

## ROSELANDS SCHOOL CONSULTATION

### INTRODUCTON

Roselands School has put forward a request to Torbay Council to extend its site boundaries and incorporate into it some of the adjacent Council owned land. The aim is to address the shortfall of the school's existing site area against DfE recommendations and to improve the external space for play and learning.

In preparing this proposal the school has consulted with staff, parents/carers of pupils attending the school and local residents. A background paper detailing the proposal was distributed and made available via the school's website. The paper included a response form for consultees to complete; a copy is attached below for your reference.

Also as part of the consultation process the proposal was included on the agenda of the Paignton Town Community Partnership meeting in September. The meeting was held at the school so attendees could view the site. The head provided a short presentation for discussion and was on hand to answer arising questions.

### SUMMARY OF RESULTS

In total, the school received 143 responses to their consultation:

- **91% of the respondents confirmed that they were in support of the proposal**
- **9% of the respondents confirmed they were against the proposal**

The respondents can be grouped as follows:

#### LOCAL RESIDENT

Local residents in support	5 (3%)
Local residents against proposal	8 (6%)

#### PARENT/CARER

Parent/carer in support	123 (86%)
Parent/carer against proposal	1 (1%)

#### RESPONDSEE NOT IDENTIFIABLE

In support of proposal	2 (1%)
Against proposal	4 (3%)

#### COMMENTS FROM THOSE IN SUPPORT INCLUDED:

- 'I think this is a great idea and it benefits the community of Roselands in the future too... This plan is also considerate of the 'dog walking' community. .'
- 'If Torbay Council rely on the school to take in more pupils...then they have an obligation to improve the school for the pupils'
- 'Fantastic idea!! This bit of land will help improve the school building so much and I support making use of an empty field'
- '..it will benefit the children hugely'
- 'With the growth in housing around the area, schools will need to accommodate Roselands is an amazing school and would benefit/need more space to accommodate children moving into the area.'
- 'A fabulous opportunity. .'

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- ‘..A great school like Roselands benefits the whole community and should be properly supported.’
- ‘.. I hope Torbay Council takes into consideration the large amount of people this will help. Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.’
- ‘It’s much needed and would be a good and worthwhile improvement’
- ‘Schools support our future generations – very much in favour of making them the best they can be.’
- ‘Torbay Council should support Roselands in this request as it is a credit to Torbay and the surrounding community. As a member of the Roselands Community I support the schools request.’
- ‘We fully support Roselands in this matter...’
- ‘It is nothing but a necessity for Torbay Council to support Mr O'Connor, the headteacher of the outstanding provision, in planning to continue to provide an outstanding environment and opportunities for all current and future children who are all proud to attend Roselands Primary School.’
- ‘..having a good school for our children is fundamental...essential if you want to attract young professional families to the area...Roselands is such a wonderful school...’
- ‘Roselands has a great reputation in the area as a school that you want your children to attend and develop in...’

#### **COMMENTS FROM THOSE OBJECTING INCLUDED:**

- ‘The school has already taken part of the community field to provide a new playground’
- ‘The land ...is. .a site of special scientific interest which I believe was bequeathed by a member of the Whitley family for community enjoyment...’
- ‘..this is an area for the public and not to further the growth of the school’
- ‘The school boundaries have been extended in recent years and taken part of the green space that we thought was protected. To take more would set a precedent for wholesale development of the land. ‘
- ‘...The school already has an enormous playing field compared to some other schools.’
- ‘How can we make a decision without a detailed plan? ..’
- ‘..Total waste of money and time...’

Noticeably the majority of the respondents who objected to the proposal cited increased traffic as a reason for their objection. One respondent objecting went as far as to say ‘In principle not against this but reason stated 'do not support' is a traffic/car issue.’

#### **SUMMARY**

The school acknowledges the concerns raised by residents over parking and traffic congestion; these are challenges facing most schools in Torbay during school drop off and pick up times. The school will continue to proactively look for ways to address this not just for the residents but also to ensure the safety of its pupils. As part of this development the school will be undertaking a travel assessment and developing a robust travel plan. **In view of the majority of the responses supporting the school’s proposal, Roselands School is proceeding with its request for additional land.**



*Believe and Achieve*

## Roselands Primary School

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Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Parent/Carer,

Roselands is an outstanding community primary school. All of us connected with the school are very proud of our school and how well it serves the children of our community. We work hard to ensure we do the best for our pupils and will continue to do so. Some aspects of school life are within our control such as the lessons we teach and the activities our pupils can take part in. In other aspects of our school we need help from other people to improve. I am writing to you now to keep you informed of current developments and to ask your help in supporting the school.

You will have noticed that the area is growing with many new homes and shops being built. Torbay Council is responsible for making sure that as houses are built there are enough school places for the extra children from these houses. They have plans for a new school to serve all the new houses but finances are tight and it is some way off being built.

Roselands currently has 317 pupils on roll and an admission number for each Reception year of 45 children. Torbay Council has asked the school to take 60 pupils into Reception year in September 2018 as a one off. We have agreed so that there are places for children at their local school. This will see the school increase to 332 children over the next year.

To enable Roselands to teach the additional children Torbay Council will build the school an additional classroom. Additional pupils will put extra pressure on other areas of the school particularly the school hall which is too small even for the current number of pupils and as you will know is not a great space to use because it has an oddly sloping ceiling.

More pupils also need more space to play and run around. This is where we need your help. The Roselands site is not big enough for the current number of pupils and we have asked for some of the field behind the school to be included in the school site. If Torbay Council agree with this request it would enable the school to move its football field/playing field to this new area of land and would give us the space, at some stage in the future, to build a new school hall on the current playing field.

There is no money for this at the moment but a new hall would be our aspiration that would improve the facilities for all the pupils in the school as well as being a wonderful community facility. The field behind the school is mostly used by members of the community walking and exercising their dogs. We are only requesting part of the field for a new football pitch/playing field so there would still be space for the community on the other part of the field and on the other adjoining fields. Our new field would be used by 332 pupils throughout the school year.

We would welcome your views on this proposal and if you agree, your support. Please can you complete the attached response form and send it back by Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> September.

Yours sincerely

Mr Chris O'Connor

Head of School

**Response**

I support Roselands in its request to Torbay Council for additional land

I do not support Roselands in its request to Torbay Council for additional land

Any comments