

<u>Consultation – Governors Meeting Summary</u>	
Nature of Consultation:	Proposed Change to Green Park School
Date:	13 March 2019
Time:	16:30pm
Location:	Green Park School
Officers in Attendance:	Tom Knott, SEND Commissioning Officer (TK) Nicola Harris, SEND Support Officer (NH) David Jones, Commercial Programme Manager (DJ)
Number of Governors in attendance:	6

Summary of Meeting

- Governors had received a briefing paper in advance.
- TK introduced the expansion proposal, outlined the current pressures on the City's specialist education estate and emphasised the importance of working in partnership to meet students' needs.
- TK discussed the briefing paper providing the background to the proposal, the current school position, an outline of the proposal, and details of the consultation and decision-making process.
- DJ provided governors with details of the proposed capital scheme.
- TK advised the Governing Body that CWC has approved the establishment of the budget to support the capital scheme.
- Governors were advised that that they could either raise comments during this meeting, reply to the survey online or complete consultation response forms.
- TK welcomed comments and queries from the Governors.

The following questions and comments were raised by Governors:

- A Governor asked how the school would be supported in terms of the expansion and if the school had a choice in adopting the proposals. TK said the ultimate decision maker would be the Local Authority, but that the views expressed during consultation would be fully considered. The importance of staff members being involved in the design of the expansion plans was highlighted.

- The Headteacher explained that the Resources Committee had previously explored the financial implications of the proposed changes and had calculated the breakeven point for increased pupil numbers and the risk of expanding the school's budget challenge and that a risk strategy had been developed. It was noted that there would still be financial risks without additional students but that this was a manageable risk.
- The Chair informed the Governing Body that several Governors had been involved in initial planning of the modifications of the existing school building. It was noted that an extension would not be possible given resource constraints. The Chair felt that there was a need for the school to place children in the community that would not be able to access provision in City without the proposed changes. The Chair explained that work is being undertaken with National Governors Association and pressure is being applied to the Government to look at fairer ways to distribute funding.
- A Governor questioned if there was a requirement for Design Technology (DT) room to remain. The Headteacher explained that the school had originally explored employing a teacher for this subject which had not been possible due to budget pressures. The loss of the DT room would be countered by further investment in outdoor learning i.e. Forest School. Additionally, with the increasing complexity of needs of students within the upper school and changes to curriculum it was felt that the DT room was no longer a requirement.
- The Headteacher highlighted concerns that with an increase in students the physical education curriculum would require modification but felt that a wider offer would be beneficial to students. The Chair felt that this would be addressed by building meaningful learning by developing partnerships and working collaboratively.
- The Chair queried if there was a need for extra classrooms if children undertook learning in other environments.
- A Governor asked which year groups would use the new classroom. The Headteacher discussed potential options such as developing a functional life group or a further ASD group.
- The Headteacher explained that the proposed changes to bus bays would allow for a split in primary and secondary school entrances to school as had been positively adopted for the end of the school day.