

# Brindishe Lee Primary School

## Tell us your views

### What is this leaflet about?

This leaflet explains:

- why we need to increase the number of primary school places across the borough
- how your school might help meet demand in 2013
- what will happen next after this consultation

It is important to us to gain the views of pupils, parents/carers, governors, school staff, pupils, the local community and other interested parties about this proposal. There is a form at the back of this leaflet for you to fill in and return to share your thoughts.

Completed forms need to be returned by **Thursday 31st January 2013**

e-copies of this form are available on the Brindishe Lee School website and on Lewisham's website

To return the form:

- Email to: [Brindishe\\_Lee\\_Nursery\\_Class\\_consultation@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:Brindishe_Lee_Nursery_Class_consultation@lewisham.gov.uk)
- Email to: [margaret.brightman@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:margaret.brightman@lewisham.gov.uk)
- Send to: Margaret Brightman, Pupil Place Manager, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, London, SE6 4RU
- Leave it in the box provided in Brindishe Lee Primary School reception

You can also call Margaret Brightman on 0208 314 8034 if you have any questions or comments.

### The Proposal

**The Nursery class at Brindishe Lee should close in July 2013 so that the school can offer an extra Reception class (an extra 30 places) in September 2013.**

## **Why do we need additional places in Lewisham primary schools?**

The number of births in Lewisham has increased by over 34% since 2000/2001.

We have an active programme to provide additional permanent places but each year we need to supplement this with a programme of temporary enlargements or “bulge” classes. An additional class is admitted in September and stays with the school for 7 years. The Published Admission Number for the school in subsequent years does not change.

We continue to monitor our projections very carefully to ensure that - as far as possible - we get the right number of places in the right locations. We want to be able to educate as many as possible of our young people close to their homes in Lewisham.

## **Why offer a bulge class at this school?**

The population in the Lee Green area is increasing faster than the borough average. Since 2000/01 there has been a 39% increase in births - from 317 births in 2000/01 to 440 in 2009/10. Our projections, which include information on planned housing developments, indicate that there will be a sustained demand for additional places in schools in the area until beyond the end of the decade.

We expect to need over 400 Reception places in 2013 to meet applications from families who live in the area. Even with the opening of the new primary phase at Trinity, this is a shortfall of at least 30 places.

## **Why close the nursery?**

There is a greater demand for places in statutory education than for a place in nursery classes attached to schools.

Brindishe Lee offers free part-time provision for up to 50 children below statutory school age at either a morning or an afternoon session. A place in the nursery does not guarantee a place in the Reception class at the school.

Sadly, each year many local families have been unable to secure a place at one of their preferred local schools. Last year there were over 390 applicants for the 30 places in Brindishe Lee’s Reception class. However recruitment to the nursery class has not been as vibrant.

We have recently completed an assessment of the sufficiency of childcare in Lewisham. As well as providing a summary of the borough-wide situation, our researchers looked at the various localities. They looked at the amount and quality of provision across the borough and they interviewed over 800 parents to find out whether the provision met their requirements. The research did not highlight gaps in childcare provision for under

5's in this area, parents felt that childcare was affordable and there were vacancies locally across a range of providers.

There are vacancies in the nursery classes in the other schools in the Brindishe Federation so parents can feel confident that they would be able to access other local, high quality provision.

### **How could the school increase its size?**

The area used by the Nursery class would need minimal alteration to provide an additional Reception classroom. However work would be needed elsewhere in order to support the school's highly successful teaching and learning style. The Governing Body has asked the Local Authority to consider extending the library area, remodel the outdoor area in order to enlarge the playground and improve shared areas such as toilets. A room was added when the school took a bulge class in 2010. The school's kitchen has recently been re-modelled and is capable of supplying additional meals,

### **Will the education of the children already in the school be compromised?**

There is no reason why expansion of the school, which is recognised as outstanding, should compromise the education of children already in the school. Lewisham has many successful schools of all sizes and also has effective local networks which spread expertise throughout the borough. School leadership, ethos and the quality of teaching and learning are the key factors which influence school effectiveness. These qualities have been nationally recognised within the Brindishe Federation.

