

Consultation on the proposed enlargement of Rose Bridge Academy



Introduction

We are writing to tell you about the proposal to enlarge Rose Bridge Academy so that it admits 180 children each year with effect from September 2019 instead of 150 as it does now. We propose to extend the school to do this.

This booklet contains information about Rose Bridge Academy and other secondary schools in the area. It explains the predicted demand for secondary school places and why we want to permanently enlarge Rose Bridge Academy.

Schools and current pupil numbers

School	Admission number	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Total
Rose Bridge Academy	150	158	139	126	103	117	643
Hindley High School	187	193	174	177	163	166	873

The number of children who are expected to be admitted to both schools in September 2017 are:

- Rose Bridge Academy 153
- Hindley High School 192

There are more children than the current admission number as both schools are popular and some parents have been successful in securing school places through the admission appeals process.

Future pupil numbers in the area

The local authority calculates the number of secondary school places that will be required. Over the last few years, due to a rise in the birth rate, there has been an increase in the number of children entering primary schools and this increase will be felt in the secondary school sector. Projections show there will be an increased demand for places at Rose Bridge Academy.

Entry to secondary school	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Projected number of first preferences for Rose Bridge Academy	169	166	173	171

From 2019, the local authority have projected that there will be more children than places and therefore there is the need to make extra places available.

Entry to secondary school	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23
Projected number of secondary school places needed*	341	373	375	376	377
Number of places currently available	337	337	337	337	337
Difference	-4	-36	-38	-39	-40

*across Hindley and Ince

Our proposal

We are proposing to increase the admission number of Rose Bridge Academy from 150 to 180 on a permanent basis from 1 September 2019.

The reasons why we are proposing to extend Rose Bridge Academy are:

- Educational standards at the school are good
- The school is popular with parents and is attracting increasing numbers of applications
- The school is in the area where the places are required
- It is possible to build a suitable extension on the school site

In order to accommodate the extra 30 children per year group, we will extend the school building to provide additional classrooms and other teaching and staff spaces.

We do not intend to change the admission arrangements that are already in place. You can find out about our admission arrangements on our website at:

www.rosebridgeacademy.co.uk

What changes will be made to enlarge the school

To accommodate the additional children we are proposing the construction of a two storey teaching block comprising of 8 new classrooms, replacing 3 existing poor quality small classrooms and an old mobile classroom. The new block will incorporate a new entrance area and passenger lift enabling disabled access to the school's first floor classrooms. The phasing of the work will be managed to minimise any disruption to the operation of the school during construction of the new building.

What this means for you and your child

The amount of funding schools receive depends mainly on how many children there are on roll. Therefore, a larger school can employ more staff and class sizes can remain the same as they currently are. More staff also means that the school can use its staffing more flexibly and that it can employ more specialist teachers. The headteacher and governors will decide on class organisation in the enlarged school.

This will create one more teaching group in each year group which will allow for additional staffing and increase the flexibility of the curriculum (more choice for KS4 students). Teacher / pupil ratio will remain the same and the school will reach its maximum number in 2022.

Consultation process

We will hold meetings to provide more details about the proposal and to answer any questions you have.

Meeting	Date, time and venue	Who should attend
Meeting for staff	Date: 20 th June 2017 Time: 3.00 pm Venue: Rose Bridge Academy	All staff of Rose Bridge Academy

Open consultation sessions	Date: 26 th June 2017 Time: 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm Venue: Rose Bridge Academy	These sessions are open to everyone but especially the parents of pupils attending Rose Bridge Academy. If you wish to attend one of these sessions, please contact Rose Bridge Academy either in person or by phone on 01942 202580 and you will be allocated a time to attend.
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The consultation process

This is an initial consultation of the proposal to enlarge Rose Bridge Academy with effect from 2019. The information provided in this booklet and at the consultation sessions should be enough to enable people to form an initial view on the proposal. However, at this stage we have not worked out every detail of the proposal as we need to listen to your views and concerns so that the detailed proposals which we make later in the process can take these into account.

We are sorry that due to the volume of responses we receive when consulting on proposals for schools we will not be able to acknowledge written responses nor enter into correspondence with interested parties during or after the consultation period. It is important to attend the relevant consultation event if you require clarification or more information on the proposal. We will post any relevant frequently asked questions (FAQs) with answers on our website at:

www.rosebridgeacademy.co.uk

We will send you a hard copy of the FAQs if you request one.

This consultation is primarily concerned with the educational elements of the proposal to enlarge Rose Bridge Academy. Residents and members of the community will be consulted on the proposed enlargement of the school as part of the planning application process, which will take place later, and their views will be reported back to the council.

Next steps

We must follow strict legal procedures to enlarge a school. The timetable below shows the periods of consultation and dates when decisions are expected to be made. If you make your views known outside these periods, or in any other way than described, they cannot be taken into account.

Event	Dates
Consultation – during this time you can make your views known by <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • attending the open consultation sessions (notes will be taken) • writing to or emailing the school at Mrs J Jones Rose Bridge Academy Holt St Ince in Makerfield Wigan WN1 3HD Email: enquiries@rosebridgeacademy.co.uk	20 th June – 11 th July 2017

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completing the response form at the end of this booklet 	
Consideration of the responses: The Local Academy Board / Trust will consider all responses to the consultation.	11 th July 2017
The Regional Schools Commissioner makes the final decision on the proposal*	Within 3 months of proposal
If approved, school is enlarged	1 September 2019

Please note the timetable may alter. The Local Academy Board of Rose Bridge Academy will be able to tell you if this happens and let you know the new dates we are working towards.

Circulation list

We are consulting the following:

- Parents and prospective parents of children attending Rose Bridge Academy
- Pupils at Rose Bridge Academy
- Staff of Rose Bridge Academy
- The Local Authority
- Diocesan authorities
- Neighbouring primary and secondary schools
- Trade Unions and Professional Associations
- Elected Members (councillors)
- The local Member of Parliament
- The local community (via web site, placing of document in local community settings)
- Voluntary groups that use the school premises

Address for correspondence

Mrs J Jones
 Rose Bridge Academy
 Holt St
 Ince in Makerfield
 Wigan
 WN1 3HD

Phone: 01942 510712

Email: enquiries@rosebridgeacademy.co.uk

Proposal for Rose Bridge Academy

Please read the booklet carefully before making your response below. Please place an **X** in the box that most closely describes your views.

a) Do you think that the booklet clearly explains what we intend to do at Rose Bridge Academy?

Yes

No

b) Do you understand how and when to make your views known?

Yes

No

c) Do you think that we should continue with the proposals for Rose Bridge Academy?

Yes

No

d) If you think that we should **NOT** continue with these proposals please state below why you think this is:

e) If you think that we **SHOULD** continue with these proposals please state below why you think this is:

f) Is there anything else you want to comment about or make us aware of in relation to this proposal?:

6. Please tell us who you are:

- a) A parent of a child who will be attending Rose Bridge Academy:
- b) A parent or guardian of a child attending Rose Bridge Academy:
- c) A member of staff at Rose Bridge Academy:
- d) A member of staff at another school (please state):
- e) A governor at another school (please state):
- f) A member of the community:
- g) Other:

Please provide your name and address below (this information is for identification purposes only and will not be shared beyond the council):

Please return your completed form no later than **Tuesday 11th July 2017** to:
Mrs J Jones
Rose Bridge Academy
Holt St
Ince in Makerfield
Wigan
WN1 3HD