

Public Consultation Document



Kent County Council would like to hear your views on a proposal to expand The John Wesley School from 210 places to 420 places.

**Date of Public Meeting: Tuesday 19 January 2010 at 7pm
at The John Wesley School, Wesley School Road, off
Cuckoo Lane, Ashford TN23 5LW**

1. INTRODUCTION

Kent County Council is proposing to expand the John Wesley Primary School from 210 places to 420 places.

This document gives you details of the proposal, information on the background to it, and outlines the current position.

We are undertaking a public consultation to seek the views of the wider community on this proposal. There will be a public meeting on 19 January 2010 which will give you the opportunity to make your views known and to ask any questions you may have.

There is a form at the end of this document which we ask you to complete and return to us by 4 February 2010.

2. SCHOOL PLACES IN ASHFORD

Ashford is designated as a major growth area for the South East of England, with 30,000 houses planned to be built in the period up to 2030. This growth is changing the shape of the town, bringing new families to the area and creating new communities. It requires the infrastructure to meet the future needs of the town and its residents.

The school planning data contained in Table 1 on page 3 shows that there are currently 118 spare primary school places within one mile of The John Wesley School. However, there is forecast to be a shortfall of places over the next five years.

Table 2 on page 3 shows forecast figures for children aged 4 years old in the area (ie Reception aged pupils). There is a significant increase in the number of children living within one mile of the school. This suggests one additional reception class needs to be opened during that period to meet this demand.

Table 1 The projected number of primary aged pupils in the area of the John Wesley Primary School	School places available 2009-10	2008-09 (Actual)	2012-13 (Forecast)
Total pupils within 1 mile	2100	1982	2150
Surplus / deficit places within 1 mile	-	118	-50
Total pupils within 2 miles	4620	4392	4695
Surplus / deficit places within 2 miles	-	228	135*
Total pupils within 3 miles	5670	5426	5660
Surplus / deficit places within 3 miles	-	244	220*
In addition to the data above it is estimated that there may be an additional 232 primary pupils by 2012-13 due to new housing development within this area			
Forecast roll data based on projections made in Summer 2009			
* From 2012-13 there will be an additional 210 places available at Repton Park (this additional capacity is reflected in the surplus / deficit figure above)			

Table 2 The projected number of reception year children in the area of the John Wesley Primary School	Reception class places available 2009-10	2008-09 (Actual)	2012-13 (Forecast)
Total reception year pupils within 1 mile	300	268	336
Surplus / deficit reception year places within 1 mile	-	32	-36
Total reception year pupils within 2 miles	660	614	740
Surplus / deficit reception year places within 2 miles	-	46	-50*
Total reception year pupils within 3 miles	810	758	892
Surplus / deficit reception year places within 3 miles	-	52	-52*
In addition to the data above it is estimated that there may be an additional 33 Year R pupils by 2012-13 due to new housing development within this area			
Forecast roll data based on projections made in Summer 2009			
* From 2012-13 there will be an additional 30 Year R places available at Repton Park (this additional capacity is reflected in the surplus / deficit figure above)			

3. THE PROPOSAL

The John Wesley School was newly built and opened in September 2007. It was constructed as a “hybrid school” meaning that the central resources, such as the hall, were built at a size large enough to accommodate 420 children, but only seven classrooms were completed. Therefore, adding a further seven classrooms will be fairly straightforward.

The school is now a popular, over-subscribed school, which is performing well. It has the leadership capacity to manage the school during the building works, and to grow the school.

Kent County Council would like to expand The John Wesley School by one form of entry, taking the total capacity of the school from 210 places to 420 places. The school would then admit 60 pupils per year.

The expansion of the school would be gradual with the additional places being created annually to accommodate reception aged pupils only. It will therefore take seven years for the school to grow to its full size.

It is proposed that the school would admit 60 pupils per year from September 2010.

Initially, the school will require temporary accommodation until the permanent build is complete.

CONSULTATION & DECISION MAKING TIMETABLE

Public Consultation Period	10 December 2009 to 4 February 2010
Public Meeting	19 January 2010
Report Back to the Kent County Council School Organisation Advisory Board *	17 March 2010
Public Notice Issued (subject to Cabinet Member decision)	22 April 2010
Public Notice Expires	2 June 2010
Decision by Local Authority	June 2010
Adjudication (if required)	July 2010
Implementation	September 2010

* The School Organisation Advisory Board meeting is held at County Hall, Maidstone and the webcast can be watched via the kent.gov.uk website. **The meeting is open to the public.**

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- Following this consultation, all views received, either in writing, by email or at the Public Meeting, will be reported to the School Organisation Advisory Board of Kent County Council.
- A Cabinet Member decision will be made on whether to take the proposal forward.
- If so, a Public Notice will be published in a local newspaper, at the school and in public places like the library. The Public Notice will run for six weeks. Representations about the proposal can be made.
- A determination will then be reached on whether the proposal is to be implemented.
- In certain circumstances this could include referral to the statutory Schools Adjudicator.
- All views will be considered before a decision is made.

