

# Histon and Impington Primary Educational Provision Consultation Document

## Introduction

Cambridgeshire County Council, the local Children's Services Authority (the Authority) has a statutory duty to provide a school place for every child living in its area of responsibility who is of school age and whose parents want their child educated in the state funded sector. The Authority's aim is, wherever possible, for children to attend schools that are local to where they live and to which they can walk and cycle.

In recent years, due to a combination of small scale infill housing development and demographic changes, there has increasingly been pressure on primary school places in Histon and Impington (H&I). These have been such that, on occasion, it has not been possible to secure a place at the Infant school for all children living in the catchment area whose parents wanted their child to attend the school.

It has, therefore, proved necessary to offer those children places at other nearby schools. However these surrounding schools are now at, or close to capacity. This could lead to pupils from H&I needing to travel further to attend school unless the Authority is able to find a way to provide additional places in the villages to accommodate all in catchment children.

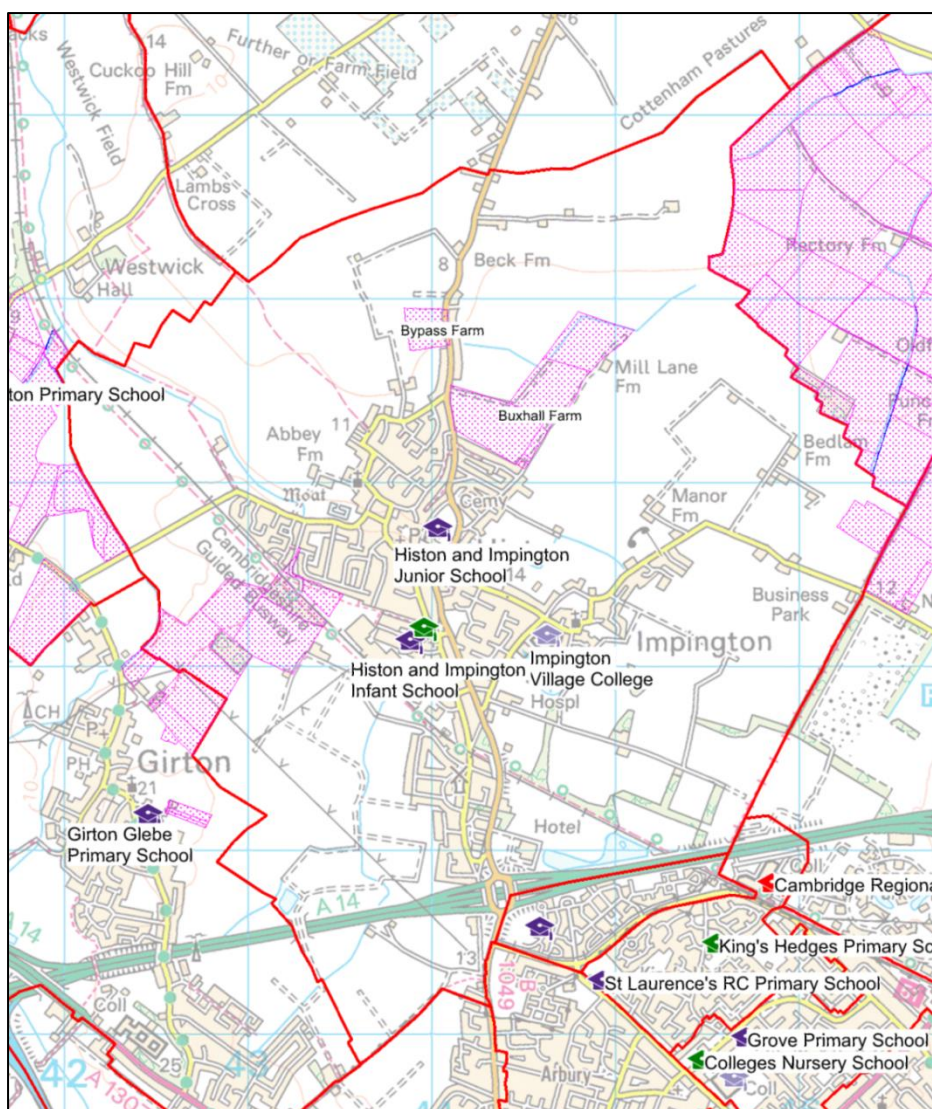
This document sets out how the Authority is working to achieve this in partnership with the schools in H&I and how you can find out more and let us have your feedback.

