

# Fairfield First School

Stourbridge Road  
Fairfield  
Bromsgrove  
Worcestershire  
B61 9LZ



**Headteacher: Mr Scott Smith**

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6th November 2018

Dear Parents and members of our local community,

## Increase in Pupil Admission Numbers (PAN) update

As you may be aware this time last year we were approached by Worcestershire County Council (WCC) to increase our Pupil Admission Number (PAN) from 23 to 30. This was to help with the severe lack of current school places across the town of Bromsgrove in particular year groups and to look to the future, with new houses been built at a rapid rate.

So as to gain the thoughts and opinions of everyone connected with Fairfield First we held an Informal Consultation alongside an information drop-in session. This consultation included as many stakeholders as possible:

- Staff
- Parents and families
- Neighbours and local residents
- Parish Council
- Fairfield Village Community Association

The results of this Informal Consultation were encouraging and it was decided by both our Governing Body and WCC to pursue the matter further and a Feasibility Study was carried out.

After a very long period of quiet, I am delighted to say that this opportunity has now taken a step forward, with a Formal Consultation being granted by WCC. This will consist of notices being displayed at school, within the village and in local press outlets. This consultation period will begin on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> November and finish on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December. The consultation documents will be available at:

- [WCC website](#)
- [Our school website](#)

Should this proposal be favourable it will then move forward to a formal planning process, this would include architects drawings and a planning application.

### What will it mean for Fairfield First?

If this proposal was to go ahead, we would hope to take 30 children from our September 2019 intake onwards and become a 'single form entry' school from September 2020. This would mean having 30 children of just one year group in each class, removing the need for our current split aged classes. This would immediately create approximately 7 places in each year group without actually increasing class sizes, in Years 1-4, beyond the current numbers (in the short term it may even make class sizes smaller). By moving to one class for each year group we would need to have an additional classroom built, at the expensive of WCC. During this project it has also being deemed advisable to replace our two temporary classrooms that have been in place for over 35 years! The proposal is to build three new classrooms – 2 to replace the mobiles and 1 for the 'new' class.

Several of our families previously expressed concern that the building of a new classroom would encroach on our school grounds and take away valuable learning spaces, including Forest School. This would not be the case as the new classrooms would be built on the field directly behind Craig Hall, the site currently rented by a local farmer until March 2019. This would mean that once the mobile classrooms were removed we would in fact have more playground space within our grounds as well as the opportunity to extend our Forest School area. It would also mean an increase in space for staff and visitors to park their vehicles on site, removing them from the village.



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It is also our hope that extended parking facilities would also assist Fairfield Villa FC, helping them to also take some of their vehicles away from the Stourbridge Road on match days.

Unfortunately, such an increase will undoubtedly create additional vehicles entering the village at 'drop off' and 'collection' times but by removing staff and visitor vehicles (this can be as many as 20 vehicles) and by working with the Parish Council, Fairfield Village Community Association, WCC and local residents it is hoped that any impact can be kept to an absolute minimum.

Our aim is always to ensure that we provide the best education, care and guidance and the best opportunities for our children and the community we serve. Fairfield First is a high-performing school, the talent and skills within our children and staff are the envy of many other schools, across the County and we are very conscious that any changes to our structure and organisation must ensure that we continue to provide the best possible education, delivering the highest standards for the children in our care, now and for the generations of pupils to come. It is also of the upmost importance to our staff, Governing Body and all stake holders for us to retain our small village school ethos and values which makes Fairfield such a special and unique place to be.

If you have any queries or concerns over this matter please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

Scott Smith  
Headteacher

