

# A Public Consultation

## Proposed Expansion of Mitchell Brook Primary School

<b>1. Introduction</b>	<p>Mitchell Brook Primary School is a community school located in the southern half of the borough. It provides school places to 420 boys and girls between the ages of 4 - 10; there is also a nursery with 30 full time places.</p> <p>Currently, the demand for school places in Brent as with many outer London boroughs is increasing. The demand for primary places in the Neasden area specifically has led to the proposal to expand Mitchell Brook Primary School.</p> <p>Therefore the Governing Body of Mitchell Brook Primary School in partnership with the Local Authority is consulting with staff, parents and the community on the option of expanding the school by one new form of entry (1FE). The expansion will provide an additional class in each year group (210 new primary places in total). The increase of 30 places in each year group is intended to start at Reception age in January 2013 and rise to Year 6 by September 2018.</p>
<b>2. The proposal</b>	<p>The Governors of Mitchell Brook Primary School, Bridge Road, London, NW10 9BX propose to expand the school by one form of entry (210 additional places), taking the school capacity from 420 places (Year R – Year 6) to 630 (Year R – Year 6). The school will continue to provide a nursery with 30 full time places.</p> <p>The expansion of the school is intended to commence in January 2013. With regards to admissions, the increased intake will affect those children entering Reception at the schools from January 2013 to September 2018.</p> <p>The proposed accommodation for the expansion by one form of entry would be of a permanent high quality modular construction situated at the front of the existing school building. It will include demolition of the unused caretaker's house situated on the far left side of the front entrance. Subject to further design work, the expansion will comprise of new classrooms and a hall with kitchen. Building Bulletin 99 will be used as a guideline for constructing the new extensions to the existing school.</p> <p>The Council has been carrying out a consultation on the future of day care provision in Children Centres located in the borough for which a decision by the Executive is likely to be made in February 2012. This includes the Harmony Children Centre located to the north of the school (on the right side of the front</p>

school entrance). Subject to the outcome of the Executive decision and further investigation, it may be possible to utilise part of the Harmony Children Centre (nursery area) in order to provide more space at Mitchell Brook Primary School.

The new Reception class is expected to be available from January 2013. Remaining building works at the school will be completed by April 2013.

### 3. Additional information

Between September 2007 and September 2011 an additional 1786 primary school places were created throughout the borough. Of those 1360 were permanent places through permanent school expansions, whilst 426 were temporary places, also known as 'bulge' places. 'Bulge' classes are a short term solution.

Even with the additional 'bulge' places, a significant number of Brent children remain without a school place, particularly in the Reception to Year 3 age groups. To meet this shortfall in primary school places, the Council is implementing a programme to expand schools, which meet the criteria i.e. located in an area of local demand, with physical capacity to expand, leading to improving learning outcomes, making efficient use of resources and promoting diversity of type of provision.

Under the current proposal to expand Mitchell Brook Primary School, no special educational need (SEN) changes are being proposed.

### 4. The growing number of primary school pupils

The number of children seeking a primary school in Brent is increasing year on year. This is due to several factors e.g. the renewed popularity of Brent schools, the inward migration of children into the borough, the new housing developments throughout the borough attracting new families and the rising birth and fertility rates. As a result, school places are reducing in areas of high demand. 'Bulge' classes add capacity for just one intake year and in the following year create a sense of greater shortfall in borough wide places.

#### Trend in primary pupil numbers in Brent

As at January	Reception number on roll	All ages – Reception class to Year 6
2007	3027	20959
2008	3183	21338
2009	3291	21512
2010	3386	22071
2011	3623	23297
<b>Change from 2007 to 2011</b>	<b>596</b>	<b>2338</b>
<b>Percentage change</b>	<b>19.7%</b>	<b>11.2%</b>

**5. The need for more primary school places in the future**

In August 2011, Brent Council carried out a review of primary school places which estimated that an additional 15 forms of entry (15FE) will be required in Brent by 2014/15. The pressure of increasing demand is already evident with few places available in Brent's 60 primary schools. Brent Council is supportive of the proposed expansion of Mitchell Brook Primary School to help address the shortage of primary school places.

Demand continues to increase in the Neasden area and a permanent increase from two to three forms of entry will help satisfy some of that demand. It is also anticipated that the increased demand for primary school places will eventually create a shortage of secondary school places.

**6. Steps being taken by Brent Council in meeting the demand for primary school places in the borough.**

Between September 2007 and 2011 the following permanent and 'bulge' classes were created:

	Rec	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Total
Permanent	244	341	251	236	176	56	56	<b>1360</b>
Temp/bulge	210	105	31	30	30	20	0	<b>426</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>446</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>1786</b>

Other schools for which consultations for school expansion are currently underway include Fryent Primary School and Barham Primary School.

