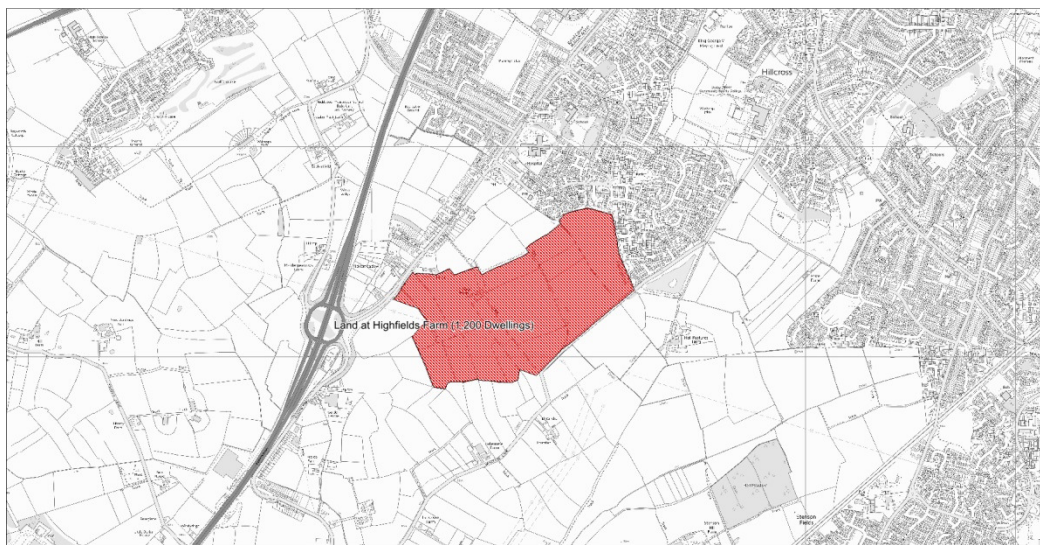


Derbyshire County Council

Consultation on the Provision of a New Primary School in the Highfields Farm Area

Context

In 2009, South Derbyshire District planners considered an application for 1,200 new houses at Highfields Farm, Findern in Derbyshire. This application was approved by a Planning Inspector at Public Inquiry. There is a S106 Agreement associated with the planning application which identifies the developer's commitments to deliver infrastructure for the area.



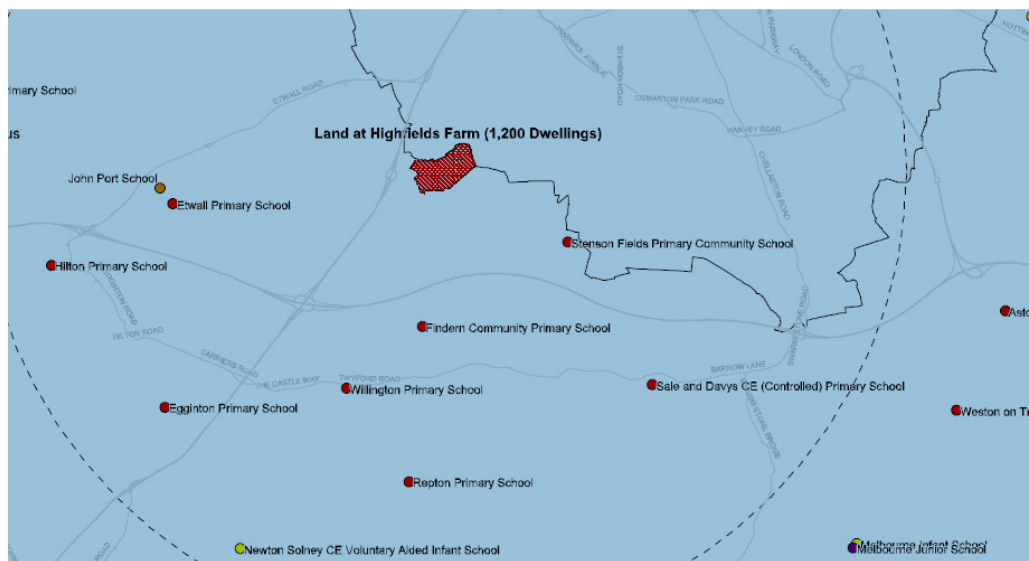
Housing Development at Highfields Farm

The number of houses being proposed at Highfields Farm would indicate a potential demand for 240 primary-aged pupil places, 180 secondary-aged pupil places, and 72 post-16 pupil places. The developer of the site at Highfields Farm has agreed to make available land and contribute towards the cost of building a new primary school to serve the new housing development. The developer is making a contribution towards the provision of secondary places for pupils from this development based on the number of secondary and post-16 pupils generated by the development, less the available space in the normal area secondary school using the normal multiplier of £17,176.17 per secondary pupil and £18,627.90 per post-16 pupil.

