

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

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TO PARENTS AND CARERS OF PUPILS IN
SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN PHASE 3

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Date: 6 November 2009

Letter B

Dear Parents and Carers

PROPOSALS TO INCREASE THE CAPACITY OF BELLE VUE BOYS SCHOOL, BELLE VUE GIRLS SCHOOL, QUEENSBURY SCHOOL CARLTON BOLLING SCHOOL AND THORNTON GRAMMAR SCHOOL, BRADFORD

What is being proposed and why

You may be aware that under Phase 3 of the Building Schools for the Future the Council is proposing to refurbish, remodel and redevelop the above schools and your child currently attends one of them.

The proposed additional accommodation in each of the above schools would mean that their physical capacity would increase. The number of pupils in the Bradford district are projected to rise significantly in the next 10 years.

Although admission numbers to schools are decided on an annual basis the proposed enlargements would enable higher admission numbers to be set in the future enabling a larger pupil intake at each of the schools. The enlargements would also enable each of the schools to cater for additional sixth form pupils which will increase when the changes to the school leaving date come into effect.

The Consultation

Earlier this year the Council consulted on the various options for providing additional and refurbished accommodation at each of the above schools. The consultation focussed mainly on the building and site issues. There is a formal process for enlarging schools and before that can happen consultation specifically on the proposed changes to increase the capacity must take place with those who may be affected by the changes.

Therefore before making a decision to go ahead the Council is seeking the views of the parents and pupils who may be affected by the proposal to increase the capacity of the schools set out in the table overleaf.

Details of how you can make your views known are set out at the bottom of this letter.

School	Current Capacity	Proposed Capacity	Current Admission	Maximum Admission Number	Current 6th Form Number	Proposed New 6th Form
Belle Vue Boys	727	1080	600	900	99	180
Belle Vue Girls	1052	1570	900	1200	206	370
Queensbury	1371	1500	1200	1350	123	150
Carlton Bolling	1526	1800	1200	1500	317	300
Thornton	1718	2150	1350	1650	215	500

The Consultation Process

The consultation will run from Wednesday 11th November to Friday 11th December 2009.

Further details on the proposed enlargements and the BSF Programme is available on the following website:
http://www.bradford.gov.uk/education_and_skills/schools/bsf/consultation.htm

Any comments you have on the enlargement proposals and your responses should be marked "BSF Proposals Consultation" and sent to Jan Digby at City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, Building Schools for the Future, 4th Floor, Merchants House, Peckover Street, Bradford BD1 5BD

Or e-mail: jan.digby@bradford.gov.uk. Any queries on the proposals should be sent to that address. All responses to the consultation should be received by **Friday 11 December 2009**.

What will happen next

The responses will then be considered by the Council and a decision made whether or not to go ahead with the changes to the capacity as proposed. If a decision is made to go ahead, formal notices would be published, during the Spring Term 2010. There would then be a four week statutory objection period during which formal representations could be made. A final decision on the proposals would then be made by the Council at the end of that period.

Assuming a decision is made to go ahead with the enlargements as proposed, and the Council were to approve proposals then the Building Programme would commence; the target completion dates for each of these schools would be 2012. This would not necessarily mean that any of the schools' admission numbers would increase to the maximum from that date, as these are determined on an annual basis. Any increased capacity would however enable higher admission numbers to be set in the future to accommodate projected increases in pupil numbers.

Yours sincerely



Cindy Peek
Deputy Director for Children and Young People