

## **EDUCATION**

### CONTENT

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Consultation with and involvement of the local community
- 3 Additional matters
- 4 Aims
- 5 Acknowledgements and References

## **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 Education premises have been in regular use within the Parish for over 150 years. The National School was opened in 1855.
- 1.2 Botley Church of England (Controlled) Primary School receives funding support from Hampshire Local Education Authority. Ownership within the School site is shared between the Diocese of Portsmouth and Winchester and Hampshire County Council.
- 1.3 In January 2019, 363 pupils between the ages of rising 5 to 11 were on roll. On average 25% of pupils come from out of catchment homes. Before the start of the 2019 Autumn Term it is planned to make additional pupil places available by the addition of two class bases. These additional places will accommodate bulge year groups that are passing through the school and provide space for any additional pupil numbers in the future.
- 1.4 In 2010 an Ofsted report judged that the Overall Effectiveness of the Botley Primary School was Outstanding. The Report also judged that the capacity for sustained improvement at the Botley Primary School as Outstanding.
- 1.5 Statutory Assessment Test results for 2016 put the Botley Primary School in the top 3% of the country and the School continues to produce consistently high pupil outcomes.
- 1.6 Links with the Church are strong, and the school has long been seen as integral to the feeling of community within the Parish.
- 1.7 The majority of primary age pupils living in Western Botley (south of the Maypole roundabout) attend the Freegrounds Infant School, the Freegrounds Junior School and the Kings Copse Primary School (all sited in Hedge End). In 2019 an additional 105 primary places will be made available at the Kings Copse Primary School.
- 1.8 The Woodhill Preparatory School, a private school founded in 1969, was situated close to the centre of the Parish. The School enrolled boys and girls between the ages of 2 and 11 years. Sadly, the School closed in September 2019, because of economic pressures. Botley Parish Council would expect to be consulted in respect of any future development of the school site.
- 1.9 There is one Pre-school, the Alphabets Pre-School, located within the Parish that offer Early Years education to children aged 2years 6 months to school age.

## Education Paper

- 1.10 To receive education at Secondary level children travel to school beyond the Botley Parish boundary. The majority of children living within the Parish of Secondary School age attend the Wildern Academy in Hedge End.
- 1.11 Students who are 16+ wishing to receive A-level and equivalent education attend Colleges beyond the Parish boundary. Most students attend a College in either Eastleigh, Winchester, Southampton or Fareham.
- 1.12 Manor Farm, situated within the Manor Farm Country Park, provides facilities for educational visits and family outings. Botley Parish has a rich rural and farming heritage which should remain available for young people to experience whenever and wherever possible.
- 1.13 The Queen Elizabeth Centre for the disabled situated within the Manor Farm Country Park provides activity opportunities for people with additional needs.
- 1.14 Future growth of the Parish will require extra provision for Primary age pupils. There is a new Boorley Park Free Primary school, with a pupil intake number of 60, sponsored by Wildern Multi-Academy Trust. The initial intake started with Reception age pupils when the School opened in November 2019. There will be the capacity on the Boorley Park Primary School site for pupil capacity to be increased.
- 1.15 An 81-place stand-alone separately managed Nursery School is due to be built alongside the new Boorley Park Primary School site. Planning permission (reference F/19/85348) was granted on 26 May 2020. This Nursery is essential for the younger children of the new residents in the expanding Boorley Park development and some of the more obvious problems that may be encountered until the Nursery opens are:
- a Young children will have to go outside the Boorley Park development to reach the nearest Nursery or Play School;
  - b There will be increased traffic on the local roads;
  - c Families may be pulled in different directions to deliver and collect children from schools in different more distant locations; and
  - d The current Nurseries and Play Schools will rapidly become overloaded.
- 1.16 Included in The Hampshire School Places Plan 2018-2022, as being identified as a priority arising out of new development proposals in the emerging Eastleigh Borough Local Plan, is provision by 2022 for a Boorley Gardens 1½ Form Entry new Primary Academy.
- 1.17 In February 2019 planning permission for housing developments west of Woodhouse Lane and north of Winchester Street, Botley was granted to Hampshire County Council. In February 2019 HCC stated that the new 7-form Secondary School (Deer Park) on the Woodhouse Lane site would be

## Education Paper

the first element to be developed, ready to provide additional places before the development of the new housing. The Woodhouse Lane development in Hedge End but borders Botley Parish along Woodhouse Lane.

