

North Whiteley New Secondary School

Children and Young People Select Committee

Tuesday 22 April 2025

Natalie Smith – Assistant Director, Education & Inclusion

Richard Vaughan - Strategic Manager (Capital Planning and Development)

Recommendation

- That approval be given to relocate The Henry Cort Community College to the new North Whiteley secondary school site with effect from September 2027.
 - A new secondary school is needed in North Whiteley to meet increasing demand from continuing housing development.
 - Relocating The Henry Cort Community College to the new secondary school ensures the new provision will be of an optimum size to have a strong and broad curriculum offer, supporting both pupil and staff retention as well as educational standards.
 - The new school will provide pupils attending The Henry Cort Community College with access to modern fit for the future facilities supporting a broad curriculum.
 - Decision brought forward from June to April providing the school, parents and pupils certainty about the future of The Henry Cort Community College – will support on-going staff recruitment.



Statutory Consultation

Statutory consultation process took place between 10 January – 14 February 2025, including two public drop-ins
140 responses – 28 in support, 104 objected and 8 were neutral

Common themes:

- Travel time and distance
 - *Eligible pupils will receive funded school transport to secondary provision*
 - *Short term increase in travel for some on roll pupils at The Henry Cort Community College; decreasing school transport costs over time.*
 - *Locally generated school population for new North Whiteley School.*
- Sufficiency of school places
 - *New North Whiteley school will take pupils from the development and have a new catchment*
 - *Cams Hill and Fareham Academy are not full from linked schools; significant numbers from outside of school catchment.*
 - *Capacity within the Fareham schools to take yield from the Fareham side of the current The Henry Cort Community College catchment.*
- Consistency of education and educational outcomes, particularly for those in Years 10 and 11.
 - *School leaders will work with LA, parents and pupils to support transition for all pupils to the new school site*
- Local development and need to plan for the future.
 - *All known housing is included in forecasts, including anticipated yield from Welborne*
 - *No decision yet made on future use of The Henry Cort Community College site if relocation is approved*
 - *New school can grow by a further 2fe if required*

Relocated school site

- The new 6-form entry (6fe) North Whiteley Secondary School will provide education for up to 900 pupils aged between 11 and 16 years old.
- The school is designed to allow for expansion by a further 300 places (2fe) if required.
- On-site Resourced Provision for 15 pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
- Predominantly funded by developer contributions secured by the County Council.
- Comprises of a purpose-built main school building with a separate sports block along with hardstanding for informal play and play courts, two all-weather sports pitches, grass playing fields and a staff and visitor car park.

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Benefits of relocation

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- School will be of optimum size to offer a strong and broad curriculum, supporting both staff and pupil retention
- Access to modern fit for the future facilities
- School serves the Whiteley community, in the longer term reducing funded school transport costs
- Supports financial viability of The Henry Cort Community College into the future
- Reduces likelihood of closure if The Henry Cort Community College were to remain in its current location and new school opens, creating a surplus of spaces in the area
- Sufficient capacity at Fareham Academy and Cams Hill to meet Fareham based demand in the future
- 47.2% of pupils on roll at Fareham Academy are from out of catchment
- 56.9% of pupils on roll at Cams Hill are from out of catchment

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