

Proposal to expand Lawford CE Primary School from September 2021: Summary report

This report was created on Monday 20 July 2020 at 08:36.

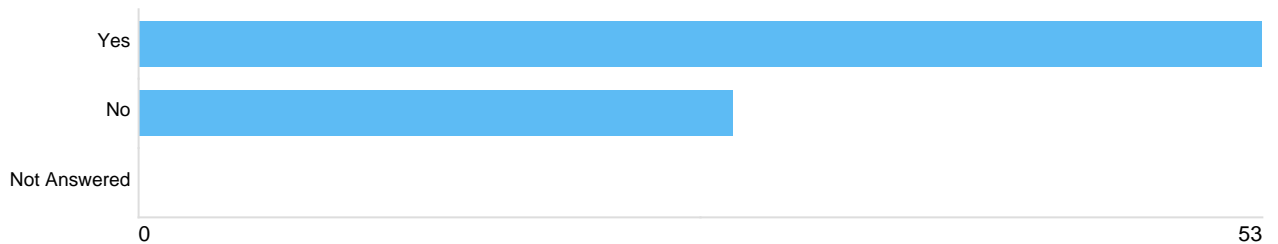
The consultation ran from 18/06/2020 to 16/07/2020.

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Question 1: Do you support the proposal to expand Lawford CE Primary School by 30 places per year, increasing the school's capacity to 420 places from September 2021?

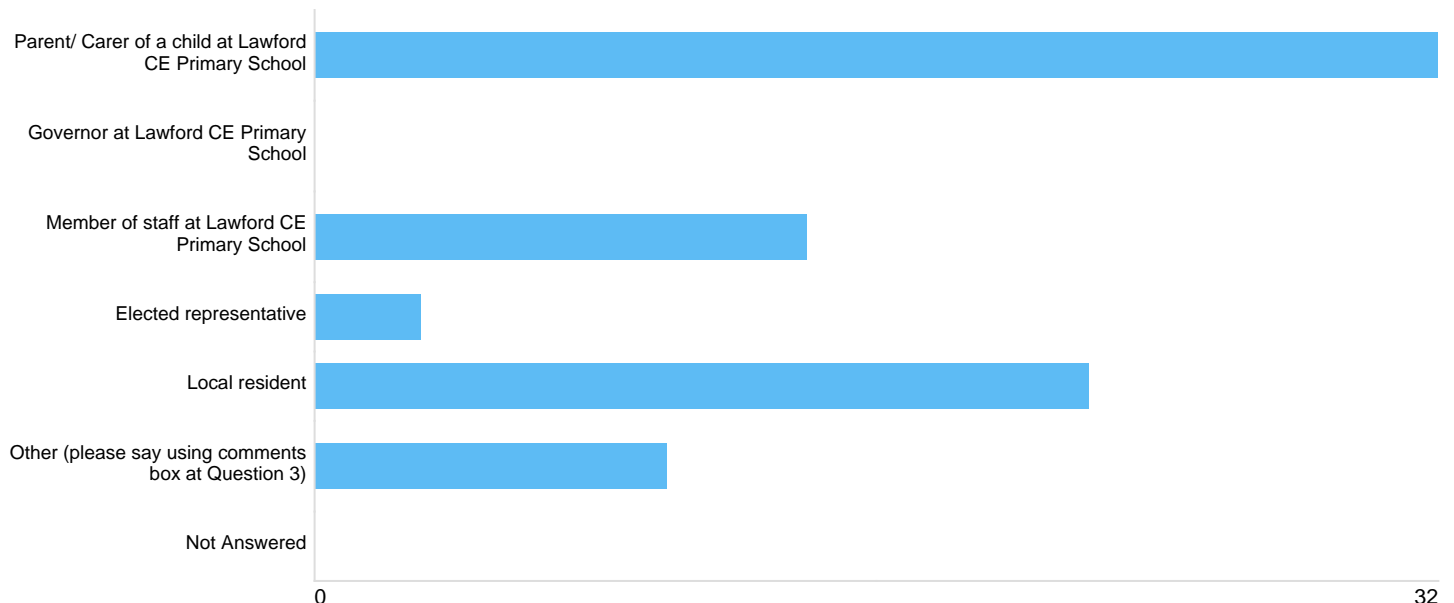
Yes / No



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	53	65.43%
No	28	34.57%
Not Answered	0	0%

Question 2: Which of the following best describes your interest in the expansion proposal?

Interest group



Option	Total	Percent
Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School	32	39.51%
Governor at Lawford CE Primary School	0	0%
Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School	14	17.28%
Elected representative	3	3.70%
Local resident	22	27.16%
Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	10	12.35%
Not Answered	0	0%

Question 3: If you have answered 'Other' at Question 2, please enter your interest group in the box below.

Text box to enter 'Other' interest group

There were **10** responses to this part of the question.

Question 4: Do you have any comments that you wish to make, to help us take better account of your views when the next steps of this process are considered?

Text box in which to state views on what is proposed

There were **53** responses to this part of the question.

