



Stakeholder Consultation

Extension to John Ferneley College and increase to Pupil Admission Number.

To the Parents and Carers, Staff, Local Authority representatives and community of Melton Mowbray:

This consultation is to notify you of and give the opportunity to feedback on proposed changes to the school for August 2023.

Over the last couple of years, the demand for secondary school places in the local area has increased. John Ferneley College has worked hard with the local authority to ensure that places are available to match existing demand. As such it has worked to remodel areas of the school in an effort to create appropriate and comfortable learning spaces.

However, it has now become apparent that in order to match increasing demands in the future, additional space will be required.

Leicestershire County Council has predicted that the average intake for secondary will increase over the next couple of years due to ongoing and future house building projects.

An extension project has been proposed to accommodate the increase in student numbers and future demand. John Ferneley College is already working with numbers of students in excess of those originally planned for the school. Increasing the capacity in school will therefore benefit both existing and future students and staff alike.

John Ferneley College is consulting on plans to increase the number of school places it can provide. It is worth noting that this number has been exceeded year on year due to demand and at the request of Leicestershire County Council. The school has adapted to these requests to provide consistency for every pupil.

Under the proposals, the Pupil Admission Number would formally increase to 240.

Natalie Teece, Head of School at John Ferneley College, said: “We receive a huge number of applications for John Ferneley College every year, by increasing capacity we can provide appropriate learning spaces for our students where they will thrive academically and socially.”

As a school, we are committed to continual improvement and will always make decisions based on what is in the interests of our students. For that reason, the school leadership, Executive team of Mowbray Education Trust and Leicestershire County Council have been working together to build a proposal that will future proof the demand for education in the area. The Mowbray Education Trust Board is aware of the planned changes and supports the proposed expansion to the John Ferneley College site and Pupil Admission Numbers.



MET and its schools

MET currently has 7 member schools/settings and you can find details of the membership, along with further information on the MET website here:

<https://www.mowbrayeducation.org>.

John Ferneley College benefits from student applications from primary schools from within and external to the Trust.

Advantages of Expansion of John Ferneley College building and increasing Pupil Admission Numbers

The senior leadership of the school and the Trust believe that the expansion of the building will benefit the current students as well as providing the opportunity to meet the demand of the need for school places in future. The building project will increase capacity for teaching and learning and provide a library resource centre for the benefit of students. It will give increased reading and IT provision. The increase in Pupil Admission Numbers will give security to parents and pupils, that school places are available and the school and its staff to effectively plan, timetable and resource lessons.

Disadvantages of Expansion of the John Ferneley College Building and increasing Pupil Admission Numbers

It is anticipated that there will be a period of disruption due to building works however the planned timeframe, although not yet confirmed will always be negotiated where possible when school is not in session.

Inevitably, there will be times where contractors work whilst students are learning, and every effort will be taken to minimise any disruption to students. Health and Safety and Safeguarding responsibilities will be paramount in preparation and delivery of this project and experts from the Trust and Leicestershire County Council will work together to ensure the safety of students and staff during the project. The school and the Trust will endeavour to ensure that on a day-to-day basis the school community have minimal awareness of the project. There is no disadvantage to increasing the Pupil Admission Number for the school as John Ferneley College has been working with somewhat increased numbers of pupils for some time.

Questions and Feedback

John Ferneley College is running a consultation for the proposed extension of the existing building and the increase in Pupil Admission Numbers concurrently. We would like to make sure that the entire school community has had an opportunity to ask questions about what this change will mean for our school. We have included a feedback form with this letter and would be grateful if you could submit this to us by Tuesday 6th December 2022 with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have. You can also complete an online survey available at:

<https://forms.office.com/r/ssF50qspb2>



We will ensure that we circulate answers to all your questions. If any parents would like to meet with the representatives of MET to discuss the proposal, we are planning to conduct a public meeting on the following date:

Tuesday 22nd November 2022, 5.00pm at John Ferneley College

We will welcome all to these meetings to discuss our proposals and rationale. Alternatively, you can leave a hard-copy feedback form in the box at school reception and forms received will be kept completely anonymous.

Finally, we would like to thank you for your continued support of John Ferneley College. We believe that we have a truly wonderful school here and we are committed to ensuring we provide the very best for our students and their families.

The following timetable outlines the decision-making process.

Process	Date
Consultation opens	Tuesday 8th November 2022
Online form opens	Tuesday 8th November 2022
Public drop-in event at John Ferneley College	Tuesday 22 nd November 2022 at 5.00pm
Consultation closes	Tuesday 6th December 2022
Comments collated and reviewed	From Wednesday 7th December 2022
Business case submitted	December 2022
Implementation	August 2023

Yours sincerely,

Natalie Teece
Head of School

Christine Stansfield
CEO, Mowbray Education Trust



Feedback Form

1. Do you support the increase to Pupil Admission Numbers at John Ferneley College?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not Sure

2. Do you have any concerns or questions about the proposal to increase Pupil Admission Numbers? If so, what are they?

3. Do you support the plan to increase the capacity of John Ferneley College by building the proposed extension?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Not Sure



4. Do you have any concerns or questions about the proposed increase to the capacity of John Ferneley College by building the new extension if so, what are they?

I am:

- ☐ A Parent / Carer
- ☐ A Member of Staff
- ☐ A Pupil/Student
- ☐ A Governance Volunteer
- ☐ A Member of the Community
- ☐ A Leicestershire County Council Representative
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Thank you for your comments!
Please post this form to the school by 5th December 2022.
MET OPS - Public Consultation
John Ferneley College
Scalford Road
Melton Mowbray
Leicestershire
LE13 1LH



Frequently Asked Questions

Extension to School Building and increased Pupil Admission Number

All FAQs regarding the proposal will be published below and updated periodically throughout the consultation period. If your question has not been answered please get in touch.

All responses may be used in summary with personal details removed to respect individual privacy.

Would the age range of John Ferneley College be increased with the increased number of places?

No. The age range of John Ferneley will remain at 11-16 years

Would class sizes increase as a result of an increased pupil numbers?

No. The class sizes would remain the same.

Would the number of pupils at John Ferneley College increase with the increase in the pupil admissions number (PAN)?

In theory the total numbers of students at John Ferneley would be 1200. However, for context we have already reached this figure. This would be complemented by the increased capacity of the new extension and therefore create a better learning environment.

If the number of pupils at the John Ferneley College is increased, will consideration be given to the space of the social and play areas?

The Extension will not provide more social areas, however the school has considered the needs of students in non-lesson time.

What will be the impact on our children?

There will be no change to the delivery of education and level of support provided for all students. Operational and logistical considerations will not impact of teaching and learning.

What are the details of the building project?

The new accommodation is a new 2 storey block, consisting of 6 classroom bases, a library resource and additional area to support SEND pupils' learning. The work will start from early December for it to be completed for the start of 2023 academic year.