- 1.18 Construction of Deer Park Secondary School is underway with a planned opening date of December 2021. The first entry will be 120 Year 7 students and growing year on year to its full capacity of 1,050 students by 2027. There is potential for further expansion to 9-Form entry with 1,350 students.
- 1.19 Deer Park Secondary School will be part of the Wildern Multi-Academy Trust and is expected to be the main feeder school as pupils move on from Botley Primary School.
- 1.20 It is reasonable to expect that the Coronavirus pandemic will have an impact on the delivery of education and learning opportunities to pupils and students. The likely impact is that lessons, lectures and other educational matters will be sent via the internet direct to pupils, students and parents in their homes, which will require fast, reliable high-speed digital connectivity.
- 1.21 In relation to increased requirements for the use of computers at home it will be necessary for Hampshire County Council as the provider of education services locally to ensure that appropriate provision is made for those who have no access to the required equipment.

## **2 Consultation with and involvement of the local community**

- 2.1 The 2016 Botley Parish Neighbourhood Plan survey highlighted that:
- a 95% of responses showed interest/ concern about education - 80% very interested/concerned;
  - b 95% of responses believed that schools were adequate or better - 80% good or better;
  - c 80% of responses concerned about lack of school places - 40% quite or very concerned; and
  - d 75% of responses concerned about lack of childcare places - 30% very concerned.
- 2.2 Recent activity to raise £30,000 (now raised) for repairing and maintaining the swimming pool at the Botley Primary School is regarded as demonstrating the inter-generational concern for the School and its activities across the community matched by a desire to maintain the relationship between families, education and village facilities.
- 2.3 The Botley Primary School has an active Governing Body. Membership of the governing body is representative of the local community with members actively involved in discussions as to how best to meet the educational needs of the Parish community as a whole. Also, the Botley Primary School

has an active Parent Teacher Association (Friends of Botley School), which is a registered charity carrying out a significant level of fund raising and other events for the benefit of the School.

2.4 Wherever possible it is expected that there will be members of the local community participating as School Governors or as Trustee Board members.

2.5 Local Voluntary Education Groups

a Hamble Valley U3A (University of the Third Age). Covers the south-eastern villages of Eastleigh Borough near the Hamble River comprising West End, Botley, Bursledon, Hamble, Netley and Hound. U3A offers a lively and friendly welcome and creative activities. Group meetings take place at St Luke's Church, Hedge End.

<https://u3asites.org.uk/hamblevalley/welcome>

b Botley, Curdrige & Durley History Society. The Society aims to encourage an interest in local history and to collect, record and preserve items of local interest. Meetings are held in the Diamond Jubilee Hall at the Botley Centre.

<https://www.botley.com/history-society>

c The Probus Club of Hamble Valley. A club for retired men in the Hamble Valley to meet for a chat, a coffee to listen to a variety of interesting talks. Meet at the Diamond Jubilee Hall at Botley Centre.

<https://botley.com/probus-club-of-hamble-valley>

d Hilliers Garden Centre. Organise a variety of inspiring events, talks and workshops that can provide practical tips, creative ideas and hands-on-help. Workshops can have an attendance fee.

<https://www.hillier.co.uk/events/>

e There are many other Clubs and Societies in Botley that have some educational aspect and details of these are in the Botley Directory.

<https://botley.com/localinfo/clubs-societies>

### **3 Additional matters**

3.1 Revised housing allocations within the emerging Eastleigh Borough Local Plan 2016-2036 should seek to mitigate the impact of any development on any children or students resident within Botley Parish in respect of pre-school care, school and college places plus special needs provision whilst also seeking contributions from developers as required.

3.2 It is estimated that the proposed Winchester Street Development (Uplands Farm) will generate a total of 98 additional Primary age pupils and an additional 68 Secondary age students. These estimates are based on a figure of 0.3 Primary age pupils and 0.21 Secondary pupils from each eligible new dwelling. The estimates are derived by conducting demographic surveys of developments completed within Hampshire and

## Education Paper

calculating the average number of Primary and Secondary age children from these developments. Overall estimated pupil numbers based on the present permitted housing developments will need to be revised if any additional permitted development is granted in the future within Botley Parish. It will be essential that school places for any new pupil numbers generated by additional development are available within the immediate locality.

