



## Northamptonshire County Council

To the Headteachers of :  
Wootton and Grange Park schools  
and of the Mereway Cluster

Please ask for: Alan Fitz  
Tel: 01604 237702  
Our ref:  
Your ref:  
Date: 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009

Dear Colleagues

### **PROPOSAL TO ENLARGE THE PREMISES OF THE PRIMARY SECTION OF CAROLINE CHISHOLM SCHOOL**

The County Council is embarking on formal procedures to extend the primary section of the school to 420 places in permanent accommodation.

The school opened in September 2004 with a physical capacity of 210 primary places. Since then, two temporary mobile classrooms have been added to allow the school to admit 60 pupils in September 2008 and 2009. It is now planned to replace the temporary classrooms with a permanent, built, extension to take the permanent capacity to 420 places.

The regulations do not require a formal consultation for a temporary increase in capacity of a school, but the County Council is now persuaded of the need for a permanent extension and a formal consultation process is necessary.

Existing provision for primary school pupils in the Grange Park and Wootton area is at Caroline Chisholm, Preston Hedges, Woodland View and Wootton Schools. There has been substantial recent housing development in the area. Although current developments at Wootton Fields and Grange Park are coming to an end, there is a prospect of some future development adjacent to Grange Park and east of Wootton Fields. The 4-10+ pupil roll at the four schools was 1,504 in January 2009 compared to the combined permanent capacity of 1,410 places.

Recent Health Authority data indicates that pre-school year groups in the Wootton and Grange Park area are settling around an average of approximately 240. Recent trends suggest that future reception intakes in the area are likely to be around 240 and the future roll will increase to approximately 1,650. There were a total of 272 first preferences for



these schools for September 2009's intake. Hence, further primary school places are required in the area.

To help meet this need, the County Council is proposing to increase the permanent capacity of the primary section of Caroline Chisholm School to 420 places. It is possible that further primary places will be required in the future. Any further expansion will be subject to a separate consultation.

The School Organisation Regulations require a two-stage consultation process to take place. The first stage requires the Council to consult with schools and other stakeholders and to take into account the views expressed. The second stage is a formal representation period of four weeks, during which responses can be made to a Public Notice. At the end of this period, the Council will make the final decision on the proposal.

Table: Admission Numbers and Capacities

School	Admission Number	Current Permanent Capacity	Proposed Permanent Capacity
Caroline Chisholm	60	210	420
Preston Hedges P	60	420	420
Woodland View P <sup>1</sup>	60	360	420
Wootton P	60	420	420
Total	240	1410	1680

Notes 1: A scheme to bring the permanent capacity of Woodland View Primary School to 420 places is planned to be completed in autumn 2010.

You may wish to inform parents of this consultation. If you or any parent would like to comment on the proposal, please e-mail or write to me. Do not hesitate to call me, if you require further details. The closing date for comments is Friday 23rd October. If the results are positive, a Public Notice will be issued in November 2009.

Yours sincerely

Alan Fitz  
Pupil Placement Manager

cc

*Governing Body of Caroline Chisholm School*

*Trade Unions*

*Mrs. J. Morgan, South Northamptonshire Council*

*Mr. D. Kennedy, Northampton Borough Council*

*Mr. B. Binley MP, House of Commons*

*Mrs L. Crookenden-Johnson, Early Years Development & Child Care Partnership*

*Dr. S. Partridge, Church of England Diocese*

*Mrs F. Image, Roman Catholic Diocese*

*Cllr P. Larratt,*

*Cllr. B. Ingram*

*Cllr A. Grant, Cabinet Member for Children & Young People*

*Wootton and East Hunsbury Parish Council*

*Grange Park Parish Council*