

## Equality Impact Assessment

Reference: EQIA349463158

Submitted: 15 July 2021 09:39 AM

### Executive summary

**Title of policy or decision:** Proposed expansion of Trinity Road Primary School, Chelmsford.

**Describe the main aims, objectives and purpose of the policy (or decision):** To expand Trinity Road Primary School, from 315 places (1.5 forms of entry) to 420 places (2 forms of entry) from September 2022.

**What outcome(s) are you hoping to achieve?:** Help people get the best start and age well

**Which strategic priorities does this support? - Help people get the best start and age well:** Help keep vulnerable children safer and enable them to fulfil their potential

**Is this a new policy (or decision) or a change to an existing policy, practice or project?:** a new policy (or decision)

**Please provide a link to the document / website / resource to which this EqIA relates:**

<https://assets.ctfassets.net/knkzaf64jx5x/1sTwHeX9pKG17ebfWZQ8yS/96075a2a1c4da12ea2af8b873ee76900/EC>

**Please upload any documents which relate to this EqIA, for example decision documents:**

<https://assets.ctfassets.net/knkzaf64jx5x/1sTwHeX9pKG17ebfWZQ8yS/96075a2a1c4da12ea2af8b873ee76900/EC>

### Assessing the equality impact

**Use this section to record how you have assessed any potential impact on the communities likely to be affected by the policy (or decision):** Being an expansion of a school with permanent class bases, there will be no adverse impact upon any of the protected groups mentioned.

However, it is known that a sustained need for additional primary school capacity in the central Chelmsford area exists, having been generated by rising birth rates and new residential development. An expansion at Trinity Road Primary presents a good option to help towards meeting this demand, which would see pupils being able to access a local school place. It also helps the County Council to fulfil its statutory duty to supply sufficient school places within its administrative border.

A scenario where Trinity Road Primary did not expand would mean children could be without a school place in their local area; longer journeys will need to be made between home and school in order to find alternative places for them, and parental preference would not be satisfied.

The building works will be procured by the County Council using framework agreements which it is entitled to use. Contractors experienced in working on projects of this type will be used. The premises to be provided will need to meet the statutory requirements of the Education (School Premises) regulations 1999 and the feasibility studies and the final programme will ensure that this happens.

As public buildings, schools and nurseries are required to provide full accessibility in order to obtain Building control sign-off. Essex County Council produces a set of employer's requirements which add further interpretation to ensure this is achieved from the early stages of design. Prior to planning permission application Building Control approval is sought to offer earlier compliance confirmation. Any works to expand the building will

be fully compliant with the legislation. This builds in a future-proofing dimension to our buildings, ensuring they are accessible for disabled users.

A public consultation was held with the community in March/ April 2021, which showed broad support within the local area on the educational merit of delivering an expansion project at Trinity Road Primary School (with the concerns raised being planning issues, to be addressed as part of a separate process).

### **Does or will the policy or decision affect:**

**Service users:** No

**Employees:** Yes

**The wider community or groups of people, particularly where there are areas of known inequalities:** No

**Which geographical areas of Essex does or will the policy or decision affect?:** Chelmsford

**Will the policy or decision influence how organisations operate?:** No

**Will the policy or decision involve substantial changes in resources?:** No

**Is this policy or decision associated with any of the Council's other policies?:** Yes

**Is the new or revised policy linked to a digital service (website, system or application)?:** No

## **Description of impact**

**Description of Impact. If there is an impact on a specific protected group tick box, otherwise leave blank. You will be given the opportunity to rate identified impacts as positive, negative or neutral on the next page:** No impact on any of the above groups

**I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics:** I confirm that I have considered the potential impact on all of the protected characteristics

**Describe any actions that have already been taken to mitigate negative impacts on any of the protected characteristics:** Positive impact for children aged between 4 and 11 years-old, as this proposal will deliver an improved learning environment for children at their local primary school.

## **Action plan to address and monitor adverse impacts**

**Does your EqIA indicate that the policy or decision would have a medium or high adverse impact on one or more equality groups?:** No

## **Details of person completing the form**

**I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance:** I confirm that this has been completed based on the best information available and in following ECC guidance

**Date EqIA completed:** 15/07/2021

**Name of person completing the EqIA:** David Mason3

**Email address of person completing the EqIA:** David.Mason3@essex.gov.uk

**Your function:** Place and Public Health

**Your service area:** Sustainable Growth

**Your team:** School Organisation & Place Planning

**Are you submitting this EqIA on behalf of another function, service area or team?:** No

**Email address of Head of Service:** joseph.chell@essex.gov.uk