration because it is an enlargement of the premises of the School which would increase the capacity of the School by more than 30 pupils and by well over 25 per cent. Therefore, it is advisable that, having been consulted upon with generally favourable results, the Executive Board considers whether to publish the proposal referred to in this report.
- 5.4 The method proposed to achieve the proposed expansion by building a new school building on the former Henry Mellish School site on Highbury Road, Basford, which is 1 mile away from the School, is not a prescribed alteration. This is because it does not entail the wholesale transfer of the School to a new site nor does it entail the discontinuance of the current site of the School. Therefore, it is advisable that this issue is referred to in the notes if and when the enlargement of premises proposal is published.
- 5.5 Lastly, it is advisable that Human Resources (“HR”) and legal advice is taken in relation to the HR and employment law ramifications of the proposal to enlarge the premises of the School.

6 SOCIAL VALUE CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 Not applicable

7 REGARD TO THE NHS CONSTITUTION

7.1 Not applicable

8 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

Has the equality impact been assessed?

- (a) not needed (report does not contain proposals for new or changing policies, services or functions, financial decisions or decisions about implementation of policies development outside the Council)
- (b) No
- (c) Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

9 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

9.1 None.

10 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

10.1 Portfolio Holder decision to commence consultation:

<http://open.nottinghamcity.gov.uk/comm/download2.asp?dltype=inline&filename=1070/DD1007.pdf>

11 OTHER COLLEAGUES WHO HAVE PROVIDED INPUT

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Appendix 1 – consultation report

Consultation on the proposal to expand Heathfield Primary School ran from Monday 30 September until Sunday 27 October. The table below summarises the responses received during the consultation. This includes those who responded online or completed a paper copy of the consultation response form. A summary of the responses received through these methods is included later in this appendix.

	Parent of child at Heathfield	Parent of child at other school	Heathfield staff	Heathfield Governor	Governor at other school	Other	Totals
Yes	17	1	1	2		2	23
No	3	1					4
No opinion	5	1			1	1	8
Totals	25	3	1	2	1	3	35

Consultation activities

The table below shows the consultation activities:

Date and time	Activity	Location
Wednesday 25 September	Letters sent to all parties	
Monday 30 September	Start of consultation	
Wednesday 2 October 16.00 – 16.45	Staff meeting	School Hall
Wednesday 2 October 17.00 – 17.45	Parents/carers/community members meeting	School Hall
Wednesday 2 October 18.00	Governors meeting	School Hall
Wednesday 9 October 15.45 – 19.45	School Organisation officers at Parents Evening	School Hall
Wednesday 9 October 18.00 – 20.30	Basford Ward Forum	Southwark Primary School
Saturday 12 October 10.00 – 12.00	Bulwell Forest Ward Forum	Top Valley Community Centre
Thursday 17 October	School Organisation officers on the school gates	School gates
Sunday 27 October	Close of consultation	

Meetings with staff, parents and members of the public and school governors – Wednesday 2 October 2013

Staff meeting: 19 staff members attended and the meeting began at 4.00pm. The following questions were raised:

1. What will happen to traffic around the Henry Mellish site?

At the moment, we have not decided where the entrance to the school will be on the new site so we don't know what the traffic implications will be. However, the issue of traffic around the new school building has already been raised by a number of different people and great consideration will be given to

traffic calming measures. We will work with local Councillors and community members to mitigate the impact of traffic wherever possible.

2. What are the benefits for Heathfield Primary School?

There will be a number of benefits for the existing Heathfield Primary School. For children, there will be an improvement in the facilities available to them. Children who will attend the Scotland Road site will be able to access the playing fields and other sports facilities at the new school building when it is finished. We know that space at Heathfield is limited now and there are problems with your sports hall so this new site will mean children from both sites will benefit from new facilities.

Larger schools also realise financial benefits due to economies of scales so Heathfield may have additional resources available for children.

For staff, there are advantages of working for a larger school in terms of career progression. There will be more senior management positions available and also greater opportunity to teach in different key stages to gain experience of through primary education.

3. What about admissions? It's important the existing 'Heathfield community' remains.

The admission arrangements have not yet been formalised but we do know that children will make one single application to attend Heathfield Primary School. Which site they will go to will be determined by the school and will be based on criteria such as distance and siblings.

4. How will the school grow?

The new school will grow from the bottom up, so we will fill the lower years first and then these classes will filter from the bottom years all of the year groups are full.

