



Devonport
High School
For Boys

Proposal to expand
Devonport High School for Boys
Statutory Consultation Document

Consultation ends
9.00am on 3 July 2018

Headteacher: Mr D Roberts
Chair of Governors: Mrs C Bruce-Spencer

www.dhsb.org

Purpose of the consultation

Plymouth City Council is responsible for ensuring that there are sufficient school places in the city of Plymouth. There will be a shortfall of secondary places in the local area from 2019 and there is demand from parents within the city for more selective school places particularly with there being only 180 grammar places for boys compared to 240 for girls. Devonport High School for Boys has been working hard to increase access for disadvantaged pupils and has been working in partnership with local primary and secondary schools to improve education in the city.

Devonport High School for Boys Academy Trust wants to hear the views of the local community on:

- The proposed enlargement of Devonport High School for Boys by 1 Form Entry (FE) (30 places) starting in September 2020.

It is important that you make your views known by 9.00am on 3 July 2018.

Why are more school places needed?

The primary school population within Plymouth LA is currently experiencing a bulge in numbers. Six Basic Need expansion programmes were introduced in September 2011 and a further 14 projects (either permanent expansion or bulge classes) have come on board in order to accommodate the additional children. The children that were accommodated in September 2011 are due to move to secondary school in September 2018. The LA is currently in consultation with all Plymouth secondary schools on how it will accommodate these pupils once they begin to transfer to secondary phase; therefore the proposed expansion of 30 additional places at Devonport High School for Boys will help the city to accommodate its pupils. When the additional pupils from outside the Plymouth boundary who attend Plymouth secondary schools are factored in, the current Year 1 cohort is forecast to be the largest cohort to require secondary places within the next ten years; these pupils are due to join secondary school in 2023/24. Therefore the proposed expansion will enable the city to continue to offer the required number of places in order to allow for parental preference.

Devonport High School for Boys

Devonport High School for Boys is an oversubscribed and Ofsted recognised outstanding grammar school for boys aged 11-18 (and girls in the Sixth Form). Our vision, whatever your role in the school or personal ambition, is that 'Everyone Succeeds'.

The Published Admission Number (PAN) is the number of Year 7 places which are available to children starting their secondary school education. The PAN of the school has previously been set at 174 however, following a consultation on our

admission arrangements in 2016 the number of places increased to 180 prioritising six additional guaranteed places for Pupil Premium students. The school currently elects to organise our 180 students into six mixed ability tutor groups per year group. The proposed increase will mean that we will move towards an organisation of seven tutor groups per year group and our PAN will increase from 180 to 210. Over time this will increase the number of Year 7 to Year 11 students by a total of 150.

A high percentage of our students choose to stay on at school to undertake further education and therefore we anticipate the number of post-16 students will also increase. The current level of accommodation available at the school will not support this level of increase in student numbers and therefore additional capacity is required. We aim to finance the accommodation through part contribution and an application to the national Selective Schools Expansion Fund (SSEF).

How would the school improve?

The school has a terrace of four small cottages that are unable to be utilised or converted to modern teaching or admin spaces. Constructing a modern two storey building on this site consisting of eight new classroom spaces will provide an excellent opportunity to improve the facilities and accommodation for all our students within the existing footprint of the school.

The additional funding provided for additional students will be able to be invested in fulfilling our ambitions to work in partnership with other local schools, families and children in our community whilst providing further investment for our current school community.

How will the school grow?

The proposed building project at the school and increased PAN from 180 to 210 will enable the school to accommodate 30 additional Year 7 students from September 2020. The table below demonstrates the likely growth of the school if additional children are admitted to PAN.

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11
2019	180	180	180	180	180
2020	210	180	180	180	180
2021	210	210	180	180	180
2022	210	210	210	180	180
2023	210	210	210	210	180
2024	210	210	210	210	210

How will the proposed expansion affect the children currently on roll?

As outlined above, students currently on roll will benefit from improved accommodation and specialist facilities appropriate for the current curriculum. Some lessons take place in classrooms which are smaller than modern dimensions; the capacity to extend some accommodation will provide a better learning experience for students and a more energy-efficient, positive working environment for students and staff.

