

Bower Park Academy Expansion Consultation



Bower Park Academy proposed expansion consultation

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to plan and secure sufficient school places for their area to meet the needs of its children and families, and therefore it is obliged to plan for the expansion of its school capacity.

Births in Havering rose significantly from 2257 in 2002 to 3423 in 2016 and this has been reflected in higher primary school intakes in recent years. To meet the increased demand, an additional 5360 primary school places (reception-year 6) have been created across the borough in the last seven years. Secondary school intakes are starting to rise as a result of larger cohorts transfer from primary schools. As such it is necessary to start the process of consulting on and implementing additional places in secondary schools in the borough to ensure that there are enough places available to meet demand.

This booklet explains the proposal to create additional secondary school places at Bower Park Academy from September 2020.

The information provided in the document regarding the proposal is for parents, carers, governors, staff, pupils and any other persons who have an interest in the school to express their views or ask question on the proposed expansion.

Bower Park Academy

The school is at the heart of the local community, providing a caring and supportive environment where students are nurtured and supported to achieve success.

Bower Park Academy is extremely ambitious for all the students that it educates and thus wishes to provide them with high quality, fit for purpose accommodation and learning facilities.

The Academy is part of the Empower Learning Academy Trust, with Hall Mead School, Hacton Primary School and The Brittons Academy. Hall Mead is an outstanding school with teaching school status. The new MAT is using best practice development to support all staff in the Trust to improve the quality of provision.

In Bower Park's most recent Ofsted (March 2018) the Academy was judged to be good across all categories. This was a remarkable achievement given that fifteen months earlier the school was placed into Special Measures. The Academy's goal is to achieve an outstanding judgement from Ofsted at the next inspection.

The academy trust sees the proposed expansion of the school as an opportunity to both meet the increasing demand for places in the local area and to develop the infrastructure, improve the existing facilities and invest in the site.

The Expansion Proposal

Bower Park Academy is located in the Central secondary planning area of the borough. The academy has agreed to consult on a proposal that would see the school expand from 6FE to 7FE in September 2020.

It is hoped that the 1FE expansion will help meet some of the demand in the planning area and it is not envisaged that the proposed expansion will impact on neighbouring schools.

School	Proposal	Proposed date
Bower Park Academy	Increase from 6 to 7 forms of entry (180 to 210 intake per year group)	September 2020

In September 2019, the school will be admitting a bulge class (an additional 30 pupils) to meet the increasing demand for places at the school.

Additional Information

Building Works

Bower Park Academy has been assessed as having sufficient site to allow for this expansion.

Although it is not planned to extend the school physically, the works will involve a considerable amount of space rationalisation, remodelling and much needed refurbishment works to accommodate the expansion.

Such works will include;

- Stripping out asbestos containing materials
- Renewal of the lighting and power installations
- Heating and hot / cold water pipework
- Remodelling existing areas to accommodate both general and specialist teaching spaces, including enlarging the staff room, school office, new flooring, new ceilings and total decorations throughout

The refurbishment works will take place in a number of areas within the existing building footprint and will also include some external refurbishment.

Every effort will be made to minimise disruption for pupils, parents and neighbouring residents during building works, for instance scheduling as much work as possible during school holiday periods

Transport implications and safe routes to school

As part of the process, the academy will be expected to provide and if necessary, review their travel plan as part of the expansion plan. Advice will be given by the Smarter Travel to School team (part of the Regeneration, Policy & Planning Service) to support the school

and will be fully involved in the process of identifying problems regarding routes to school and potential solutions.

Impact on staff and pupils

Expansion of the school will generate greater financial efficiencies to allow for recruitment and retention of the very best staff. The academy will try to ensure that staff are supported and retained through the process. Teaching staff and classroom assistants will be recruited if required by the school. Disruption for existing staff and pupils from any building works will be kept to a minimum.

School budgets

School budgets are calculated using a range of factors, the most significant of which is the number of pupils. An increase in pupil numbers would result in an increase of the budget in line with associated costs. The academy trust and the Local Authority will continue to work together to ensure that the school has the right amount of funding to support the proposed number of pupils. 'Growth funding' is provided as the increased intake number moves up through the school.

What happens next?

This consultation is an opportunity to express your views and ask questions on the principle of increasing the school's intake.

The consultation period starts on **Monday 29 April 2019** and will close on **Friday 24 May 2019**.

A Parents' consultation meeting on the proposal will be held at the school on Tuesday 21st May 2019 at 6.00pm

Bower Park is an academy so will have to follow the process for expanding academies as the local authority is not the decision maker for academy expansions. The final decision as to whether the school expands will be made by the Regional Schools Commissioner on behalf of the Department for Education.

The process for expanding Academies can be viewed in more detail here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/making-significant-changes-to-an-existing-academy>

Have your say.....