5. Will the building work happen around the children?

No, because the site is empty we will do all of the building work before children are admitted on site. We can do building work when children are in school, but it is more economical to do it all at the same time before the site is occupied.

6. What if the school only partially fills?

The pupil projections we have for Nottingham show a continued increase in the population so we are confident the school will have adequate pupil numbers. Because this expansion is being funded directly by the Department for Education, we had to demonstrate our need for additional pupils before we were allocated the funding. However, there will be some space in the new building until the year groups fill up and this could be used for various community activities and after school activities.

7. Will the Sports Centre be run by Heathfield?

The Sports Hall near the new school site is currently run by a local college but this arrangement is being reviewed. A decision on the future management of the sports hall hasn't been made yet and work is ongoing with local Councillors and community members on this. However, we would hope children from the school are able to use the sports hall.

8. Which Secondary will the new site work with?

This hasn't been decided yet.

9. Will there be any potential to invest in the existing Heathfield building as part of this proposal?

The money given to us from the Department for Education is limited and all funds are needed for the new school building. The school place pressures we are currently experiencing mean that all funding is limited at this time.

Public meeting: 5 parents and one child attended this meeting, along with local Ward Councillors Cllr Norris and Cllr Arnold. The meeting began at 5.00pm and the following questions were raised:

1. Why does it have to involve our school? Why is the school not just a new school?

The expansion of Heathfield Primary School is being funded by money given to Nottingham City Council by the government as part of the Targeted Basic Need Programme. Before the summer holidays, we had to bid for this money and part of the criteria was for the money to be used to open a new academy or to expand an existing school. At the time, we had no plans to open an academy in the Basford/Bulwell area so instead we looked to expand an existing school to add extra places.

Creating a split site primary school has worked well for us already, with Dunkirk Primary School and we are confident it can work again. This project also gives us the opportunity to work with Heathfield to improve the school's facilities. We know there are issues with the Scotland Road site in terms of available space and that you have problems with your playing field. This is a way of providing extra amenities for the children who attend Heathfield – whichever site they are based at.

2. Is this part of a forward plan for you to close the current Heathfield school?

No, we have no plans to close Heathfield, or any other school in Nottingham. The situation we are in regarding primary school places means we have to add capacity in a number of areas and Basford is one of those areas.

3. Why did you get rid of the Southwark building?

The old Southwark Building wouldn't be suitable for the number of places we need to add to this area.

4. Is the Sports Centre closing?

No, there is no intention to close the sports centre; it is a well used community facility. Future management arrangements of the sports hall are still being decided.

5. What will happen with the leadership and management at the school?

They will remain as they are for now, so the school will continue with one Head Teacher. However, as the number of pupils who attend Heathfield increases, it is likely more management jobs will be needed at the school, which means there will be more career progression opportunities for staff at the school.

6. So you (Head Teacher at Heathfield) are excited about this?

Yes, I would not have considered taking on this project if there was any risk to the children and the future of this (Scotland Road) school site.

7. Where will the children come from?

From the areas surrounding the new school site – Basford and Bulwell Forest.

8. Vernon Road isn't safe for children to walk down, what are you going to do about this?

Councillor Alex Norris and Councillor Cat Arnold discussed the consultation currently underway about traffic calming in the area, including 20mph speed limits. A discussion also took place about how we are not proposing children walk between the two school sites on a regular occasion. With the admission arrangements, it is likely children who live closer to the new site will attend there and not the Scotland Road site.

9. Will the catchment area for this site be the same?

We don't know at the moment. We are going to have to look at catchment areas across the city, because we have expanded a number of schools due to the increase in population. If we are proposing to make any changes to catchment areas then we will undertake consultation on this.

10. Can parents choose which site they go to?

No, they will make a single application to attend Heathfield Primary School and the site their child attends will be based on distance and sibling criteria mainly. However, if a parent has a specific reason for attending one site over another this may be considered by the school.

11. Will this school get smaller now then?

The Scotland Road site will get very slightly smaller when the new school opens. Currently there are 40 children per year group at this site but, in recent years, more than that number has been admitted following admission appeal panel hearings. In future, this is very unlikely to happen because there will be 60 extra places at the other site for children to apply for.

