

Repton Park, Ashford, Kent

New school competition: public consultation document



Photo:123RF/Olga Telnova

Public Meeting: **Wednesday 1 October 2008 at 7pm**
at **St Teresa's Primary School,**
Quantock Drive, Ashford, Kent TN24 8QN

The new school

During early 2008, Kent County Council consulted the public on the need for a new primary school to meet the demand for places arising from the new housing in Repton Park, Templar Way, Ashford TN23 3HA. Respondents supported the Council's suggestion that a new school was needed and this should:

- be for boys and girls aged 4 to 11 years
- provide 30 places per year group (its published admissions number), thereby creating 210 places
- be built as a 'hybrid' school (i.e have seven class bases, but the central infrastructure to support 14 class bases to enable future expansion with minimal disruption)
- open 1 September 2010
- provide a 26 place nursery facility, operated by a private, voluntary or independent provider.

In line with current legislation, on 9 May 2008, the County Council advertised inviting potential promoters to submit proposals to establish the school.

The proposal

One proposal was received. A summary is contained below and you can view the full proposal on <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-learning/about-education-service/consultations/soab-mid-kent.htm>

The proposal received from The Homewood Trust (c/o Mrs J Kirk, Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent, TN30 6LT) is to establish a new Trust School (i.e a Foundation School which will be supported by The Homewood Trust). The promoters have confirmed that they will deliver a school which conforms to the structural form set out in the bullet points above, which was determined by the County Council following consultation.

The nursery facility will be attached to the school, but will be run separately as a private nursery by The Homewood Trust. The school will work in close collaboration with the nursery to promote a cohesive learning environment to the community of Repton Park.

The proposed ethos of the school will be based on the philosophical model currently in practice at Homewood School (where the promoters are all governors), with the principles of Belonging, Respect and Learning at its centre. The Homewood Trust will support the ethos of the new school and in meeting the needs of every learner. It is proposed that the new school will be a 'learning community' made up of learners, staff, parents and the wider community. Learning will be delivered through personalised programmes. The new school will have high expectations and will strive for success for every individual learner.

Admissions to the new school

The Homewood Trust has confirmed that it intends the school to primarily serve the Repton Park estate. The new school will co-operate with the Local Authority in organising admissions. Where there are more applications for admission than places available, places will be allocated in line with the following prioritised over-subscription criteria:

1. Learners in Local Authority Care
2. Learners with siblings in school at the time of entry
3. Learners with health and special access reasons, and
4. Proximity of the learner's home to school distance as measured by the shortest available walking route.

Extended services

The promoters, in their role as governors at Homewood School, have experience of delivering high quality extended school services. Homewood School has been accredited with 'Advanced Status' for the planning, development, delivery and evaluation of its extended services. The promoters expect the new school would offer a range of extended services and activities to meet the needs of the school, its pupils and the wider community. It will be a new school at the heart of its community with a major emphasis on family learning and community cohesion.

Your views

The County Council wants to hear your views about this proposal. We are holding a public meeting on:

**Wednesday 1 October 2008 at 7pm
at St Teresa's Primary School, Quantock Drive,
Ashford, Kent TN24 8QN.**

You can attend to hear more about the proposal, ask questions and tell us what you think. Alternatively, you can complete the response form (at the back of this document) and return it to the address provided by **7 November 2008.**

After the representation period

At the end of the representation period (7 November 2008) the County Council will collate all of the comments or objections received on the proposal and decide the competition. In doing so, the County Council will take account of guidance published by the Secretary of State, accessible on the Government webpages:

[www.dcsf.gov.uk/schoolorg/data/guidance_Documents/
NewSchoolGuide2008-07-18.doc](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/schoolorg/data/guidance_Documents/NewSchoolGuide2008-07-18.doc)



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Response form

My comments on the Homewood Trust proposal are:
(please complete on an additional sheet if necessary)



Please turn over and complete the other side of this form

Name:

Address:

.....

.....

I am:

<input type="checkbox"/> A pupil Please name your school	<input type="checkbox"/> A member of staff at a school Please name your school	<input type="checkbox"/> A governor Please name your school
<input type="checkbox"/> A parent Please name the school your children attend	<input type="checkbox"/> A local community representative Please name the community you represent	<input type="checkbox"/> A local resident Please specify your area of residence
	<input type="checkbox"/> An Early Years provider	<input type="checkbox"/> Other interested party

Kent County Council is a data controller under the Data Protection Act 1988 and will comply with the requirements of the Act at all times. We will ensure that your personal information is processed fairly and lawfully and in this instance used only for the purpose of validation, which will enable a fair and just consultation.

Please return your completed response form to:

David Adams
Area Children's Services Officer
Mid Kent Area Office
Kroner House, Eurogate Business Park
Ashford TN24 8XU

or

You can email your comments or objections to:
school.consultations@kent.gov.uk