

7th August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers and Local Community Members,

Re: Consultation and feedback on proposed planning application

As you are aware Barr's Hill School has made significant progress over the last few years in the quality of education we provide to our students. We are very proud of our success and I am delighted to announce that we are now being asked to expand. I am writing to let you know some of the details and seek your views.

The expansion is part of Coventry Local Authority's place planning strategy agreed by the Secondary Partnership of schools in Coventry. Barr's Hill will gradually increase from around 750 pupils to around 1000 over the next 5 years. This will be a very slow increase and has been carefully planned so that the school does not lose its 'small school' ethos and feel. This September we will have 160 new Year 7s joining The Bridge (currently all other year groups have 130 students). In September 2021 we will have places for 180 pupils in Year 7. This will then roll up through the school over the next 5 years. We will not increase any existing year groups from their current 130 pupils.

In order to accommodate the additional pupils, the school is working with the Local Authority on a £6 million building project to upgrade, improve and add facilities. This is a huge opportunity for us and will be transformational in terms of improving the students experience. We are very excited! The building work is being planned to be very carefully phased to minimise disruption to pupils. The majority of the work is planned to be completed during school holidays where possible. Most works are currently planned to be completed by September 2021 with one section by Christmas 2021.

I have attached to this letter a site overview showing the current proposed plans that are due to be submitted for planning permission in mid to late August. A summary of the exciting plans is below:

- 1) Creating a new 'Bridge' building with social space, canteen and classrooms
- 2) Creating 'Hubs' for Year 8 and 10 so all year groups have their own space
- 3) Redesigning and refurbishing all science labs including adding a brand-new lab
- 4) Relocating and refurbishing PE changing rooms
- 5) Resurfacing two external hard surface PE spaces
- 6) Turfing the old unusable all-weather pitch so we have an additional grass sports pitch
- 7) Creating additional dining space for students
- 8) Adding a total of 10 new classrooms via refurbishment of currently unused space and in the new Bridge
- 9) Significantly improving disability access around the site

If you have any feedback or comments on the plans we would very much like to hear from you. Comments can be emailed to: EducationCapitalProgramme@coventry.gov.uk by Mon 14th August.

If any parents, carers or community members would like to discuss the plans in more detail I would be most happy to meet them in September once students are back in school. In the meantime, I hope that the remainder of the summer break is relaxing and am very much looking forward to seeing the students in school again in September.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C Jupp', written in a cursive style.

Mr C Jupp
Headteacher

