

Consultation

A proposal to create all through education provision at Glebe Farm, Milton Keynes

What is this consultation proposing?

This four week consultation from 3 June 2019 to 30 June 2019 is seeking views about the proposal to create all through education provision at Glebe Farm. The purpose of this document is to provide background information behind the proposals and feedback will be used to help finalise the specification for the new school.

What role does the council have in school place planning?

The council has a legal duty to ensure there are sufficient school places for all children who are living in Milton Keynes. This duty has to be met in the context of significant growth in new housing in the Milton Keynes area. By 2026, almost 300,000 people will live in Milton Keynes rising to 325,000 by 2037 (currently 262,000). Of particular importance to new families is the ability to obtain a local place at a quality school for their children. Although the pace of growth in Milton Keynes makes this a challenge, we have continued to achieve this due to excellent partnership work with our local stakeholders. Since 2014, we have opened five new schools and completed 16 expansion projects to accommodate the additional 2,300 pupils by which the school cohort has grown.

The council outlines its plan to ensure sufficient school places each year in its 'School Place Planning Forward View'. Where there is projected need the council plans for new places in advance, working with Headteachers and governing bodies to agree expansion of schools in areas where we know there will be extra demand in the coming years. This includes expanding successful schools within their existing sites, or on to additional sites to meet local demand, as well as creating new schools in areas of development.

What is driving the need to consider new education provision at Glebe Farm?

The area of Glebe Farm is located in the South East of Milton Keynes and is part of the Strategic Land Allocation that proposes to deliver around 2,700 new homes. This significant development incorporates provision for two new primary schools and a secondary school; the first of which is planned to be delivered at Eagle Farm South and will open in September 2019 (St Mary's Wavendon CE Primary School). Overall an additional six forms of entry of primary provision and six forms of entry of secondary provision will be created in the local area. The South East area of Milton Keynes is currently served by two infant schools, one junior school, seven primary schools, one secondary school and two all through schools. A new school would eventually provide 90 places per year group from Year R to Year 6 and 180 places per year group from Year 7 to Year 11 with a total of 1530 places.

What is the proposal?

The proposal is to deliver a new all through provision offering 90 places from Year R to Year 6 and 180 places from Year 7 to year 11. In order to address the needs of the local population, it is likely that a new school would open initially with a reduced admission number with more places released gradually in line with growth from the new housing development. This would address the demands of the expected new homes on the Strategic Land Allocation development. This consultation is seeking views from stakeholders about this proposal and how the specification for the new school should look. The table below provides general information about the school provision required:

Proposed opening date	1 September 2022
Phase	All through Gender: Mixed Age Range: 2 – 16 years
Number of places	Total capacity: 1530 (with an additional 39 place nursery) Children per year group: 90 places in Years R to Year 6 and 180 places in Year 7 to Year 11
Catchment area	It is anticipated that the school will serve residents living in Glebe Farm for children in Year R to Year 6 and Glebe Farm and Eagle Farm for children in Year 7 to Year 11.

Next steps

This consultation provides all stakeholders with an opportunity to comment on the proposal for education provision at Glebe Farm. At the end of the consultation, officers will consider all comments made and feedback gathered will be used to finalise the local authority's specification for the new school if required. Should the process continue the specification for the new school will be published and a free school presumption competition will be launched in the autumn term of 2019. This will be open to multi academy trusts that are able to deliver high quality education and establish the school ready for opening in September 2022.

This consultation will end on 30 June 2019

How can I contribute to this consultation?

This consultation seeks views from all stakeholders including schools, parents and carers, local residents and any other interested parties. We are keen to hear as many views as possible about this proposal. Please respond by completing the online form or by email, stating your name, organisation, whether you are a parent or local resident and your comments to:

sufficiencyandaccess@milton-keynes.gov.uk

or in writing to Education Sufficiency, Milton Keynes Council, Civic Offices, 1 Saxon Gate East, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 3EJ.