HOW TO GIVE YOUR VIEWS

We would like to know your views on this proposal.

You can respond to the consultation by:

Completing and returning the attached response form to:

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

**Your comments must reach us by 5pm
on 4 February 2010**

Coming to a public meeting at The John Wesley School, Wesley School Road, off Cuckoo Lane, Ashford TN23 5LW

on 19 January 2010 at 7pm.

- An elected member of Kent County Council will chair this meeting, at which all interested parties will have an opportunity to put forward their views.
- Officers from the Local Authority will also be present to clarify points of detail.

Emailing your comments to:
school.consultations@kent.gov.uk

(We will note all you say, but will not be able to respond individually to response forms, letters or emails)

Public Consultation Response Form

Please return no later than 5pm on Thursday 4 February 2010

To: David Adams, Area Children's Services Officer, Mid Kent Education Office, Kroner House, Eurogate Business Park, Ashford, Kent TN24 8XU. (Fax: 01233 898500)

You can also email your views to: school.consultations@kent.gov.uk

Do you agree with the proposal?

Yes

No

I am: (please tick as appropriate)

The parent/carer of a student at John Wesley Primary School

A member of staff at John Wesley Primary School

A governor of John Wesley Primary School

A student at John Wesley Primary School

Other interested party

Name of interested party

.....

Name:

Address:

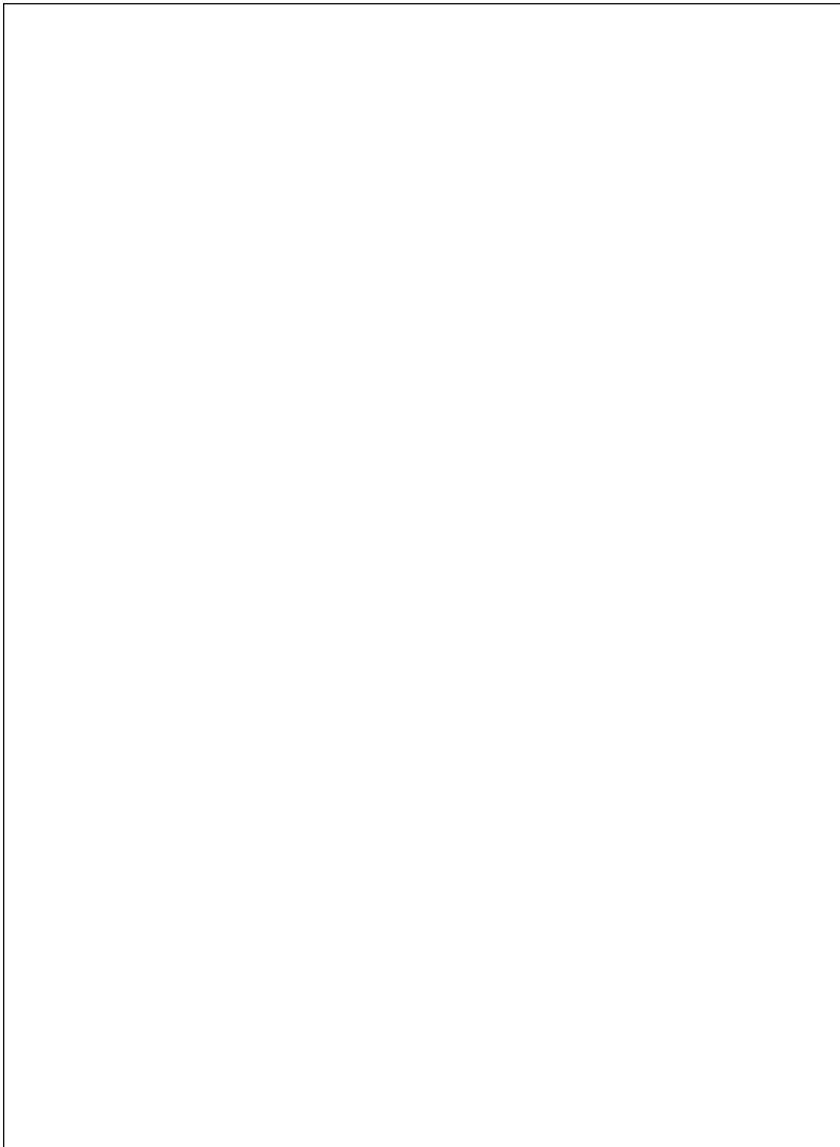
Kent County Council is a data controller under the Data Protection Act 1998 and will comply with the requirements of the Act at all times. We will ensure that your personal information is processed fairly and lawfully and in this instance used only for the purpose of validation, which will enable a fair and just consultation.

This document is available on:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-learning/about-education-service/consultations/>

PLEASE WRITE YOUR COMMENTS OVERLEAF

My comments are as follows:

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to write their comments. It occupies the central portion of the page.

If you have difficulty reading this document and require it in another format please contact your school.