Additional students will also allow us to maintain a breadth of curriculum at Key Stage 4 and post-16 through an optimum number of students making option choices. Our curriculum offer is strong but the capacity to protect diversity at Key Stage 4 and post-16 will ensure that all aspects of the curriculum can thrive.

The additional funding will enable further investment in the resources of our school benefiting our students across all areas of the school community.

Finally we believe that the partnership plan outlined later in this document will provide excellent opportunities for our students to grow both academically and personally through collaboration with other schools and our community.

How will the proposed expansion benefit the city of Plymouth?

Fairer Access

At Devonport High School for Boys we have been working hard over the last few years to ensure that there is fairer access to our school for all young people and families in our community. The steps we have taken so far include:-

- Designing the 11+ test to be more accessible. Students are tested on basic Maths and English which is taught in their primary schools. For example the school removed the Non-Verbal Reasoning and Verbal Reasoning elements of the test papers. As a result it is not necessary to be tutored for these tests.
- Providing a free of charge familiarisation day. We don't charge families for our familiarisation day where children experience what the 11+ morning would be like including sitting example Maths and English tests. We also provide familiarisation and practice materials on our website which are free to download and use at home.
- Offering several additional support sessions with staff and senior students at the school during the last academic year for Pupil Premium students from local primary schools.
- Prioritising places for Pupil Premium students in the over subscription criteria (the waiting list) for admission to Year 7, in-year and the Sixth Form. Agreed for September 2018 entrance are additional guaranteed places for Pupil Premium students.

- Mitigating potential barriers to children from lower income backgrounds. For example by providing free transport, uniform, trips and extra-curricular activities and equipment.
- Working in partnership with local primary schools to support and collaborate on learning projects to help raise aspirations and their learning.

We would like to improve this further by:-

- Prioritising further places for pupils eligible for Pupil Premium by September 2020 and increasing the PAN by a further 30 places a year.

Partnership Plan

We are committed to working in partnership with all schools locally within the city. Over the last few years we have been working hard to collaborate and support all schools, colleges and higher education. The steps we have taken so far include:-

- Staff and student leaders working with primary schools to support and mentor students in key skills such as literacy, numeracy and IT.
- Delivering shared events and extra-curricular activities in sport, drama and music.
- Working with secondary schools to raise attainment through the Plymouth Learning Trust (PLT).
- Providing specific school to school support to a wide range of schools in a variety of areas to ensure that all children in Plymouth succeed.
- Designing and delivering a shared curriculum across the city.
- Coaching and mentoring staff in other schools to support their students.
- Supporting most able students to raise aspirations with regards to Oxbridge applications.
- Providing professional development and training days on particular areas of expertise.

We would like to improve this further by:-

- Building and improving our current commitment (as mentioned above) by enhancing this offer and sustaining successful partnerships.
- Supporting primary schools to raise aspirations and the potential for high attainment including with more disadvantaged students.
- Supporting children and families from more disadvantaged areas of the city to raise aspirations and provide opportunities for social mobility including forming partnerships with local business and industry.

City's Priorities

We are committed to supporting the city's priorities as part of the Plymouth Plan:

Plymouth Plan for Education

- Increase the proportion of pupils gaining a good GCSE in English and maths to be in line with or exceed national average.
- Reduce the gaps in attainment between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils by 50 per cent at the end of Key Stage 4.
- Raise the attainment of boys by 10 per cent by the end of Key Stage 4.

Skills and Employability

- Strengthen partnerships between the city's education institutions, communities and employers to match skill levels with demand. Particularly developing in the areas of STEM and accessing core skills including English, maths and ICT.
- Work in partnership with the Employment and Skills Board to improve economic strength and growth.

How do I make my views known?

Please send your views by 9.00am on 3 July 2018 to

- consultation@dhsb.org
- School Places Consultation
Devonport High School for Boys
Paradise Road
Plymouth
PL1 5QP
- Attend the public consultation session at Devonport High School for Boys on Monday 25 June 2018 at 5:30pm in the Edgumbe Theatre at Devonport High School for Boys.

All the views received will be considered by Devonport High School for Boys Academy Trust.