Housebuilding has started on site and 130 houses have been delivered to date. The projected number of houses and children over the next 5 years are as follows:

Highfields Farm	Year of completion					
	17/18	18/19	19/20	18/19	19/20	20/21
Houses	130	130	130	130	130	130
Pupils	26	26	26	26	26	26
cumulative pupils	26	52	78	104	130	156

Primary School Provision in the Findern area



Primary Schools in the Highfields Farm Area

School	PAN	Capacity	Number on Roll	Forecast for 2022
Newton Solney Infant School	23	69	60	66
Eggington Primary School	10	70	68	52
Etwell Primary School	40	280	279	279
Findern Primary School	30	210	183	217
Hilton Primary	110	770	792	718
Repton Primary	30	248	233	228
Sale and Davys Primary School	15	105	113	112
Stenson Fields Primary School	40	340	359	402
Willington Primary School	30	210	214	210

Resident Population Data for the Findern Normal Area

Age 2	Age 3	Age 4	Age 5	Age 6	Age 7	Age 8	Age 9	Age 10	Age 11
15	16	18	17	12	22	17	16	19	16

The normal area of the school would be the Highfields Farm development, but the detailed admissions arrangements would be decided by the Academy Sponsor chosen to operate the school.

Design

The design of the new primary school would be to Building Bulletin 103, the official guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on the facilities to be built for all schools. Derbyshire County Council is responsible for the design and will ensure that the design meets all requirements and is fit for purpose.

Process and Timescale

The process to deliver a new primary school is a complex one with a variety of deadlines to meet for information, consultation and action. The Education and Inspections Act 2006 requires any Local Authority to seek proposals for the establishment of a Free School/ Academy if it thinks a new school needs to be established in its area. The Local Authority manages the process and works with the sponsor and the developer to establish the new provision. The timescale for this process would follow this indicative calendar –

Consultation	September - November 2017
Cabinet approval on whether to launch the formal process	Cabinet Meeting January 2018
The Authority must notify the Secretary of State of its plans to seek proposals for a new school as soon as the need for a new school has been agreed.	
Advertise for proposals for a new school and await responses	February 2018

Authority evaluation of proposals	April/May 2018
Authority recommendation of a proposal to the DfE	July 2018
DfE evaluation of proposals and notification of successful promoter	September 2018
Conclusion of funding agreement	December 2018

Issues for Consultation

There is a need to consider the issues arising from the proposed housing development and its impact on the local community and existing school(s). Derbyshire County Council would welcome your views on the principle of providing the primary school places that are required in a new primary school at Highfields Farm.

Consultation Questions

1. Do you agree that a new school is required to serve the development at Highfields Farm?
2. Do you agree that the Authority seek to open the new school in September 2019 or as soon as possible afterwards?
3. Do you have any other comments to make on this proposal?

Any comments in response to this consultation should be sent by 2 November 2017 to:–

Jane Parfremment, Strategic Director for Children's Services, Ref. DEV/SP
Children's Services Development Team
Chatsworth Hall
Chesterfield Road
MATLOCK
Derbyshire
DE4 3FW

Telephone Sue Pegg on 01629 536040 (Direct line) or E-mail
sue.pegg@derbyshire.gov.uk

The outcome of this initial consultation will be reported to Elected Members as detailed in the timetable above, and Cabinet will make a decision on whether to progress the proposal or not.

On-going Consultation

If Elected Members decide to proceed with the proposal for a new primary school, there will be further consultation on the proposal to address the normal area (catchment area) of the new primary school, the stages of opening a new school, and how the new school would work alongside the existing schools – amongst other issues. Under the Education and Inspections Act 2006, the presumption is that any new school that is opened would be a Free School / Academy. The Local Authority would work to appoint a sponsor for the school and with that sponsor to establish the design and ethos of the new provision.