Other consultation meetings:

- Wednesday 9 October 2013, 15:20 – 18:00 (Parents Evening)
- Wednesday 9 October 2013, 18:00 – 20:30 (Basford Ward Forum)
- Thursday 17 October 2013, 15:30 – 16:00 (school gates)

Approximately 30 people spoken to during these sessions. The following are the comments or questions received:

- Worried that the children would be moved from Scotland Road - happy as long as the children aren't being moved.
- Good idea. Heathfield is a very good school and more children will benefit by going there.
- Good that it will be all year groups on both sites – not KS1 and KS2 sites.
- More spaces are needed everywhere not just in Basford. All over Nottingham and the Country.
- As long as they are keeping the Scotland Road site then very happy.
- Worried that this will lead to the closure of the Scotland Road site in the long term.
- Good opportunities for staff development.
- Worried that some of the teachers will move to the new site – existing pupils will lose the teacher they are used to.
- Concerns about traffic around both sites (speed limit, signs and crossings)
- Would be better if the entrance to the new site was not on the main road.
- Would be like having two schools really.
- Good to have a decent sports field for all the children – and possible use of the sports hall that is already there.
- Siblings will need to be kept together on one site – not feasible for parents to take children to both sites.
- The Headteacher and senior staff need to devote their time to Heathfield only if it is expanding (not William Booth as well – as they do now)
- Questions asked about Southwark Primary School funding this expansion – this isn't true
- Perhaps the old Henry Mellish School shouldn't have been demolished in the first place
- What will happen to the catchment areas?

Comments submitted on the consultation forms or via the online consultation:

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I am strongly against the expansion plans. One of Heathfield's best points is that it is a small school and the teachers and staff know all the children and can respond to their needs. If you expand the school you'll lose this and I can't see how that won't have a negative impact on the school's standards, educationally and behaviourally. If there is a need for more primary places then open a new school on the proposed site, don't spoil a fantastic one by stretching it too far. The Mellish site is also a nightmare to get to before and after school hours, and the children from the area surrounding the Mellish site will have similar problems getting to the Heathfield site too. These expansion plans will only add to the road congestion that is

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already a significant problem. All I can are negatives for the school and children, I don't believe that educationally bigger is better and I think that increasing the number of places at Heathfield will just mean that there are more children and the staff will not know them or their needs. It will also add more stress and upheaval for the children when they move to the 2nd site, you'll effectively have two schools any way, but split by age instead of location, which will only cause problems. Surely it makes more sense just to open a new school on the Mellish site and model it on the way Heathfield works including keeping it a sensible size. You cant expand Heathfield and keep it as successful as it is, you'll just ruin an excellent school. However, you can replicate it at a new school and get input from the Heathfield staff, who I'm sure don't want their school ruining either - please don't destroy this wonderful school.

My concerns are when my youngest son starts school in 4 years time there is a risk that I would have one child at one site and one at the other which would be a logistical nightmare as we both work full time. Further more will classes be mixed year groups as they are currently or will this change at the existing site.

Very happy

It gives children an opportunity to join the school and lets the children from a wider area attend.

I believe this will help with reducing time children miss from school awaiting school admissions in the area.

My only concern is that my children stay at the original site, especially as we are not in the catchment area.

At present I think the proposal will have a positive impact, use of sports halls + playing field + the new site is within 20 min walking distance. My only concern is that further down the line powers that be may opt to close the Scotland Road site.

I am happy about the expansion of Heathfield School. It's a fantastic school which is a credit to its hardworking staff. I hope this new partnership will also bring benefits to Heathfield School. Heathfield is a fantastic school mainly because of its dedicated staff and pupils. I hope the new school will be as welcoming and have the merits of a Heathfield. It would be nice to share the facilities of a new school including Sports Day (on a nice field) in a safe and clean environment. As there are a few issues with Heathfield School my main concern is Scotland Road. There is no school warning signs on either end of the road, which is used as a cut through by traffic. The speed limit is still 30mph but other roads are 20mph. If there's money in the pot it would be nice to see some of it spent on the safety of the children at this highly desirable school. The traffic lights on Valley Road also need to be addressed as they change very quickly not allowing small children time to cross. It would be nice to see flashing warning lights around to make drivers aware of the school. I know the ring road is under improvement but I could not find anything about Heathfield School or improved plans for the children crossings which I find upsetting and alarming bearing in mind the age of the children using this crossing. Thank you for your time reading this letter.

Great to have access to amenities such as field, sports hall etc. Consideration to keep siblings on one site will be good. Heathfield has such a strong & positive ethos / culture that multi-sites & growth should not dilute / effect negatively. Personally I think positive to be able to reach out to more pupils in the local area. Really strong and capable management & staff to support growth.