## Current Primary Provision in Histon and Impington

The villages of Histon and Impington are served by H&I Infant and Junior schools which are run and managed as academies by Cambridge Primary Education Trust (CPET).

<b>School</b>	<b>Age Range</b>	<b>School years</b>	<b>Published Admission Number (PAN)</b>	<b>Total Capacity</b>
Infant School	4-7	Reception, Y1, Y2	90	360 (including additional temporary capacity)
Junior School	7-11	Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6	90	480

A map showing the schools' catchment area is shown overleaf.



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## Education Strategy for Histon and Impington

In 2014 in discussion with CPET, the Authority began the process of developing a strategy to meet the needs of children of primary school age living in the H&I catchment area and those expected to live there in the future. This was in response to unexpectedly high demand for Reception places from within the schools' catchment area. At this time it was recognised that the available demographic information suggested that demand for places would remain above the Infant School's PAN of 90 in subsequent years.

It was agreed that the following key principles should underpin that strategy and inform the development of, and decisions on, options for increasing the number of available places:

- all children in the village should have the opportunity to attend their local school
- provision in the village should continue to be high quality and financially viable
- community cohesion should be promoted
- that children should be able to walk and cycle to school

The strategy comprised two phases:

1. A temporary solution to meet the immediate need for additional Reception places in September 2015.
2. A longer-term solution involving a permanent expansion of provision. As part of this, consideration would be given to ensuring that there was appropriate flexibility to respond to any future changes in demand for places in the villages.

This second phase is the subject of this document.

### **Evidence to support the need for additional provision**

The number of 0 year olds in H&I has shown a sustained increase since 2009 (NHS Child Healthcare Registration data). In addition, the combined impact of migration into the villages of families with small children and infill housing development has increased the number of Reception children in the catchment area. As a result, the number of 4 years olds requiring a school place over the next few years is expected to be higher than the 90 Reception places available at the Infant School.

**Table 1: Forecast number of 4 year olds in Histon and Impington catchment area (Cambridge Research Team, Primary Forecasts, January 2015)**

September intake year	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of children in catchment	71	91	110	99	105	117

### **First Phase: The short term solution**

The first phase of the strategy was implemented in September 2015. It involved an increase in the number of children admitted into Reception at the Infant School from 90 to 120 (4 forms of entry (FE)). In order to provide the additional classroom space required, following consultations with the schools and local parents, it was agreed that four mobile classrooms would be installed on the Junior School site and Year 2 would be educated there rather than at the Infant School.

This arrangement will provide sufficient capacity up until and including Reception entry in 2018 as illustrated in Table 2.

The Authority needs to ensure, therefore, that there is a permanent solution in place by this date.

**Table 2: Number of classrooms required in each year group as 4 Forms of Entry age through the school**

School Year	Number of Classrooms required by Year Group							Total classrooms	
	Infant School			Junior School				Required	Surplus
	R	1	2	3	4	5	6		
2015	4	3	3	3	3	3	3	22	3
2016	4	4	3	3	3	3	3	23	2
2017	4	4	4	3	3	3	3	24	1
2018	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	25	0

### **New housing development**

The South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) Local Plan process is ongoing and not due to be completed until mid/late 2016. There are no large developments currently identified for locations in and around H&I to date. However, as a sustainable location in a high growth area there is the prospect that, H&I may see additional sites allocated. In this context it is important that as well as addressing the immediate demand for places, the potential for mitigating the impact of future housing developments, from either windfall development or land allocations is considered, and that solutions implemented do not prevent suitable future solutions being delivered.

### **Second Phase: The permanent solution**

Local Authority officers have been working closely with CPET to discuss potential solutions for delivering primary education in the village. Four options have emerged so far that could meet the needs of H&I pupils.

Each of these outline options is described below with some key advantages and disadvantages identified.

