

SECTION A

Expansion of Winchcombe Abbey Church of England Primary School

To what extent do you agree or disagree to the expansion of Winchcombe Abbey Church of England Primary School? This could mean that from September 2021 there will be 60 children in Reception rather than 45.

To what extent do you agree or disagree with the proposal?

- Strongly agree Agree Neither Agree nor Disagree Disagree Strongly disagree

SECTION B

Comments

Please make any additional comments in the box below.

SECTION C

About You

Are you a Please tick all that apply

- Parent/carer with a child currently at Winchcombe Abbey CofE Primary School
 Parent/carer with a child currently at another local primary school
 Parent/carer with a pre-school child
 Governor
 School staff
 Local resident
 Member of a local church
 Other (please specify)

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.

Please return this form to:

Expansion Consultation at Winchcombe Abbey Church of England Primary School, Back Lane, Winchcombe, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL54 5PZ.

If you would like this booklet in another language, large print, Braille or Audiotape, please contact us on 01242 602447

Formal Consultation

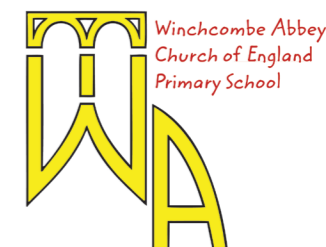
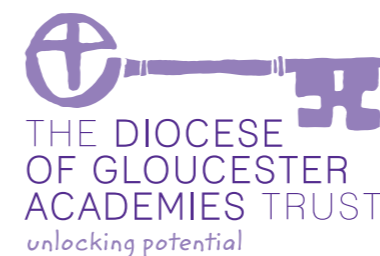
Proposal to expand Winchcombe Abbey Church of England Primary School and to increase the Reception intake by 15 places from September 2021.

What is proposed for Winchcombe Abbey Church of England Primary School?

The Diocese of Gloucester Academies Trust (DGAT) is formally seeking views on plans to expand Winchcombe Abbey Church of England Primary School as a result of increased demand for school places in the area.

The proposed expansion will include the addition of four classrooms, new toilets, a group room and an extension to the existing school hall and staff room. The expansion will include both a single and double storey build at the front of the school.

The proposed expansion will enable the school to increase its pupil admissions number for Reception aged children from 45 pupils to 60 from 2021.



Why is there a need to expand Winchcombe Abbey Church of England Primary School?

Gloucestershire County Council has identified a need to increase primary provision in the Winchcombe area due to a rise in the number of under 5's in the planning area. There are four new housing developments in the area that are expected to generate 15 additional primary school pupils by September 2021. In addition, in the longer term, there are plans for a total of 50 additional dwellings which will generate a need for further places. Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) anticipate that all other schools in the planning area will have a full Reception intake from 2021 onwards and, therefore, The Diocese of Gloucester Academies Trust are working alongside GCC to ensure that there are enough primary places locally to meet demand.

What will this mean for pupils and teachers?

Currently, pupils are taught in mixed age classes. Moving forward, the school will become a 2 form entry school, which will mean that there is no longer a need to teach pupils in mixed age classes.

Would this affect the admissions arrangements in the future?

Alongside the expansion, it is proposed that the pupil admission number for the school will increase from 45 to 60. The school is, therefore, currently undertaking a separate statutory consultation on its admissions arrangements for 2021. For more information regarding the admissions consultation, please visit: www.winchcombe-pri.gloucs.sch.uk or contact consultation@winchcombe-pri.gloucs.sch.uk

What happens next?

Action	Dates
Consultation closes	5pm on 4 February 2020
The governing body and DGAT consider the outcome of the consultation and whether to submit a Business Case to the Regional Schools' Commissioner in order to move forward with the proposed expansion	By 7 February 2020
The final decision is made on the proposed expansion by the Department for Education (DfE)	Spring 2020

How do I tell you my views?

You can give us your comments by completing the attached questionnaire. This should be returned to the school reception, or posted to:

Winchcombe Abbey Church of England
Primary School
Back Lane
Winchcombe
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL54 5PZ

You can also download a questionnaire from the following website: www.winchcombe-pri.gloucs.sch.uk/topic/key-information and submit your response electronically to consultation@winchcombe-pri.gloucs.sch.uk

Completed questionnaires must reach us by **5pm on 4 February 2020**.

We are committed to protecting personal information. All of your answers will be treated in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations.

Frequently Asked Questions

Why expand Winchcombe Abbey Church of England Primary School?

Gloucestershire County Council has identified a need to increase primary provision in the Winchcombe area due to a rise in the number of under 5's in the planning area. Gloucestershire County Council has a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient primary places in the area to meet the demand, and has, therefore, approached the Diocese of Gloucester Academies Trust (DGAT) to increase the capacity of Winchcombe Abbey Church of England Primary School from 2021.

Why is the proposal to expand an existing school and not to establish a new school?

The funding which is available is insufficient to provide a new school, but would support the development of Winchcombe Abbey Church of England Primary School to become a two form entry primary school avoiding, over time, the need for mixed-aged classes. Winchcombe Abbey is the only primary school in Winchcombe which has the physical capacity to expand.

What will this potential expansion mean for the pupil admission number?

Currently, the school has an admission number of 45 and an overall capacity of 315. The proposal is to permanently increase the admission number to the reception year of the school from 45 to 60 pupils for the September 2021 intake. This would not affect the size of the other year groups at that time. As the 2021 intake moves through the school, the overall capacity will increase each year, reaching a final total of 420 places by the 2027 intake. A separate consultation is currently underway with regard to the change in the Admissions Policy.

Why can't the extra pupils go to another school?

Schools in the local planning area are located on restricted sites and do not have the physical space to increase their capacity. Naturally, most parents want to be able to send their children to their local primary school.

How will the project be funded?

Any building work will be funded by through Gloucestershire County Council Basic Need Grant Funding.

Is there enough space on the site for this proposed expansion?

Yes. Whilst there are a number of constraints on the site, Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) has assessed the site and preliminary work has been done to ensure that sufficient classroom and outdoor space would be available should the proposals go ahead. This would be carried out without affecting the field area.

Will there be extra traffic?

Expanding a school will risk creating additional traffic. Currently, GCC and the Diocese of Gloucester Academies Trust are discussing with Tewkesbury Borough Council the potential use of a small number of parking spaces on the adjacent public carpark for staff parking. Highways will be consulted as part of the planning application process and will have the opportunity to make recommendations for improvements as part of the planning consent conditions.

How and when would any building work be carried out?

Any building work required would be carried out by contractors who are experienced in ensuring that there is as little disruption to the children's education as possible. As far as possible, the work would be scheduled to maximise the school holiday periods and to minimise disruption to the operation of the school. It is currently anticipated that, subject to the outcome of the consultation and planning application, the building work would commence in April 2020 and be completed August 2021.

Will this expansion affect my child's education?

The proposed expansion will not have any detrimental effect on the standard of education delivered. It will allow for additional hall space, toilets, classrooms and breakout spaces.