You can state whether you support this proposal or not by completing the online consultation questionnaire by clicking on the link

<https://consultation.havering.gov.uk/education/bower-park-academy-expansion-consultation/>

or alternatively you can complete the consultation questionnaire below and return to Bower Park Academy reception office.

If you have any other questions regarding this proposal, please call Pooneeta Mahadeo, School Organisation Manager on 01708 431 092 or email;

pooneeta.mahadeo@havering.gov.uk.

You can request this information in a different format or language, by contacting Ada Egot on 01708 433841 or email ada.egot@havering.gov.uk.

This consultation document is being sent electronically to all parents/carers, school governors, teachers and support staff who work at Bower Park School.

Electronic copies are also being sent to head teachers of the neighbouring schools in the planning area, ward members, MPs, Church Dioceses, leaders of local early years facilities, community groups, unions and professional associations.

Consultation Questionnaire

Are you? (tick as appropriate)

A Parent Teacher/other staff at Bower Park Academy Member of Empower Learning academy trust Governor at Bower Park Academy Member of an academy trust or Governor at another school Local resident Teacher/other staff in another school Other - please specify _____

1. Do you support the proposal to expand Bower Park Academy?

Yes No (tick as appropriate)

2. I support the proposal to expand Bower Park Academy for the following reason(s)

3. I do not support the proposal to expand Bower Park Academy for the following reason(s)

Do you have any other comments?

Equality and Diversity Monitoring Form

Name (Optional) _____

Date of Birth (Optional) _____

Post Code _____

Introduction

Havering Council wants to improve the quality and delivery of its services to everybody and your completion of this questionnaire will help. The information you give helps us to better understand your needs and design services accordingly. Thank you.

Confidentiality

We understand and respect that residents are protective of their personal information. **No data will be presented in such a way that identifies individuals, without your prior consent.**

The information you provide will be protected by, the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA), which ensures that The Council and its employees protect the confidentiality of data collected from individuals. The Council has a duty to collect and monitor certain information and to keep your information securely.

Do I have to complete this form?

Completion of this form is optional and there are no penalties for not providing equality information.

If you do not want to complete the form, please tick here

Please mark x in the box which applies to you:

Gender Male Female Prefer not to say

Gender Identity Is your gender identity the same as the gender you were assigned at birth?

Yes No Prefer not to say

Relationship Status

Single Married Civil Partnership Co-habiting Widowed Prefer not to say

Other (please state) _____

Age

Under 18 18-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64

65-74 75-84 85 + Prefer not to say

Sexual Orientation

Bisexual Gay man Lesbian / gay woman Heterosexual

Other (please state) _____ Prefer not to say

Faith, Religion or Belief

Christian Muslim Jewish Hindu No

Religion

Buddhist Sikh Prefer not to say Other (please state)

Pregnancy - Are you pregnant or have you given birth in the last 26 weeks?

Yes No Prefer not to say

Childcare responsibilities - Do you have **unpaid** responsibility for a child as a parent / guardian etc.?

Yes No Prefer not to say

If yes, is the care: Full-time Part-time

How old is the child/children?

- Aged 0 to 4 (pre-school) Aged 5 to 10 (primary) Aged 11 to 18 (secondary)
-

Citizenship and Nationality

Are you a British / United Kingdom citizen or national? Yes No Prefer not to say

If no, please select from the list below

- EU National EEA National Indefinite Leave to remain/enter
 Refugee Asylum Seeker Other (please state) _____

Employment Status

- Student Employed / self-employed Employed fixed term Retired
 Unemployed and looking for work Unemployed and not looking for work
 Apprenticeship scheme / training Prefer not to say
 Other (please state) _____
-

Race & Ethnicity Ethnic origin is not about nationality, place of birth or citizenship. It is about the group to which you perceive you belong. Prefer not to say

White

- British Irish Gypsy or Irish Traveller European
 Other White background, please state: _____

Mixed/multiple ethnic groups

- White and Black Caribbean White and Black African White and Asian
 Other Mixed background, please state: _____

Asian/Asian British

- Indian Pakistani Bangladeshi Chinese
 Other Asian background, please state: _____

Black / Black British

- African Caribbean
Any other Black/African/Caribbean background, please write in:

Other ethnic group

- Arab Prefer not to say Other ethnic group, please state:
-

Do you consider yourself to have a disability, impairment or health condition?

Yes No Prefer not to say

If you have answered 'yes', please tick the box ('s) below that best describe your impairment.

This information helps us improve access to our services.

- Sensory – e.g. mild deafness; partially sighted; blindness
- Physical – e.g. wheelchair user
- Mental Illness – e.g. bi-polar disorder; schizophrenia; depression
- Developmental – e.g. autistic spectrum disorders (ASD); dyslexia and dyspraxia
- Learning Disability / Condition – e.g. Down's syndrome; Cerebral palsy
- Long-term Illness / Health Condition – e.g. cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, stroke
- Other

Please specify condition _____