

Environment and Community Services • School Organisation • Parkhouse Building
Kingmoor Business Park • Carlisle • CA6 4SJ
T: 01228 226013 • E: school.organisation@cumbria.gov.uk

Date: 8 October 2018

Consultation on the potential expansion of Thursby Primary School

Cumbria County Council is consulting on the potential expansion of Thursby Primary School through the addition of a single classroom and would be interested to hear your views before making any final decisions. This consultation starts on Monday 8 October 2018 and will end on Friday 16 November 2018.

Recent housing development at Matty Lonning in Thursby will see 69 houses added to the village, which in turn will be likely to increase the population of primary aged children in the school catchment area by around 17 children.

Thursby Primary School currently has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 15 and has regularly admitted up to that number of children in recent years. With 7 year groups (Reception up to Year 6) this means that the school currently has a total capacity of 105 (7 x 15). The number of children in the school in the January 2018 pupil census was 104, leaving only one place vacant and projections for the school over the next few years show the same picture.

In areas where it looks likely that new housing is going to lead to a shortage of school places, the county council is able to put forward a case to the local planning authority for a contribution towards providing more places at the affected school, or transport to the next nearest school with places available.

Providing extra space at Thursby Primary School will mean building a new classroom to accommodate 30 additional children. This would raise the overall school capacity by more than 25% ($30/105 = 28.6\%$), which is classed as a 'significant enlargement', and means that the county council cannot build the classroom without first consulting parents on the change. All responses will be considered before a decision is taken.

If the proposal proceeds, we hope to provide the classroom in time for the start of the new school year in September 2019. This would mean some building work taking place whilst children are in school, but the construction compound will be kept separate from school life, and disruption will be kept to a minimum. It is intended that the bulk of the work will take place during school holidays.

The project will also provide the opportunity to construct a new main entrance for the school, and relocate the school office to improve access and safeguarding.

If you would like to see proposed elevations and location of the new classroom, these are available in school, or on the county council's website at

www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/school-organisation

If you have any questions, please contact Andy Smart, School Places Manager on 07881 264508 or, preferably, via e-mail at andy.smart@cumbria.gov.uk

Please let us know what you think using the response form overleaf. The Cabinet will take account of all views submitted by the closing date before making any final decision.

Thank you.

Options

- Option 1 – The county council should provide an additional classroom at Thursby School.
- Option 2 – The county council should not provide an additional classroom at Thursby School.

If you have any comments, please use the space below to provide them. Please return this form to Thursby Primary School by **Friday 16 November 2018** so that your views can be considered before any changes are made.

Additional Comments.