### **POSSIBLE OPTIONS**

#### **Option 1 The permanent expansion of both Infant and Junior School sites to 4FE**

##### **Advantages**

- Would retain the Infant/Junior organisational model and the schools operating on their existing sites
- Little change for pupils and parents

##### **Disadvantages**

- It would retain the built in transition point at the end of Key Stage1
- It would not provide the opportunity to move to the Authority's preferred model of all-through primary schools serving the 4-11 age range
- Would offer no flexibility for responding to future housing development in the village
- Disruption on sites during expansion works, relocation of pupils and staff would be required.
- Increase in traffic congestion in and around the centre of the village

**Option 2 Expansion of the Junior School to 4FE on its current site and expansion of the Infant School to 4 FE but across two sites, with 180 places available on the current site and the same number on a new site elsewhere in the village.**

**Advantages**

- Would retain provision on both of the existing sites
- Would retain the Infant/Junior organisational model
- Would reduce traffic congestion in the centre of the village by limiting the number of children on the Infant School site to 180

**Disadvantages**

- Would mean the Infant School operating across two sites, which would present organisational and management challenges for the school and could create practical difficulties for parents
- Depending upon the site chosen for the second campus of the Infant School, some children might have further to travel than is currently the case
- It would retain the built in transition point at the end of Key Stage 1
- It would not provide the opportunity to move to the Authority's preferred model of all-through primary schools serving the 4-11 age range
- Limited scope to expand in future

**Option 3 Relocation of the Infant School to a new site and change of age range at both schools to provide two all-through primaries both operating as 2FE schools each providing 420 places**

**Advantages**

- Retention of provision on the Junior school site which is centrally located in the village
- Delivery of all-through primary school provision, removing the need for children to transfer schools at the end of Key Stage 1
- Greater flexibility to respond to future changes
- Would make the current Infant School building potentially available for an alternative use as a community facility in the centre of the village
- May provide an opportunity for expansion of Early Years provision in the village
- New build of Infant School would proceed without disruption to current pupils
- Infant school staff and pupils would benefit from purpose built, modern teaching facility

**Disadvantages**

- Change to how primary school education is delivered in the village
- Need to identify suitable site for new school
- Infant School pupils and staff would need to relocate to new site
- Depending upon the preferred site identified for the replacement of the Infant School, some children might have further to travel

**Option 4 No change to Infant and Junior School and establish a new 210 place (1FE) all-through primary school on a new site with the capacity to provide up to a 630 place (3FE) school subject to future demand**

**Advantages**

- Flexibility to respond to future changes in demand
- Increases choices available to parents in the village
- Easy to deliver logistically with no disruption to children or staff at the existing schools
- Would mean no disruption for the existing Infant and Junior schools

**Disadvantages**

- Would initially result in the establishment of a 210 place (1FE) primary school which is smaller than the Authority would normally establish as experience shows that larger primary schools are more viable financially
- Would initially result in an imbalance in provision across the village, a small primary school and two larger separate Infant and Junior schools
- May require use of mobile classrooms at Junior School to enable bulge year groups to age through
- No investment would be made in the existing Infant and Junior schools
- Opening of new provision could create an unsettled time for the existing schools as parents may wish their children to attend the new primary school
- Identification of a new site within/close to village of sufficient size to accommodate a 1-3 FE school

**NEXT STEPS**

The Authority is very keen to hear your views on these outline options and would welcome suggestions for other ways in which we could best ensure that we are meeting the needs of the villages' children and families.

You can do this by attending the open consultation event taking place on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May** at **Histon and Impington Junior School** between 3.30pm and 7pm.

You can also send in written comments using the attached sheet for your response, by email to Elizabeth Haines at [Elizabeth.haines@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.haines@cambridgeshire.gov.uk) or by submitting your comments using Smart Survey by accessing the following link [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/histonimpingtonconsultationfeedback](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/histonimpingtonconsultationfeedback)

**The deadline for receipt of comments is Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016.**

**PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE PERMANENT ADDITIONAL PRIMARY CAPACITY IN HISTON AND IMPINGTON**

Please **tick** to indicate if you are a:

MEMBER OF SCHOOL STAFF	
SCHOOL GOVERNOR	
PARENT/CARER OF A SCHOOL CHILD	
PARENT/CARER OF A YOUNGER CHILD	
ELECTED COUNCILLOR	
MEMBER OF THE LOCAL COMMUNITY	

Comments should be sent by **Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2016** to:

*Elizabeth Haines , 0-19 Places Planning and Sufficiency Officer*

*Learning, Children's, Families & Adults Services*

*Box CC1213, Octagon*

*Shire Hall, Cambridge*

*CB3 0AP*

*Tel: 01223 699606*

or by e-mail to: [Elizabeth.haines@cambridgeshire.gov.uk](mailto:Elizabeth.haines@cambridgeshire.gov.uk)

or using: [www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/histonimpingtonconsultationfeedback](http://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/histonimpingtonconsultationfeedback)