Do you support the proposal to expand Lawford CE Primary School by 30 places per year, increasing the school's capacity to 420 places from September 2021? - Yes / No	Which of the following best describes your interest in the expansion proposal? - Interest group	If you have answered 'Other' at Question 2, please enter your interest group in the box below. - Text box to enter 'Other' interest group	Do you have any comments that you wish to make, to help us take better account of your views when the next steps of this process are considered? - Text box in which to state views on what is proposed	Submitted Date
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-21 08:08:13
Yes	Local resident			2020-06-24 14:22:13
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School		The new facilities will provide a fantastic resource for our children especially the addition of specific rooms to support our SEND children. It will also provide great parking that will reduce the burden on the local infrastructure and the blocking of the main road.	2020-06-24 16:53:57
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-24 16:54:04
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-24 16:55:42
Yes	Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	wider family interest	The car parking will make life so much easier. I find the traffic on the main road a problem when I pick up.	2020-06-24 16:55:46
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-24 17:00:05
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-24 17:04:00
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-24 17:04:40
Yes	Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	staff member's family	I have visited the current site many times and have seen the issues with parking outside the school and it is clear that the amount of new development will require many more places and the school will gain specific facilities for its SEND children. It will enhance the local educational facilities by meeting a need and not detract from other local schools.	2020-06-24 17:14:12
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-24 17:22:53
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School		Due to the increased building of residential homes in the immediate area, there will be an increased demand for school places in the near future. Enquiries have already been made for various year groups that have had to be declined as there is no available places. The expansion of the school will fulfil the need of many new residents to the area.	2020-06-24 17:25:14
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		With the rapid increase of new housing, the local infrastructure has been left behind. The expansion of the school will alleviate some of the pressure on an overwhelmed infrastructure.	2020-06-24 17:45:41
Yes	Local resident			2020-06-24 19:01:31
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		Looks fit for purpose and provides the necessary extra school places required in this area. Well done	2020-06-24 19:07:59
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-24 19:19:26
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		The local area needs more school places and Lawford Primary School is ideally placed to offer these. The school has a fantastic head and deputy head and an excellent teaching staff. The proposed expansion is an exciting prospect for the school community and will be of benefit to the current and future children of the local area.	2020-06-24 19:53:22
Yes	Local resident		I think it will be good for the village and the off road car park with drop off will help congestion	2020-06-24 20:08:05
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-24 20:31:25
Yes	Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	As a former pupil and a former parent of children that have attended the school I consider any expansion to the already exceptional school a bonus for the community		2020-06-24 23:29:18
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-25 05:37:34
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-25 06:36:03
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School		The expansion will benefit the school and the surrounding area.	2020-06-25 07:43:23
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		Lawford is an excellent school and the new residential developments throughout the area mean demand for places will increase significantly. Very exciting times!!	2020-06-25 07:47:28
Yes	Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	Family support	This school expansion - needed in the local area - has been suggested and expected for a number of years. The school is very successful and is ready to deal with expansion, which will enhance parental choice and provide a much needed additional provision in a growing area.	2020-06-25 08:07:17
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		The proposed expansion is much needed given the recent development in the immediate vicinity. We support the plans wholeheartedly.	2020-06-25 08:40:49
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-25 09:11:28
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		The school certainly does need to expand and the plans look well thought out - modern, good size facilities.	2020-06-25 09:13:29
Yes	Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	In strong support of the proposals being made by Lawford School	In strong support of Lawford School, and what it offers its pupils.	2020-06-25 09:24:58
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-26 13:44:25
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		With all the housing developments popping up in the local area, there is going to be real demand for school places. I am a parent of a child at Lawford Primary School and also my eldest son was at Lawford, before going on to Manningtree High School. The area most definitely needs the extra places and I wholeheartedly support the plans for the development at Lawford Primary school.	2020-06-27 08:25:13
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		Obviously as a parent I would like there to be as little disruption as possible to the children currently at the school. They have had to have enough time off in 2020 and therefore their best interests should be the main consideration when it comes to the building work.	2020-06-27 14:34:47
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-27 15:18:05

Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		We appreciate that the expansion is necessary in line with the building in the local area and increased number of families needing schools. While we like Lawford 'as it is' we are confident that the expansion will be a positive development and that all due care and attention will be taken to make it an enhanced school environment for our children.	2020-06-28 18:15:59
Yes	Local resident		Many new houses being built in the school's catchment area so expansion will ensure sufficient places for local children Will reduce car traffic and car parking on Long Road and Leftleys estate roads (Cavendish Drive, Meadway) Provided the pedestrian entrance is kept on Long Road, this will encourage more parents living on Leftleys estate and on Long Road to walk to school further reducing traffic	2020-06-29 11:51:56
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School		As a member of staff at Lawford Primary School, we have been under the impression that the build will go ahead. 9 trees that have been on site for over 3 generations have already been felled to make way for these developments. A car park has also been built along with the new entrance gate. The expansion of the school is being eagerly awaited by those who wish to develop their careers when we become a two-form entry school. Some staff have already undergone training for the new leadership roles that will be available upon completion of the expansion. If the development does not go ahead this will have all been a waste of time and money on all fronts, not to mention highly disappointing. We have even conserved £7000 of our sports premium budget in order to build a trim trail but we cannot build it until the building works have gone through. Children have been denied this opportunity for the sake of the building works, which the children have come to accept and grown interested in. If we now say that there are no building works then KS2 could have had their trim trail earlier and not missed out on developing gross motor, sensory and fine motor skills during play for years. We have had many school trips to Rose building sites to show the children changes within their generation. Without the expansion, the children will be denied the final outcome to some of their learning -history in the making. No trim trail for no reason. Money put aside for no reason. A generation who will go without their rest/shade area for no reason. In my opinion, to halt the developments now would cause more problems for Lawford Primary. There would still be no intervention rooms available for sensory breaks for SEND children. There would be no KS2 library in which to capture children's minds. Yes, we have a library and yes we use the local library but having a room for a library for group reading, 1:1 reading and to encourage children to get into reading is going to be the key to unlock learning now and forever. Having a studio would mean that children have the ability to see themselves in the mirrors when they practise dance or martial arts- an opportunity that is invaluable! Please do not deny our outstanding school the chance to shine. With this development, we will be able to shine so brightly- ALL of us. Thank you and fingers crossed that this is merely a speed bump in the road for Lawford C of E Primary School.	2020-06-29 11:57:43
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School		The expansion of the school will assist in the increasing demand for pupil places that is coming with the new developments in the local area, not only in the last few years, but for those to be built in the near future. The new entrance in Bromley Road will ease congestion on the A137 which passes the front of the school, both in the morning when pupils are coming into school, and at the end of the school day when they are being collected by parents, many of whom will be using their vehicles and parking on the area close to the school, often causing much congestion.	2020-06-29 12:24:56
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School		As a local resident, I am against the overdevelopment of Lawford which is currently taking place, the amenities and infrastructure cannot cope with the current rate of expansion, without further development including school expansion. I hardly think any consultation with the public over the school expansion will make a blind bit of difference now considering the work already going on around the school site and destruction of well established trees. As Rose builders have come to some arrangement with the council and had the housing approved, 'donating land,' to build a car park and new entrance for the school was clearly part of the deal. A better 'offer' in my opinion would've been for Mr Rose to expand the school boundary and donate additional land for the new school build along with the car park, as the adjacent housing development was going ahead regardless and as a result this would not have been so detrimental or disruptive to the current school site, it's pupils or the environment. Whoever deemed it necessary to fell a number of established trees on the current site for this expansion is accountable for the negative environmental impact. It was simply not necessary and has resulted in a lot of negative feeling. The new school expansion plans also result in a considerable amount of outdoor space lost and with the issues of childhood obesity, now, more than ever, having the space to exercise and participate in sport with double the number the children on site will be more important than ever. I understand the need for more school places with the overdevelopment of the village taking place, however, the plans for the new build will impact massively on the current site. The school will lose ground which is currently used as a football pitch and an excellent outdoor area for PE lessons. There's nothing impressive about the new outdoor hard games area proposed, we've been told it's just another playground that isn't even being fenced to provide a variety of additional sports facilities (it's currently used as a grass play area and is part of the athletics sprint track used in the summer term.) If this area can be fenced (as it has at Manningtree High School) a provision for basketball, netball, football, tennis etc can all be facilitated in this area. A provision for an outdoor gym area would also be beneficial to the school and it's children. With the numbers of pupils doubling but outdoor space reducing due to buildings, any additional sports facilities provided as part of the new build would be a positive step forward and beneficial to current and future pupils.	2020-06-29 13:27:33
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-29 14:07:25
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School		I think we definitely need a bigger school with all the new houses being built. I also want to see less congestion on Long Road and Cavendish Drive and Meadway.	2020-06-29 14:16:21
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-29 16:03:17
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-29 19:01:38
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		More school places are needed locally to cope with the demand due to extensive housing projects.	2020-06-29 21:05:05
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School		The new build will significantly improve our facilities, especially with our new fibre connectivity. Our provision for SEN children is high with our forest school, and with the new build, dedicated rooms for specific SEN activities. As the new housing sits on our perimeter, it makes total sense that Lawford should be the school chosen to cater for the needs of our growing community.	2020-06-30 07:01:17

Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		The school is a fantastic and caring place for the children, but it is outgrowing the current space they have. While I think it's important to factor in environmental concerns and approach the build sympathetically to the local environment, I think it's important for the expansion to go ahead to help accommodate some of the new local children that are wanting places, due to all the new building work and houses in the area.	2020-06-30 13:21:13
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		We understand the need for the expansion and that this has been the intention for many years. I feel it will be the most settling for the children and staff, particularly given the time we are in, to agree the plans and begin the physical project. The plans look positive to me and seem to have little impact (after the actual build) on the school field and neighbours in the local area. I am also pleased that there will be a new entrance, in addition to the existing one. I do very much hope that the intake will begin from EYFS rather than begin taking new pupils in all years groups. This could have a negative impact on the children already at the school. Thank you.	2020-06-30 14:03:05
Yes	Member of staff at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-30 14:19:59
Yes	Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	I am a parent of child at school and a member of staff	The catchment area of the school has grown considerably in volume with new housing, so extra provision is required. The plans include much needed extra space for SEN and library. The parking and change of entrance should reduce traffic parking on Long Road.	2020-07-05 20:38:07
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-07-09 10:12:30
Yes	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		With the expanding population in Manningtree, Mistley and Lawford more primary school places are required. The additional traffic that will result from additional pupils will add to the congestion on Long Road and Wignall Street. We walk to school and I would expect thorough consideration to be given to crossing Long Road / Wignall Street to access the school for pedestrians. Policy QL2 in the TDC Local Plan 2007 (adopted) deals with 'Promoting Transport Choice'. In particular "measures to improve the accessibility of development will be required (..) particularly access by walking, cycling and public transport". Promoting Walking is highlighted in the 'Sustainable Transportation' (Chapter 7) section 7.15 'pedestrians should be planned for at the very early stages of the design process'. A crossing is required. I look forward to seeing how this is included in the proposals.	2020-07-11 14:09:58
Yes	Elected representative		This is one of the very few times that a school expansion has been well planned and well designed. Together with my Tendring District colleagues and Lawford Parish Council, we worked with the developer of a 510 new dwellings development plan of two phases, Summers Park with 150, which is only 300 yards away, and Lawford Green with 360, which is virtually being built around the curtilage of the school. The process had not been the smoothest, as people become very possessive of their territory when it come to planning for new homes; we went through several meetings with various Stakeholders and interested parties, several internal meetings and discussions, and two very antagonistic public meetings, which were not the most pleasant experience by a long shot. The developer had already agreed to provide a host of community benefits, which included a much safer area for parents to drop off and pick up their children, and a play area where the younger ones could use while waiting for their siblings. For any school having a dedicated car park is an unbelievably great asset to have, and many of our colleagues are very jealous of what we have achieved here in Lawford. The car park is owned by the Parish Council, and there will be an agreement in place. This will put a permanent stop to anti-social parking, which had become totally unacceptable, and all those residents who regularly attended Parish Council meetings, feel now that they have been listened to. I know this school extremely well as all my three children were pupils there, and I do have a great attachment to the part it plays in our community. I do therefore fully support this proposal which will meet the future education needs of our very young Lawford residents, as well as all those who are not yet with us! I would like the school to engage more with the local community, as most of the staff are now new, as well as having had different Headships; Lawford is now classified a semi urban location, and as such it is essential to ensure that strong links are in place to keep the community spirit thriving, especially when there now is a permanent connection with the Lawford Parish Council.	2020-07-14 16:06:29
Yes	Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	Parent at highfileds primary school	I used to attend Lawford c e primary I've lived in Lawford my whole life.	2020-07-15 13:36:34
Yes	Elected representative		This is a school expansion has been well planned and well designed. Together with my Tendring District colleagues we consulted with the developer over many years, creating two new housing estates in Lawford amounting to 510 new dwellings in two phases. The second phase, Lawford Green, consisting of 360 new dwellings is currently being built around the curtilage of the school. Consultation in the local community has been extensive and has included several public meetings. The developer has already agreed to provide a host of community benefits, which has included a much safer car park area for parents to drop off and pick up their children, and a play area where the younger ones could use while waiting for their siblings. The well-designed car park is a tremendous asset for the parish and is a great enhancement to the safety of children attending the school. The Lawford, Manningtree and Mistley Parishes will see around a 40% - 45% increase in new dwellings in the next few years. This will translate to hundreds more children in our area in desperate need of school places. I therefore wholeheartedly support this application.	2020-07-16 13:52:09
No	Local resident		Alan D Coley - District Councillor (Lawford, Manningtree & Mistley)	2020-06-18 09:32:42
No	Elected representative		What is the need? It is my understanding that there are 2 other primary schools within the area that already have capacity. Whilst there are new housing estates being built, I cannot see how this can equate to an additional 210 children, plus filling the other local schools.	2020-06-18 09:32:42
No	Local resident		To increase this school by 210 pupils to far to much. The school entrance in on a busy road which at the moment gets congested in school times. I also not happy with a Flat roof which will need more maintenance than a traditional roof in the long term and feel it would not be in character with the rest of the school.	2020-06-18 12:02:08
No	Elected representative		Can you tell me if the builders are paying towards this, as its, them building around 600 homes around this school which has caused this increase.	2020-06-24 14:12:39
No	Local resident			2020-06-24 14:12:39

