



Consultation about proposals at John Chilton School to increase the capacity of the school up to 160 pupils.

The Governing Body at John Chilton School, working in partnership with Ealing Council, would like to hear your views about permanently increasing the capacity of the school to help meet the increased local demand for places.

There is a formal process for making changes to maintained schools. This involves an initial consultation with parents and other stakeholders about the proposals followed by a statutory process if it is decided that the school and the council wish to progress with making the changes.

The Governing Body and the council have concluded that we should consult with parents, pupils and the wider community on the following proposal:

Increasing the capacity of the school up to 160 pupils

John Chilton School currently has a planned capacity of 130 pupils. The school had a total number of pupils on roll of between 86 and 99 during the school years from Sep-2014 to Sep-2017. Since then, demand for places has risen significantly, particularly at secondary phase, and the school formally increased the planned capacity to up to 130 pupils to cater for this increased demand for places from September 2020.

To facilitate this, the school and local authority set up the additional Orchard site for the school in an existing building at Wood End Primary.

The Orchard site is approximately 2 miles away from the original site and the council converted accommodation there to accommodate John Chilton School pupils in 2020 and 2023. To enable the increase to 160 pupils, the council and John Chilton School would take on additional space at Wood End Primary's former Junior phase site, known as John Chilton Orchard Site.

The number on roll at John Chilton School has since risen to 160 to meet demand for places. The proposal is to implement that increased capacity through the required statutory process.

What additional accommodation is required?

The additional space at Wood End Primary would be remodelled to provide suitable accommodation for the John Chilton pupils who would be based there. It is proposed that the accommodation would have the following features:

- Facilities would be modified, as necessary, to meet the needs of the pupils and to promote inclusion;
- The design would take account of the sensory environment, including the proximity of others, visual and auditory stimulation, smells and textures;
- There would be sufficient storage for equipment and a small meeting base;
- There would be a room suitable for individual therapy and for any small group therapy that may be being delivered with part of a class i.e. in addition to the teaching area;
- A hydrotherapy facility is also planned which would require some additional accommodation to be built.

How would the expansion be funded?

Funding for the additional pupils comes from the Local Authority's High Needs Budget. The intention is to enable the school to use the funding to meet the needs of pupils without disadvantaging other children attending the school. The funding forms part of the school's delegated budget and is under the management of the governors and Headteacher.

Funding for the construction works would be from the council's approved capital programme. The council also provides appropriate funding to offset additional costs that John Chilton School incurs as a result of operating across two separate sites.

Who are we consulting?

We are consulting parents / carers, pupils, staff, associated professionals, and other interested parties. Any individual or organisation is welcome to respond to this consultation.

Information sessions will take place at the school where you can find out more and ask questions. **There will be sessions at:**

- **5.00pm on Wednesday 04 June at the JCS Primary - Orchard Site; and**
- **1.45pm on Thursday 05 June at the JCS Secondary – Bengarth Road Site.**

How to respond

We welcome your views on permanently increasing the capacity of the school to up to 160 places.

If you have any comments that you would like to make in relation to these proposals you can either:

- Completing the online questionnaire that is available [here](#); or
- From the John Chilton School website; or
- Completing a paper copy of the questionnaire (available at the school office); or
- Writing to the Headteacher at Expansion Consultation, John Chilton School, Bengarth Road, Northolt UB5 5LD.

The consultation ends on 16 June 2025.

What happens after the consultation?

The Governors and Ealing Council will carefully consider all responses to this consultation and any statutory publication which follows in reaching any decision on whether or not to proceed.

If the council and Governing Body decide not to permanently increase the school's capacity, the school's capacity would return to 130.

If the council and Governing Body decide to continue with the proposal to permanently increase the school's capacity, the next stage would be the publication of a Statutory Notice, which any individual or organisation would be able to respond to during a representation period of four weeks. Within two months of the end of the representation period, Ealing Council's Cabinet would then consider the responses to the Statutory Notice and make the decision about whether to expand the capacity of the school to 160 places.