

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Children and Education Services
2.	Date:	13th October 2014
3.	Title:	Increasing capacity at Sandhill Academy
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young Peoples Services

5. Summary

This report outlines proposals to create Increased space and capacity for future FS2 / Reception cohorts for the 2016/17 Academic Year onwards at Rawmarsh Sandhill Academy.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member approves Local Authority support for Sandhill Academy to create additional capacity in future years.

7. Proposals and Details

Pupil Numbers in Key Stage 1 are rising across the Borough creating the need for permanent school expansions and 'Bulge' Year classes in individual Schools.

Projections indicate that a 'bulge' year will occur in the Rawmarsh Learning Community in the 2016/17 Academic Year where more places in FS2/Reception will be needed than are currently available (see table below). Added to this is the substantial new housing development in the local area, both current and proposed and potential additional pupil yield from this new housing.

The projections below outline future demand for places at the school:

Birth Year		03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13
Admission Year into FS2		08/09	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18
Rawmarsh	Admission Number										
Rawmarsh Ashwood	30	39	42	41	45	47	52	51	45	44	51
Rawmarsh Monkwood	60	65	62	52	58	66	52	44	56	54	44
Rawmarsh Ryecroft/Rosehill	60	85	80	85	73	83	68	63	69	85	84
Rawmarsh Sandhill	30	37	32	42	46	33	46	51	26	52	38
Rawmarsh Thorogate	30	15	27	13	24	12	14	22	10	20	17
St. Joseph's Catholic	30										
Total	240	241	243	233	246	241	232	231	206	255	234

It is proposed that the Local Authority should work with the Sandhill Academy Trust to create additional teaching and learning spaces at the school for the 2016/17 Academic Year onwards to enable the Academy to submit a business case to the Department for Education in relation to proposals to increase the Published Admission Number (PAN) for FS2 / Reception and subsequent cohorts from 30 to 45 by providing additional teaching and learning spaces at the Academy.

8. Finance

Funding for the initial additional space required (relocation of a temporary classroom from Flanderwell Primary School and internal modifications at the Academy) will be provided from Basic Need funding (Basic Need Funding is allocated to the Local Authority to ensure a sufficiency of school places across the Authority). The estimated cost of this project is £100K.

There is the potential for future Section 106 Developer Education Contributions from proposed catchment area housing development and the Academy / Local Authority will work in partnership to secure funding from other streams to create additional resources required for the longer term needs.

The school will need to plan for the expansion and appoint additional teaching and non teaching staff. Funding for the additional staffing will be generated from the additional pupils on roll and will be part of the school's annual budget. However, in the first year of operation, as the pupils will not be on roll in time for the school's budget to be allocated, additional funding will need to be requested from the Contingency for pupil growth fund to cover the 7/12 funding gap via Schools Forum.

9. Risks and Uncertainties

There are always risks and uncertainties when school place provision is considered since future pupil numbers are based on estimations. Over provision at one school could influence pupil numbers at other schools. Local Authorities are obliged, however, to provide sufficient places, promote diversity and increase parental preference. (CYD0015/018 - Corporate risk register).

10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications

The major theme supported by the proposal is 'to ensure that everyone has access to skills, knowledge and information to enable them to play their part in society'. It is likely that the project would enable more parents to access their first preference school for their child in the 2016/17 Academic Year onwards and, therefore, increase that performance indicator.

Rotherham School Improvement Mission:

- ~ All children will make at least good progress
- ~ There will be no underperforming cohorts
- ~ All teachers will deliver at least good learning
- ~ All schools will move to the next level of successful performance

11. Background Papers and Consultation

Annual School Capacity and Planning (SCAP) return to DfE, school capacity projections.

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