



ST JAMES' CHURCH OF ENGLAND  
VOLUNTARY AIDED JUNIOR SCHOOL,  
BARROW-IN-FURNESS

CONSULTATION ON OUR NEW SCHOOL  
AND PROPOSED EXPANSION ON BEHALF  
OF THE GOVERNING BODY

**This consultation runs from Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2012  
until the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2013.**

## **THE PROPOSAL**

The reason for this consultation is because the governing body are proposing to expand the school by increasing the capacity from 180 to 240 and the admission number from 54 to 60. This is to ensure that the school will have enough places to serve our local catchment into the future. The governors of the school want to hear your views. If you want any other information please contact the Headteacher, Angela Rawlinson 01229 833610 or at [office@stjamesjun-bif.cumbris.sch.uk](mailto:office@stjamesjun-bif.cumbris.sch.uk)

This paper is aimed at parents, staff, governors, and everyone else with an interest or stake in primary education in the area. We will be consulting local schools, the Local Authority, the Diocese, the PCC, trade unions, our MP, neighbours in our local community and the children at our school.

We were delighted in the summer to hear that our school had been accepted into the government's Priority School Building Programme.

The Diocese of Carlisle was invited to make a bid on the school's behalf. This was because the school buildings are very old, have significant structural and maintenance problems and were really not fit for purpose in educating children. The government agreed with us and accepted that the best solution is to build a new school.

Since the announcement we have been working very hard to make sure we get the facilities and resources to make our school even more special to the local community. The new school buildings will be built on the school site and we look forward to sharing the plans soon with the local community

Our vision for the future is as follows:

***St James' CE Junior School is a high achieving school that aspires to be outstanding. Our vision for the pupils is to provide a Christian Learning Environment fit for 21<sup>st</sup> Century learning, one that is safe, secure, stimulating, a centre of excellence that provides opportunities for everyone to fulfil their potential.***

We are required to consult because of the proposed increase in the capacity of the school to 240 as part of the scheme.

The County Council assess the capacity of the school and there is some flexibility in which areas and rooms are used to calculate the number of children we can take. Only a few years ago the capacity was assessed as 216 but the accommodation has remained the same. Our proposal to increase the capacity in reality is not adding much extra space to what we currently have. The admission number will rise from 54 to 60. There are currently 173 children on roll.

Year group	Number on roll
3	<b>49</b>
4	<b>51</b>
5	<b>39</b>
6	<b>34</b>

Last year there were 160 and the year before that 155. As you can see the numbers are beginning to rise. The County Council's own forecasts show our intake rising to over 50 in the next few years (by September 2016).

In addition to this we have to take account of new housing in our area. Sixty four houses are being constructed at St James' Gardens, on Holker Street. Many of these houses will be family homes. There may be other planning permissions in the near future.

This is likely to raise the required intake further. At this point we would be able to fund two classes in each year group. In building new classrooms it is sensible to build classrooms to the national standard that can take 30 pupils. As we are proposing to build 8 classrooms this gives a nominal capacity of 240.

The Diocese of Carlisle and the government agree with our assumptions and they have agreed to fund the new building for 8 classrooms.

We currently anticipate that the new school will be ready by March 2015 and the proposed admission number will increase from 54 to 60 from September 2015.

### **WILL ANYTHING ELSE CHANGE?**

We hope to have some fantastic new buildings through the Priority Schools Building Programme and an exciting new environment and resource for the local community. The new facilities will help us on our journey to be an outstanding school but we will still be St James' and our status as a church school will not change. The leadership and management arrangements will stay the same. Our aim is to serve our local community and apart from changes in the admission number the school catchment area and admission arrangements will remain the same.

### **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?**

**This consultation runs until the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2013.**

At the end of the consultation the governing body will meet to consider the responses. They will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. If they decide to proceed, a statutory notice will be published, which will appear outside the school, in its local vicinity and in the local press. Everybody then has another four weeks to make further representations, this time to the County Council. The County Council Cabinet Members will meet in March to reach a decision on the proposal.

### **PLEASE RESPOND**

We would be delighted to hear what you think about our proposals. Please see overleaf to find out how to respond.

Please return this sheet to;

Clerk to Governors  
St James' CE Junior School  
Blake Street  
Barrow-in-Furness  
LA14 1 NY

Or email electronic version to [office@stjamesjun-bif.cumbria.sch.uk](mailto:office@stjamesjun-bif.cumbria.sch.uk)

By: **28<sup>th</sup> January 2013**

**I / We                    do / do not (circle as appropriate)**

**Support the proposed expansion of St James' Church of England Junior School to 240 places.**

**Comments**

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date**

**Position (e.g. parent, staff, other school etc)** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address including post code**