No	Local resident		Highfields primary school needs the expansion not Lawford primary school also bradfield primary and mistley primary are very under subscribed so there is no need to expand Lawford.	2020-06-24 14:14:20
No	Local resident		Lawford C of E is a small primary school which I do not believe is big enough to cater for additional children. With that said, Highfields Primary school is a lot larger and would benefit greatly from an expansion. The school is already over subscribed unlike other schools in the area and I do believe that this is the better option.	2020-06-24 14:14:55
No	Local resident		Highfields primary should be the priority. They currently have 45+ pupils per year surely it makes sense to make them a 2 form entry. Less disruption and a 2 form entry would be beneficial to the children. Simply doubling a small school for the sake of it seems pointless. Whilst I appreciate the increase in housing many of the houses are occupied by single persons and people that are elderly.	2020-06-24 14:25:17
No	Local resident			2020-06-24 14:36:17
No	Local resident			2020-06-24 14:56:23
No	Local resident		If expansion should occur the resources would be best spent at highfields. There's already overcrowding on the main highway leading to lawford school, making it larger would be dangerous. Why not invest in another local school that has the space to grow!	2020-06-24 14:58:24
No	Local resident		Why Lawford school? Highfields would be a better school to expand. As a lot of people are wanting to attend Highfields over Lawford but there is no space. Highfields school is an outstanding school and its great reputation has made it a sort after place for children to attend. I have 2 children currently in the school and have nothing but praise for their hardwork, commitment and welcoming environment for children and families. I feel it would really benefit them, having the opportunity you are considering for Lawford.	2020-06-24 15:06:09
No	Local resident			2020-06-24 15:09:50
No	Local resident		I am unclear why ECC are not considering expanding Highfields as well. This school was originally built to be a two-form entry school. It is currently capped at 45 per year group. Given that an extra 15 per year group would add to the capacity in the local area, as well as Highfields' excellent recent Ofsted, it seems somewhat strange that this isn't being considered. Lawford has not had an Ofsted for a very long time. In that time, it has had two new head teachers and several new staff members. Its previous Ofsted does not therefore describe the school in its current form. Expanding Highfields, given it has been purpose built for this purpose seems like a much safer and cost effective decision and should at the very least inform this consultation.	2020-06-24 15:13:41
No	Local resident		I am at a loss as to why Lawford Primary School has been selected for expansion over other schools in the immediate vicinity, notably Highfields Primary school. Highfields is an outstanding provision, a true community school which is oversubscribed whilst there are vacant spaces in other primaries in FS. Why wasn't Highfields, now again under County management, selected for expansion, given these statistics?	2020-06-24 15:16:07
No	Local resident		I thought the plan was for Highfields School to be extended.	2020-06-24 15:20:56
No	Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	Highfields primary parent	Highfields had this planned already, surely with its outstanding Ofsted rating, doesn't this make our school more eligible now !!! How is this fair !!!	2020-06-24 15:41:23
No	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-24 16:56:25
No	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School			2020-06-24 17:15:34
No	Local resident		The council should consider that the over-subscribed Highfields Primary School, which in close proximity to Lawford CE Primary School, is already much better equipped to expand to a two form entry school. With less building work required, it is therefore more cost-effective and will cause less disruption to the education of children by not expanding a school that needs additional refurbishment of the hall, corridors and classrooms to cope with the extra capacity. While I support the teaching of Christian values, I am also concerned that a proposal has been made to expand a faith school at a time when the vast majority of the community now identify as being non-religious. Lawford CE Primary School discriminates religiously in admissions, and teaches curricula skewed towards Christianity rather than gives a balanced view of all religions. For the record, I am a teacher that has taught in a variety of primary schools (religious and non-religious). The following link provides further information on current social attitudes: https://www.bsa.natcen.ac.uk/media/39293/1_bsa36_religion.pdf	2020-06-24 17:41:20
No	Local resident		Yes I feel Highfields primary school should be considered first. Highfields is built to accommodate two form entry and I am very disappointed that they haven't been given the opportunity to expand and no consultations to date Or even been considered regarding this Why is that ? Highfields is an excellent school with outstanding Ofsted reports and the headteacher Hilary Cook does everything she can for her school to make it thrive and students leave educated to a very high standard For the last two years Highfields have been over subscribed and having to turn parents away to much disappointment as parents want the best for their children and being denied it due to no space capacity is so wrong Highfields is a community school and has a crucial role to play in the future of our locality especially with the growing number of properties being built I feel extremely disappointed that Highfields have not even been giving this opportunity and no consultation as I believe this should be the case Mrs cook deserves the help and support and expansion and be recognised for this as she works hard to enable her to continue to help local children thrive and reach high education standards I would like to know why Highfields haven't even been given the opportunity to expand	2020-06-24 18:28:39
No	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		This expansion has not considered or made provision for existing pupils. Building work during term time will be severely disruptive And after months of noise and dust from the adjacent house building which also caused problems for students it is not appropriate to expand at this time. Another local school is undersubscribed so perhaps this needs to be taken into consideration. In addition our children have already had severe disruption to their learning because of COVID-19. They should not have to suffer further barriers to learning through the disruption of noisy and environmentally changing building work. The proposed building work is immediately outside the year six classroom which is already going to be facing challenges to bridge gaps in learning following COVID-19. This is not the time for expansion and when expansion does take place it should be mostly achieved in the 6 week school Holidays next year and appropriate alternative classrooms should be made away from the building work environment in advance to ensure minimal disruption. Alternatively perhaps next time a builder wishes to build a house in a state perhaps they could consider building an additional school building for an entirely new school.	2020-06-24 20:08:35

