

PROPOSED EXPANSION OF ALDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Summary of written responses

Consultation documents distributed: 300

Responses received: 31

	Support	Against	Undecided	Total
Parents/Carers of pupils	13	6		19
Members of staff	1			1
Governors	3			3
Pupils				
Local resident	3	3		6
Interested party	2			2
Total	22	9	0	31

In support of the proposal

- One form entry is something we have always aspired to, but no larger as we want to keep our small school ethos.
- Expansion is clearly needed to accommodate the increasing number of children in the village and save them needing to travel (2)
- I am in favour of the expansion, but parents/carers must be encouraged to cycle or walk when possible by reducing the speed limits within at least a one mile radius of the school.
- Expanding the school to 210 places is a very good idea as this gives one class for each year group and makes the school a viable size.
- The school is a very important part of the local community. Parents, teachers and friends fought very hard to maintain the school 15-20 years ago when numbers dropped to around 70 pupils. This would be a good reward for their efforts.
- I wish your project success and feel proud of being a member of Aldington community. However, please consider a crossing, perhaps a lollipop person. And could the school hall be extended as when children perform plays etc numbers wishing to watch such events are strictly curbed.
- This is a very good school which is popular with parents and the housing developments (actual and proposed) mean that there will inevitably be the need for additional spaces at the school.
- I hope the proposal will be approved. The only concern I have is around traffic management. I hope that the Highways Department can help. Traffic calming measures should not be difficult to introduce. Additional parking could be provided either at the school or by turning the grass verge just past the school (which parents park on) into a properly constructed lay-by.
- I am in support of the proposal but concerned about additional traffic and the safety of the children. Solutions might include using part of the school grounds as a turning and dropping off point or provision elsewhere, ie the Eco Centre. A walk from the Eco Centre should not be a problem and would provide both parents and children with a little exercise.
- Aldington Primary is an excellent school and if expansion is required to serve local need it should be done. It would be a shame for local children to have to travel to another school. (2)

- I am in support but with traffic outside the school already a problem at peak times this proposal will make the area even more congested. Although this is not of immediate concern it will become so in the future.

Against the proposal

- At present we feel the children get that bit extra “one to one” time with the teacher as there are not so many children in the class.
- Concerns about the extension: encroaching on outside amenities and building works would be noisy when children are working.
- Children from outside the village were given places when they were available and now their siblings attend the school. If this were to stop then there would be enough places for local children.
- Expanding the school [by 70 places] would change the ethos of this small village school with a great sense of community and atmosphere. Perhaps it could expand slightly without changing this.
- If the school were to expand it would be a shame to use mobiles.
- Concerns around additional traffic in the mornings.
- Concerned re road safety. Parking at the school during mornings and afternoons is extremely dangerous. Visibility is poor with cars parked on a bend. (3)
- I would fully support this proposal if parking or a drop off area was included.
- Worried about the extra need for parking and the extra traffic brought into the village.
- We joined Aldington because it was a village school – small and intimate. It is our nearest school.
- The village and the school have grown over the years. To enlarge it in its present position is not practical. Aldington needs a new modern school with more room, better security and better access for all. In the future the school may have to increase in size again and then what will you do?