

# Proposed changes to St Mary's Fields Infant School

Have your say



## Introduction

This leaflet sets out proposals to expand the age range of St Mary's Fields Infant School; explains what is being suggested and how this affects you and your child. We would like to hear your views on the proposal. You can do this by attending the consultation meeting, filling in the response form, or both. You can also respond to the consultation online.

## About the Schools

St Mary's Fields Infant School is a community school providing education for 3 – 7 year olds. The school was inspected by Ofsted in April 2010, followed by an interim assessment in February 2013 and both were judged to be good.

## The Proposal

The proposal is to change the age range of St Mary's Fields Infant School to become an all through primary school (3 – 11 years). The proposal is being led by the city council and supported by the governing body.

The governing body wish to make this change as they and the city council believe this will offer the highest quality educational experience for all children.

Before any decision is made by the city council, we would like to hear your views on the proposal. We believe that the expansion we are proposing will provide the pupils, parents and members of the local community with excellent provision.

## When are the changes proposed to happen?

If, after consultation, the city council agrees to make changes, they are proposed to take effect from September 2014. To accommodate the increase in pupil numbers, it is proposed to construct a new junior block consisting of: eight classrooms; new hall; and welfare facilities, adjacent to the existing school.

The proposal is designed to ensure there is minimum impact and disruption for the school, pupils and their families.

## What are the benefits?

- Children will benefit from not having to transfer schools at the end of key stage one. They will not need to learn new procedures and will already be familiar with the staff across the school.
- The climate for learning and personal development will be better as children are nurtured from three years of age up to when they are ready for secondary school.

- The children will benefit from opportunities to work collaboratively with younger and older children.
- Further opportunities for recruiting and retaining well qualified staff, leading to more high quality teaching and learning.
- Improved support and professional development opportunities for teaching staff to enable them to develop their practice across the full primary age range.
- Greater purchasing power and increased value for money – for example the purchase of specialist services.

### **What would happen to admissions for Year 3 entry?**

If the proposals are agreed by the city council, then the pupils currently in Year 2 would not need to complete an application form for junior transfer.

The pupils would remain at St Mary's and automatically move from Year 2 to Year 3.

### **We would like to hear what you think**

Please let us know what you think about the proposal online at:  
[www.leicester.gov.uk/stmarysproposal](http://www.leicester.gov.uk/stmarysproposal)

or send the enclosed form to:

**Rob Thomas**  
**School Organisation Manager**  
**Education and Children's Services Dept,**  
**Leicester City Council,**  
**New Walk Centre, Welford Place,**  
**Leicester, LE1 6ZG**

All responses should be received by the council by **Sunday 15 December 2013**.

We would also like to invite you to attend a public meeting to hear more about the proposal:

**Date: Thursday 21 November 2013**  
**Time: 2:00pm and 6:00pm**  
**Venue: St Mary's Fields Infant School, Heyworth Road, Leicester, LE3 2DA**

At each meeting you will be able to hear from council officers and senior staff from the school. After a short presentation you will be able to ask any questions you may have. The meeting should last about 45 minutes.

The meeting is mainly for the parents and carers of pupils but school staff and their representatives, governors and young people may also attend, although dedicated meetings for these groups will be held during the consultation.

## **Further Information**

If you would like to see more information about the proposals please look at the dedicated webpage:

**[www.leicester.gov.uk/stmarysproposal](http://www.leicester.gov.uk/stmarysproposal)**

If you would like to discuss anything about the proposal, please call:

**Rob Thomas, School Organisation Manager, Leicester City Council  
0116 373 7469**

## **What happens next?**

A number of people and organisations including pupils, parents/carers, staff and their representatives, governors, local schools, local MPs and the community will be consulted on these proposals during the consultation period of Monday 4 November 2013 to Sunday 15 December 2013.

All responses to the consultation will be presented to the City Council Executive to enable a decision on the way forward to be taken. If it is decided to proceed with the proposal, then a statutory notice will be published to seek formal representations. At the end of this period, the City Council Executive will determine whether to implement the proposal to take effect from September 2014.

At each stage of the proposals, information will be updated on the council website.

**If you need help reading this publication or require it in a different format please contact: 0116 252 7000**

Education and Children's Services Department, Leicester City Council  
New Walk Centre, Welford Place, Leicester, LE1 6ZG