

Central Bedfordshire Council

**Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee
22 November 2016**

Commissioning of New School Places in Barton-Le-Clay and Marston Moretaine for September 2018

Report of Cllr Steven Dixon, Executive Member for Education and Skills,
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Advising Officer: Sue Harrison, Director of Children's Services,
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This report relates to a Key Decision

Purpose of this report

1. This report seeks support for the proposed consultation by Arnold Academy (middle), Barton Le Clay, to expand by 1 form of entry (30 places in each middle school year group) by September 2018.
2. This report seeks support for the publication of the official proposal for the proposed expansion of Church End Lower School (Forest End campus) Marston Moretaine, to expand by 1 form of entry (30 places in each lower school year group) by September 2018.

RECOMMENDATION

The Committee is asked to:

1. **Consider the Executive report attached as Appendix 1 and support the recommendation set out within it.**

Council Priorities

3. The report supports Central Bedfordshire's Five Year Plan 2015- 2020 and the specific priority of Improving Education and Skills.

Legal Implications

4. As set out in the Legal Implications section of the report attached as Appendix A.

Public Health

5. Extended Services around School and Early Years settings will be further developed as a result of growing school populations. The range of extended services that may be provided in schools includes:
 - Parenting and family support officers.
 - Transition support for pupils, schools and families.
 - Combined clubs and after school activities.
 - Holiday activities.
 - Support for vulnerable pupils and families i.e. siblings group and young carers.

Sustainability

6. Whilst there may be additional costs in order to meet sustainability objectives for new build and/or expansion of existing schools, these will be contained within the costs identified for each individual project within the programme. These measures would contribute to reduced running costs through better energy and resource efficiency, alongside creating a better learning environment for the pupils.

Financial Implications

7. As set out in the Financial Implications section of the report attached as Appendix A.

Equalities Implications

8. As set out in the Equalities Implications section of the report attached as Appendix A.

Risk Management

9. The proposal to commission new lower and middle school places and to allocate related capital investment outlined in this report implements the identified need to manage demographic growth in the previously published school organisation plan and mitigates the risk on the Council of failing in its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places.
10. Key risks include:
 - Failure to discharge legal and statutory duties/guidance.
 - Failure to deliver the Council's strategic priorities
 - Reputational risks associated with the non delivery of required school places.
 - Inability of schools to recruit suitable additional staff

- Failure to secure planning consents
- Financial risks, including;
 - Non realisation of anticipated Section 106 monies and anticipated levels of government grant.
 - Potential for overspend on any project within the programme.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Executive Report (and Appendices A - D to that report) to Executive 6 December 2016 - Commissioning of New School Places in Barton-Le-Clay and Marston Moretaine for September 2018