

ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS

1.	Meeting:	Cabinet Member for Children and Education Services
2.	Date:	13th October 2014
3.	Title:	‘Bulge Year’ increase in Published Admission Number at Thorogate Junior and Infant School
4.	Directorate:	Children and Young Peoples Services

5. Summary

This report outlines proposals to create a ‘bulge’ year cohort of FS2 / Reception pupils for the 2016/17 Academic Year at Rawmarsh Thorogate J & I School.

6. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Cabinet Member approves a one year increase in the Published Admission Number (PAN) at Thorogate J & I School for the 2016/17 Academic Year to accommodate an increased cohort ‘bulge’ year.

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 and potential additional pupil yield from this new housing.

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 to create a 'bulge' class at Rawmarsh Thorogate J & I School for the 2016/17 Academic Year by increasing the Schools Published Admission Number (PAN) for FS2 / Reception only from 30 to 45 by providing an additional teaching and learning space at the school.

8. Finance

There is a Section 106 Developer Education Contribution of £150k from the nearby 'Wickets' development which will be used to create the additional permanent teaching and learning space at the School.

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 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 temporary expansion would enable more parents to access their first preference school for their child in the 2016/17 Academic Year 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

The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013

School Organisation (Maintained Schools) guidance for proposers and decision makers (January 2014)

Contact Name :

Dean Fenton (Principal Officer - School Organisation and Risk Management)
Tel: 01709 254821
Email: dean.fenton@rotherham.gov.uk

Christopher Stones (Senior Officer – School Organisation)
Tel: 01709 254821
Email: christopher.stones@rotherham.gov.uk