No	Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	Parent and local resident in close proximity to the school	I believe the school is big enough and serves the community sufficiently as it is, Lawford school is a traditional village school that offers excellent teaching and holds a great reputation. Making it bigger will add stress and pressure to the teachers, it will lose the personal touches it offers now and make it overwhelming for the pupils. There are plenty of schools in the local area that could be invested in to improve what they have to offer, some of these schools do not receive maximum number of applications each year, Mistley Norman being one of them. Invest in those schools so the residents in those villages can send their children to the local school to where they live rather than travelling to the next village for a better school. Send your children to the school of the the village you live in, we have 2 schools in our village already, highfields primary school is just around the corner, that is bigger in size than Lawford and offers many places, put these 2 schools together and they are big enough to accommodate our residents already. We DO NOT need to be turning Lawford school into a bigger school. Keep it traditional and personal and enjoyable for the pupils that attend it.	2020-06-28 22:25:25
No	Local resident		The bigger the school the more houses that can be built in our village. Our services are already pushed to the limit, Lawford school has always been a good school and it needs to stay that way. Making it bigger is not the way forward, people should be made to send their children to the school which is in their catchment, that would help with the schools that are over subscribed and also the school's that don't have enough pupils attended them as it is.	2020-06-28 22:29:06
No	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		The school is perfect as it is, it's plenty big enough, the staff are able to teach the pupils efficiently, as a parent we receive great communication from the teachers and our children have a great relationship with them. Teaching is already a very tough job so why add more pressure to find excellent teachers to match the current teachers at Lawford School? I believe the school will slip if it is made bigger, I wouldn't want my children to be there if it happened and I would consider moving them.	2020-06-28 22:32:52
No	Local resident		Highfields Primary School, which is a fantastic school and has the scope & demand to accept more children, should be given priority for any extension in my opinion.	2020-06-30 09:19:20
No	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		I fully support local schools increasing their intake to accommodate the increase in population in the area. However, I would prefer to see the numbers spread more evenly across the local schools. As Highfields Primary is already larger than Lawford Primary and Mistley Norman Primary is considerably smaller than Lawford, I would prefer to see the expansion take place mostly at Mistley Normal and a little at Lawford Primary in order to balance the sizes of both the local Church of England schools.	2020-07-08 17:04:56
No	Other (please say using comments box at Question 3)	Other Primary School	<p>disbelief at the proposal from Essex County Council to expand Lawford C of E Primary school from 210 places to 420 places.</p> <p>Highfields was part of the first (and only) Essex County Council PFI project for twelve Tendring Primary Schools . This project was a 32 year agreement.</p> <p>Last December, Essex County Council made the decision to come out of this project owing to the increasing affordability 'gap'. The building is now back in County ownership.</p> <p>Highfields was purpose built with the probable intention of becoming a two form entry school when places were required owing to the housing developments in the Lawford, Mistley and Manningtree area.</p> <p>The school is sited within mature grounds and has a double Hall that meets the required primary brief specification for a 420 placement building.</p> <p>We currently have 12 class bases and with an additional 2 plus an additional toilet block would be able to accommodate the predicted requirement for reception places for potential pupils from the new housing in Lawford plus other year groups.</p> <p>Expanding Lawford Primary school appears to us to be a gross misuse of tax payers money when there is also another school in the local area with considerable spare capacity.</p> <p>Essex County Council school budgets have been reducing over the last few years and it seems that this proposed building project would require far greater financial investment than is necessary.</p> <p>We, the staff of Highfields, pride ourselves on being a fully inclusive, community school. We are over-subscribed, benefit from outstanding leadership and have worked hard to engage with our community.</p>	2020-07-10 08:57:35
No	Local resident		<p>It is very surprising to learn that an expansion project is being planned for Lawford C of E Primary School to accommodate a two-form entry.</p> <p>As a parent of a child at Highfields Primary School I understand that the school was planned to accommodate a two-form entry and that some areas of the school, such as the hall, are large enough for 420 pupils. The school needs another two classrooms and a toilet block to fully facilitate entry of two forms per year group. Currently Highfields is oversubscribed and some classes are formed of mixed year groups due to the shortage of classrooms. This is not an ideal situation for the children who are split from the rest of their year group and end up at different developmental stages, or for the teachers having to plan and differentiate for two separate year groups, sometimes having to change the curriculum for that academic year.</p> <p>There are spaces at all other local schools for Foundation stage pupils in September.</p> <p>With this in mind I do not support the plans to expand Lawford CofE PS at this time. Priority should be given to Highfields Primary School in order for it to complete its proposed expansion to fully accommodate 420 students, by adding two classrooms and a toilet block.</p>	2020-07-15 15:35:34
No	Parent/ Carer of a child at Lawford CE Primary School		Given the amount of new housing being built in Lawford, why could a new school not have been built at the same time, rather than expecting Lawford Primary to be the only local school to take in the influx of new residents?	2020-07-16 12:12:36

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

22 July 2020 10:59

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: School Organisation

Subject: RE: Proposed expansion of Lawford CofE Primary School

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response, on behalf of the [REDACTED] to the County Council's consultation about the proposal to expand Lawford CofE Primary School. Your response has been noted and will be included in the report which is being prepared for the Cabinet Member for Education. When he has considered all responses to the consultation he will decide whether to proceed with the expansion process.