**7. We would like to hear from you**

The Governors of Mitchell Brook Primary School are at the moment consulting all interested parties on its proposal including parents and staff at the school, all schools in Brent, Brent Council and neighbouring boroughs with an aim to received feedback on the proposal.

The Governors would welcome your views to expand the school by 1FE. If you have any comments that you would like to make in relation to this proposal, you can either use the attached tear-off response form or write to:

**The Head Teacher  
Mitchell Brook Primary School  
Bridge Road  
London, NW10 9BX**

**Or**

Send an email to: **[judith.joseph@brent.gov.uk](mailto:judith.joseph@brent.gov.uk)**

Copies of this consultation document are also available at the school reception and from Brent Council at Chesterfield House, 9 Park Lane, Wembley, HA9 7RH.

Alternatively, this document can be downloaded from:

<http://www.brent.gov.uk/currentconsultations>

A limited translation service can be provided for this document on request to [judith.joseph@brent.gov.uk](mailto:judith.joseph@brent.gov.uk)

All written comments must be received by: **Wednesday 15 February 2012**

- 8. You can also attend a public meeting for parents, carers and the community which has been arranged to discuss the proposed expansion of Mitchell Brook Primary School.**

**Date: Monday 6 February 2012**

**Time: 6pm**

**Venue: Main Hall  
Mitchell Brook Primary School,  
Bridge Road,  
London, NW10 9BX**

- 9. The procedures for reorganisation**

Mitchell Brook Primary School in partnership with the Council intends to meet with staff, parents and the local community, to receive their views.

If, after the consultation, the Governors decide to proceed with the expansion then a statutory proposal would be published in the local papers and will also be placed at public places e.g. the Town Hall and on the main entrances to Mitchell Brook Primary School.

Thereafter a 4 week Representation period will commence during which anybody can write to make formal representations on the proposals. Representations can be in the form of support, suggestions or objections to the proposal. All representations will be presented to Brent Council's Executive Committee which will make a decision on the proposal.

**10. Consultees**

This document is being sent to:

Mitchell Brook Primary School: parents, staff, governors and student council  
All maintained schools and Academies in Brent  
Brent Council  
Westminster Diocesan Education Service  
London Diocesan Board for Schools  
London Borough of Ealing  
London Borough of Barnet  
London Borough of Camden  
London Borough of Harrow  
London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham  
London Borough of Westminster  
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea  
Local Resident Associations  
Local residents in the immediate vicinity  
All Councillors  
Local Member of Parliament  
All Brent Customer Service Shops  
All Brent Libraries  
Harmony Children Centre  
Other Brent Children Centres  
Sport England  
Secretary of State, School Organisation Unit  
Local private nurseries  
Any trade unions who represent staff of Mitchell Brook Primary School  
Representatives of main trade unions in Brent  
Any local partnerships including Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership

**Mitchell Brook Primary School Consultation Response Slip**

Please tear off and return by: **Wednesday 15 February 2012**

I agree / disagree with the Governors of Mitchell Brook Primary School to expand the school by one form of entry (1FE). *Delete as appropriate*

**Comments:**

*(Please use the back of this form if you require more space)*

**Signed** .....

**Parent / member of staff / other** .....*please specify*

**Please send to:**

**The Headteacher  
Mitchell Brook Primary School  
Bridge Road  
London, NW10 9BX**

**Or email:** [tlandreth@mbrook.brent.sch.uk](mailto:tlandreth@mbrook.brent.sch.uk)

**Comments continued:**

## Monitoring Information

If you are responding on behalf of an **organisation**, please provide the following contact details:

Name of Organisation .....

Address .....

.....

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Email address .....

Contact telephone number .....

If you are responding as an **individual**, please provide the following monitoring information. By answering these questions, you will help us ensure that we deliver a fair service to all our community. You do not have to give us this information, but we hope you will. All information will be treated in the strictest of confidence and will only be used to monitor and improve Brent Council services.

**Gender** (please tick one):

Male		Female	
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**My age group** (please tick one):

16-24		25-34	
35-44		45-54	
55-64		65-74	
75+			

**Which one of these groups do you feel you belong to** (please tick one)?

Asian Indian		Asian Pakistani	
Asian Bangladeshi		Asian Other	
Black Caribbean		Black African	
Black Other		Chinese	
Mixed White and Black Caribbean		Mixed White and Black African	
Mixed White and Asian		Mixed Other	
White British		White Irish	
White Other		Other Ethnic Group	