

**Record of Key  
Decisions made by  
Members under  
Delegated Powers  
published 09/Apr/2020**



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9 April 2020

## **Record of Key Decisions made by Members under Delegated Powers published 09/Apr/2020**

**Decision Taker:**

Cllr G. Miller, Leader of the Council

**Appropriate Scrutiny Committee:**

Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee

**Date decision in force (subject to call-in):**

21/Apr/2020

**Date of decision:**

09/Apr/2020

**Full description of decision:**

- (i) The responses to the statutory and pre-publication consultations are noted and
- (ii) The proposal to enlarge the premises which will increase the capacity of St Paul's CE VC Primary School, Waterworks Road, Ryhope, SR2 0LW from 210 places to 315 places with effect from 1st September 2022 is approved.

**Members/Officers consulted:**

Alan Rowan, Retained Education Function Lead.

(Pre-publication and statutory consultation outlined in the report – see link below.)

**Reasons for decision:**

The Council has identified that additional primary school places will be needed to meet the infrastructure requirements of the South Sunderland Growth Area (SSGA). It has been proposed that these requirements are met through the expansion of two existing primary schools and the future development of a new 315 place primary school. St Paul's CE VC Primary School has been identified as one of the two existing schools to be expanded in order to increase the supply of primary school places in the area.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

Retain existing capacity of St Paul's CE VC Primary School

(See full outline in report in link below.)

**Contact Officer:** Alan Rowan

**Extension:** 561 1372

**Email:** alan.rowan@sunderland.gov.uk

**Is this a key decision:** Yes

**Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:** No

**Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:** None

Report can be viewed at:-

<https://www.sunderland.gov.uk/committees/cm5/Meetings/tabid/73/ctl/ViewMeetingPublic/mid/410/Meeting/10208/Committee/1954/Default.aspx>

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### **Date decision in force (subject to call-in):**

21/Apr/2020

### **Date of decision:**

09/Apr/2020

### **Full description of decision:**

- (i) The responses to the statutory and pre-publication consultations are noted and
- (ii) The proposal to enlarge the premises which will increase the capacity of Willow Fields Primary School, Winslow Close, Sunderland SR5 5RZ from 140 places to 315 places with effect from 1st September 2021 is approved.

### **Members/Officers consulted:**

Alan Rowan, Retained Education Function Lead.

(Pre-publication and statutory consultation outlined in the report – see link below.)

### **Reasons for decision:**

Willow Fields Primary School is currently over capacity in 3 of 7 year groups. The current school has neither the capacity nor additional support resources to support this ongoing oversubscription.

The current building has insufficient physical capacity to provide 1 classroom per form of entry, with 5 general class bases for 7 year groups. The proposed expansion of the school will provide sufficient class bases and supporting areas for both a 210 and a 315 place school.

New housing proposals in the North Sunderland area will place pressure on the sufficiency of existing school places. Within statutory walking distance of the new Willow Field Primary School site at Redcar Road (as detailed below) there are proposals for in excess of 900 new homes. This level of housing development is estimated to require over 210 school places, the equivalent of a new primary school.

The proposal to increase the capacity of Willow Fields Primary School is associated with the already approved proposal to relocate the school to a new building at the former Maplewood School site at Redcar Road in North Sunderland. This proposal was approved by Sunderland City Council's Cabinet in March 2019. The proposal which is the subject of this decision record is to increase the physical capacity of the new build by 175 places over those currently available within the school's current buildings in order to meet demand for places in the area.

**Alternative options considered and rejected:**

- Retain existing Willow Fields capacity of 140 places at existing site
- Relocate Willow Fields Primary School with existing capacity of 140 places  
(See full outline in report in link below.)

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