I am grateful to you for responding and explaining the benefits that an expansion of Highfields Primary School might have. I agree with the points that you make about the suitability of Highfields for expansion to 420 places. This was confirmed by the viability study which we undertook in 2017 which showed that an extension to the existing buildings, along with some remodelling and additional external games areas, would provide the accommodation required for a 2FE school. I also agree that Highfields is popular and successful and has a good relationship with the local community, which is evidenced by the level of support shown for the school during the consultation process.

Expanding Highfields to 420 places would provide an additional 15 reception places each year, and 105 additional places overall. However, the forecast deficit of reception places each year shown in the consultation document rises to 22 in 2024/25, and potentially to above 30 from 2027/28 onwards, as is shown in Essex's 10 Year Plan for meeting the demand for school places 2020 – 2029. The whole Plan can be accessed here:

https://assets.ctfassets.net/knkzaf64jx5x/1sTwHeX9pKGI7ebfWZQ8yS/0f89d627e075707772bc6608eaab2d43/ECC_10_Year_Plan_-_2020-2029.pdf

The forecasts for primary schools in Manningtree and surrounds can be seen on page 41.

The forecasts of pupil numbers are reviewed annually and are updated with new information on births, housing information and the number of children on roll at each school. The last four iterations of the 10 Year Plan have consistently predicted that the deficit of reception places in the Manningtree area will increase to at least 30 places over time. The County Council therefore has to plan to meet this need. Unfortunately expanding Highfields by 15 reception places would not in itself be sufficient to meet the predicted need.

It would be possible to expand both schools by 15 reception places but inevitably this would be more expensive than a single expansion providing 30 places. In addition the large housing developments planned off of Long Road in Lawford are very close to Lawford Primary School and would offer easy access for parents. For these reasons we consider that, in the round, it is preferable to expand Lawford to provide the places needed, which is why we are consulting on that proposal.

Finally, can I apologise personally to you for not letting you know in advance that the consultation would be taking place. When we met with other headteachers in February to discuss pupil numbers in the area I must have said that the consultation was imminent. Obviously since then

national events have intervened and plans altered. In more normal times I would have given you warning that the consultation was about to start. I am sorry that I did not and I am sorry if this has caused you or Highfields any inconvenience.

I would of course be happy to discuss this further with you, and governors, if that would be helpful.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

School Organisation Officer
School Organisation Team

Essex County Council

[REDACTED]

From: School Organisation <School.Organisation@essex.gov.uk>

Sent: 10 July 2020 09:29

[REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Proposed expansion of Lawford CofE Primary School

[REDACTED]

Please find below a response to the Lawford consultation from Highfields Primary. I have saved a copy of the email into the relevant folder.

Kind regards,

School Organisation

Essex County Council

Email: school.organisation@essex.gov.uk | www.essex.gov.uk

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 10 July 2020 08:56

To: School Organisation <School.Organisation@essex.gov.uk>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: Proposed expansion of Lawford CofE Primary School

Please find below 'our say' to the proposed expansion of Lawford C of E Primary School.

We, the [REDACTED] wish to register our disappointment, dismay and disbelief at the proposal from Essex County Council to expand Lawford C of E Primary school from 210 places to 420 places.

Highfields was part of the first (and only) Essex County Council PFI project for twelve Tendring Primary Schools . This project was a 32 year agreement.

Last December, Essex County Council made the decision to come out of this project owing to the increasing affordability 'gap'. The building is now back in County ownership.

Highfields was purpose built with the probable intention of becoming a two form entry school when places were required owing to the housing developments in the Lawford, Mistley and Manningtree area.

The school is sited within mature grounds and has a double Hall that meets the required primary brief specification for a 420 placement building.

We currently have 12 class bases and with an additional 2 plus an additional toilet block would be able to accommodate the predicted requirement for reception places for potential pupils from the new housing in Lawford plus other year groups.

Expanding Lawford Primary school appears to us to be a gross misuse of tax payers money when there is also another school in the local area with considerable spare capacity.

Essex County Council school budgets have been reducing over the last few years and it seems that this proposed building project would require far greater financial investment than is necessary.

We, the staff of Highfields, pride ourselves on being a fully inclusive, community school. We are over-subscribed, benefit from outstanding leadership and have worked hard to engage with our community.