- 3.3 That any organisation or educational facility from outside the Parish appointed to run a publicly funded school or educational facility within the Parish should communicate and liaise in a professional manner with the local community including the Parish Council and other relevant stakeholders.
- 3.4 Decisions to grant permission for new development within the Parish should at least balance the need for additional housing and the aspirations of private developers against the educational needs and life chances of young people, children and families within the Parish of Botley.
- 3.5 Wherever possible additional school facilities should be an integral part of the local community and consideration of community use of these facilities should always be part of the planning process. Community use of school facilities will need governors/sponsors approval and be in keeping with safeguarding requirements. The Wildern Multi-Academy Trust actively encourages community links and community involvement.
- 3.6 High levels of traffic that impact on raise road safety and air pollution remain a concern for staff, the Governing Body, parents and pupils of the Botley Primary School. The Pedestrian Crossing has raised road safety issues mostly caused by frustrated motorists. Parking at the start and end of the day is an issue. Parking issues may also need to be addressed on Botley Park as pupil numbers at the new Primary School and Nursery grow.
- 3.7 Whilst it is expected that the opening of the Botley Bypass together with appropriate traffic control measures will reduce vehicle movements through Botley and past the Botley Primary School monitoring of air pollution in this area must continue.
- 3.8 Safe access for Secondary age pupils who are resident on new developments in Boorley Green to and from the proposed new Deer Park Secondary School is a concern. In this respect a footbridge across the railway line from Boorley Gardens to the Deer Park site has support within the local community.
- 3.9 Opportunities for adult education are available locally but beyond the Parish boundary in Eastleigh, Fareham and Southampton. Future provision for training and apprentice opportunities, particularly for young people, would be of benefit to the local community.

3.10 An effective local Library Service run by Hampshire County Council is an important part of both School, College and Adult education. Although it would be much appreciated to have a fixed site directly managed or supported HCC Library within Botley Parish this is clearly unlikely to happen. However, we note with dismay the reduction in the HCC Library Service that will reduce the effectiveness of Hedge End Library.

3.11 With the current increase in the number of residents in Boorley Green and the future increase from the completion of Boorley Park and from Boorley Gardens and considering the distance of these residents from Hedge End Library Hampshire County Council should be urged either to restart the Mobile Library Service in Botley Parish or create a satellite unattended or volunteer run Community Library in the Boorley Green Community Centre.

#### **4 Aims**

- a Maintain a community wide approach to primary education within the Parish with new schools working closely with existing provision to retain outstanding delivery and equal opportunities for all children.
- b Work with appropriate Agencies to allow multi-agency input to support the physical, emotional, social and education development of children and young people within the Parish, so that they can reach their full potential.
- c Work with Hampshire County Council to achieve the educational provision that supports the high standards of teaching and learning required to meet the aspirations of families and young people is made available in a sustainable way.
- d Work with Eastleigh Borough Council so that within a proposed planning submission for any new housing development there are funded proposals to make inclusive educational provision within an agreed time period to meet the aspirations of families, children and young people.
- e Work with Hampshire County Council to allow all pupils living within Botley Parish have access to their local catchment school.
- f Work with Eastleigh Borough Council so that consultation takes place with the Parish Council concerning road traffic flow, car parking and pedestrian access in respect of any proposed or planned additional school buildings or extension to educational facilities within the Parish.
- g Work with Hampshire County Council and Eastleigh Borough Council so that pupils who are resident within Botley Parish have safe access, whether on foot, by bicycle or by car, when travelling to and from School whether it be within or beyond the Parish boundary.
- h Fast, reliable high-speed digital connectivity is essential as the number of pupils and students working from home rises. The current broadband infrastructure needs further improvement and digital connectivity to the door should be required as part of all new planning applications for residential properties.

- i Regarding educational working from home it will be essential that Hampshire County Council ensure that appropriate computing equipment is available to all relevant students so that none are disadvantaged in relation to the Equal Opportunities Act 2010.
- j At the very least Hampshire County Council should reinstate the Mobile Library Service in Botley Parish or create a satellite unattended or volunteer run Community Library preferably in the Boorley Green Community Centre.

## **5 Acknowledgements and References**

### **5.1 Hampshire County Council:**

- a Hampshire County Council Strategic Development Officer for Children's Services;
- b Hampshire County Council School Places Plan 2018-2022; and
- c Hampshire County Council Planning Comments in Planning Application number 0/1883698.

### **5.2 Eastleigh Borough Council:**

- a Eastleigh Borough Council Local Area Manager for Hedge End, West End and Botley;
- b Eastleigh Borough Council Planning Policy Team;
- c Eastleigh Borough Council Emerging Local Plan 2016-2036; and
- d Eastleigh Borough Council Infrastructure Delivery Plan (October 2018).

### **5.3 Botley related:**

- a The Headteacher of Wildern Academy;
- b The Headteacher of Botley Church of England (Controlled) Primary School;
- c The Governing Body of Botley Church of England (Controlled) Primary School;
- d [www.boorleyparkprimary.org](http://www.boorleyparkprimary.org)
- e <https://botley.com>
- f <http://www.dailyecho.co.uk>

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