But only because there seems to be no other way to increase pupil places in Basford. My initial concerns regarding the split site have been addressed through the consultation at Heathfield Primary. As it seems that the children currently attending Heathfield will not be affected or only in terms of perhaps ? Access to facilities like a proper playing field for football, cricket, hockey etc and a sports hall. I had concerns that the schools leadership would be changed and that Heathfield as it is would perhaps suffer as a result. However

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although perhaps staff would seek promotion, that would be natural changes anyway. My main concerns were about my children attending a huge school on a split site, but as this will not happen it seems a good idea to share good practice.

I am concerned about parking issues in the locality of all the streets bordering the proposed new site, which includes the increase in traffic flow & congestion in the local area. Also the impact on road safety for children walking to school especially on Highbury Vale, where near misses are a weekly event on the current zebra crossing outside the original school site.

I do not understand what the proposal is. Is it a split site "Old Southwark" style Infant and Juniors at different locations. If it is I do not think this a good idea at all. Google maps gives it 22 mins walking time between the 2 sites. The 5 min walk between the 2 old Southwark sites was bad enough, but doable, 22 mins is not possible with different aged primary children. My older child is at Bluecoat and the 2 different sites acting almost like separate schools works well. If this is the proposal then I think this could work, but equally making a different new school on the HM site would work and I'm not sure what the advantage of calling it Heathfield would be. My youngest child is in Year 4 at Southwark and so I feel this proposal will not really affect us, so I don't feel my opinion is as valid as people with a child at Heathfield and preschool children and babies who will be starting there in years to come. One big mistake they made with the Southwark new build was not to think about parents with cars, I walk, but Bulwell Lane and Park Lane are dangerous morning and afternoon and coach access for school trips was not thought about at all.

With 420 primary school pupils on this site there will be a problem with parking. When the site was Henry Mellish school most pupils walked but Primary children are taken by parents/carers. With an extension of Heathfield the catchment area will mean that pupils will be taken by car. Highbury Road is busy and steps will need to be taken to stop parking on Highbury Road, Kersall drive and adjacent streets. Otherwise it could be chaotic.

I just want assurance that children already at Heathfield will remain at the current school and not be moved to the new site.

It will cause mass congestion in rush hour and I think it will be detrimental to local residents.

Two concerns. 1. Where will the pupil entrance be as the surrounding roads are narrow and parking for Our lady's school is already at a premium? 2. Will the proposed expansion use any of the field behind the old Henry Mellish site?

I wish to express my opposition to the proposed expansion of Heathfield School. I can see the benefits for the council in having instant access to funds for expansion (as this has already been agreed in principle), and of not having to go through a lengthy bidding process (for a new school). I can also see advantages for Mr Heywood in this proposal as he would lead two schools (old & new) in perpetuity if the new Heathfield is built, which obviously looks impressive on a CV. I do fail however to see how this proposal is of any benefit to the children, or the parents of children who currently attend Heathfield. Sharing staff and resources would seem to me to be the very least effective way to provision and run either site (the old or the proposed new site) and would 'water down' the quality of the education delivered in both. The new 'Heathfield' site is in reality a new school and not an extension of the current site (as has been advertised), as it is a new build not related to the current site in a separate catchment area. The way that this proposal has been managed by the council seems to have been focused on distorting and skewing the current situation to avoid going through the proper processes involved in opening a new school (such as bidding against other providers such as free/faith schools to build a new school), and would appear to have been at best disingenuous and at worst dishonest. This whole consultation process has not been balanced or fair, as all people involved in providing information to parents, from the head teacher to the council representative at parents evening, have been unwavering in their support for this proposal. It would have been better to have both sides of the argument represented, as this consultation process would seem at the moment to be a mere box

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ticking façade. If a new school is required then the council should go through the proper processes involved in opening a new school, and that school should have its own name, identity, resources and staff.

An excellent opportunity to expand an exceptional school and teaching staff, with a recognised super headmaster.

Heathfield clearly is a popular school and deserves to be redeveloped and enlarged. Due to the current restrictions of the site this proposal is a reasonable solution although it saddens me that the current derelict land has not been a possibility for a more local expansion.

Great to have something positive for the area and to replace a derelict site. Heathfield is a great school and will bring a positive vibe to the surrounding area of the new school.

I think the proposal for expanding the school is very good. There seems to be a very high demand for the school.

This area needs another good primary school with excellent leadership and teachers that want their children to succeed. The Henry Mellish site would be excellently placed to serve this area.