When the majority of parents are naming Highfields as their preferred school and we can be so easily, quickly and cost effectively expanded to meet the need for places in our area, we are astounded that County would even consider Lawford as the appropriate school for this investment.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 22 July 2020 17:28
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: School Organisation
Subject: RE: Consultation on proposed expansion of Lawford CE Primary School

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your response, on behalf of the [REDACTED] to the County Council's consultation about the proposal to expand Lawford CofE Primary School. Your response has been noted and will be included in the report which is being prepared for the Cabinet Member for Education. When he has considered all responses to the consultation he will decide whether to proceed with the expansion process.

I am grateful to you for responding. As you point out the predicted deficit of reception places in the Manningtree and surrounding area starts off at a low level. However it increases from a deficit of 10 places in 2021/22, when the proposed expansion at Lawford would take effect, to a deficit of 22 places in 2024/25. Although we do not show it in the consultation document our predictions are that the deficit could potentially rise to more than 30 from 2027/28 onwards, as is shown in Essex's 10 Year Plan for meeting the demand for school places 2020 – 2029. The whole Plan can be accessed here:

https://assets.ctfassets.net/knkzaf64jx5x/1sTwHeX9pKGI7ebfWZQ8yS/0f89d627e075707772bc6608eaab2d43/ECC_10_Year_Plan_-_2020-2029.pdf

The forecasts for primary schools in Manningtree and surrounds can be seen on page 41. I should stress that the predicted deficits take into account the total number of existing reception places at the four primary schools in the planning group, Ardleigh St Mary's, Highfields, Lawford, and Mistley Norman. The forecasts are therefore suggesting that all four schools will be full in future reception intakes and that without any additional places being provided there will be children who would not be able to be offered a place at any of them.

The forecasts of pupil numbers are reviewed annually and are updated with new information on births, housing information and the number of children on roll at each school. The last four iterations of the 10 Year Plan have consistently predicted that the deficit of reception places in the Manningtree area will increase to at least 30 places over time. The County Council therefore has to plan to meet this need.

As you point out it would be possible to expand Highfields to a 60 place entry school, providing an additional 15 reception places each year, and 105 additional places overall. However, we have to plan to provide an additional 30 reception places and unfortunately expanding Highfields by 15 reception places would not in itself be sufficient to meet the predicted need.

It would be possible to expand both Highfields and Lawford by 15 reception places each but inevitably this would be more expensive than a single expansion providing 30 places. In addition the large housing developments planned off of Long Road in Lawford are very close to Lawford Primary School and would offer easy access for parents. For these reasons we consider that, in the round, it is preferable to expand Lawford to provide the places needed, which is why we are consulting on that proposal.

I hope that this is helpful. I would of course be happy to discuss this further with you, and governors, if that would be useful.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

School Organisation Officer
School Organisation Team

Essex County Council

Telephone: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

From: School Organisation <School.Organisation@essex.gov.uk>

Sent: 15 July 2020 08:43

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: FW: Consultation on proposed expansion of Lawford CE Primary School

[REDACTED]

Please find below a response to the Lawford consultation from Highfields Primary's governing body. I have saved a copy of the email into the relevant folder.

School Organisation

Essex County Council

Email: school.organisation@essex.gov.uk | www.essex.gov.uk

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 14 July 2020 10:43

To: School Organisation <School.Organisation@essex.gov.uk>

Subject: Consultation on proposed expansion of Lawford CE Primary School

Good morning

[REDACTED] have reviewed the expansion plan proposal for Lawford Church of England (VA) Primary School.

The following represents the collected comments and concerns that we offer for your attention and consideration.

The consultation paper included your forecast for reception year shortfall.

Year to be admitted to reception	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25
Total number of reception places	110	110	110	110	110
Predicted requirement for reception places including potential pupils from new housing	114	120	119	127	132
Predicted surplus or deficit including potential pupils from new housing	-4	-10	-9	-17	-22

We are concerned that the inevitable cost of the proposal seems to be disproportionate to the benefit.

The completion is set for Sep 2021 when only a shortfall of only 4 places is expected.

Given the number of available spaces in Mistley Norman primary school it seems that this is premature.

Lawford, Bradfield primary and Mistley Norman primary are all either under-utilised in September or are filling places with children who are significantly out of catchment. Therefore, it is not simply a matter of over subscription but also the level of local demand that must be factored into any expansion plan.

Highfields Primary School is currently a 45-reception place entry and could be made into a 60-place entry with only a couple of class places added. This MUST be the best use of public funds.

We struggle to understand why the priority would be to construct a large building project before the simpler extension to Highfields Primary School. Additionally, the hall space already in place at Highfields would require no additional expansion to support these increased numbers for collective assembly. The proposal does not appear to include an increase in hall space as presented.

There ought to be a consideration for disruption to pupils and a smaller building project, such as that required at Highfields, or a better use of existing available capacity would create less disruption for the school community.

As governors we would urge these points to be considered and appreciate proportional feedback. We seek the best solution for the local community and have serious concerns that the proposal has not taken account of the reality of needs or how to meet them in the most efficient and sensible manner.

Kind regards

[Redacted Signature]