### **What funding will the school receive for the additional pupils?**

The Local Authority will meet the costs of the building works required using funding received from central government, and will equip the new classes as they open. In addition to the set-up costs, the school will receive revenue funding for each child who joins the school.

### **How do I find out more?**

There will be a drop-in session for parents on **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> January between 5.30 and 7.00pm** . If you are unable to attend but have questions please contact Margaret Brightman (Margaret.brightman@lewisham.gov.uk ) 0208 314 8034

### **What will happen next after this consultation?**

We will report back to Mayor & Cabinet in March 2013 so that the Mayor's decision is known before Reception places are offered in April 2013.

## Feedback form

It is important to the local authority and the school to hear your views on this proposal. Please fill in the form below to share your thoughts with us. You can also call Margaret Brightman at Lewisham Council (020 8314 8034) if you have any questions or comments.

### To return the form:

- Email to: [Brindishe\\_Lee\\_Nursery\\_Class\\_consultation@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:Brindishe_Lee_Nursery_Class_consultation@lewisham.gov.uk)
  - Send to: Margaret Brightman, Place Manager, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Laurence House Catford Road, London, SE6 4RU
  - Leave it in the box provided in Brindishe Lee Primary School reception
- e-copies of this form are available on the Brindishe Lee Primary School Website

The deadline for returning the form is ***January 31<sup>st</sup> 2013***

## Your views

Do you support the proposal to close the Nursery class? [Please tick one box]

 YES NO UNSURE

Please indicate the reasons for your views

Please could you provide us with some information about yourself overleaf...

## Your details

I am representing an organisation in making this response (*please tick and specify*)

Name of organisation: .....

How would you best describe yourself in relation to this consultation? (*please tick one*)

- Parent/carer       Governor       School staff       Pupil       Member of local community  
 Other (*please specify*): .....

**Equalities monitoring** is the collection of information which helps services ensure that they are providing a fair and inclusive service. The information that is provided on this form will remain strictly confidential in accordance with the Data Protection Act. If you are unhappy about answering a particular question you do not have to.

**Are you male or female?**  Male  Female

**Please select your age group**

- Under 18     18-24     25-29     30-34     35-39     40-44  
 45-49     50-54     55-59     60-64     65+

**To which of these groups do you consider you belong?**

- White - British  
 White - Irish  
 Any other White background, *please state*: .....  
 Mixed - White & Black Caribbean  
 Mixed - White & Black African  
 Mixed - White & Asian  
 Any other Mixed background, *please state*: .....  
 Asian or Asian British - Indian  
 Asian or Asian British - Pakistani  
 Asian or Asian British - Bangladeshi  
 Any other Asian background, *please state*: .....  
 Black or Black British - Caribbean  
 Black or Black British - African  
 Any other Black background, *please state*: .....  
 Chinese  
 Other ethnic group, *please state*: .....

**Thank you for taking the time to read this leaflet. We look forward to hearing from you.**

If you have difficulty understanding this document in English please call the number below.

Për të marrë informacion mbi këtë dokument, ju lutemi telefononi numrin e mëposhtëm.

Albanian

Pour plus d'informations sur ce document, veuillez appeler le numéro ci-dessous.

French

更多有关本文件的信息，请拨打如下电话。

Mandarin

Sidii aad u hesho macluumaad ku saabsan dokumentigaan fadlan soo wac lambarka hoos ku qoran.

Somali

இப் பத்திரத்திலுள்ள தகவல் தேவையானால் தயவுசெய்து கீழேயுள்ள எண்ணில் தொடர்புகொள்ளவும்.

Tamil

Bu doküman hakkında bilgi için lütfen aşağıdaki numarayı arayınız.

Turkish

Để biết thêm thông tin về tài liệu này, quý vị hãy gọi số điện thoại sau.

Vietnamese

**020 7253 7700**

Also call this number for other formats, including Braille, large print, audio tape, BSL or computer disc.  
Email: [lewisham@pearllinguistics.com](mailto:lewisham@pearllinguistics.com) Ttypetalk: 18001 020 7253 7700

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