



25th April 2022

School Expansion Proposal

Dear Silverdale Parents and Carers,

We're excited to share with you plans for our expansion of student numbers from September 2023 onwards. To accommodate our extra students, we are proposing to have a new building adjacent to the current school building.

This letter provides an overview of our plans and invites parents and carers to respond with their views.

Sheffield Local Authority have proposed that Silverdale increases its capacity in response to the ongoing and future shortage of secondary school places, in the south west of the City. This will ensure that the city can meet the needs of all of its secondary age students, by providing school places within the catchment areas.

Sheffield Local Authority has also requested that the school accommodate 30 SEN students in the Sixth Form. This meets a city-wide need to expand post-16 provision for SEN students.

We wish to increase our Year 7 "Pupil Allocation Number" (PAN) from 180 to 240. Whilst the school has already temporarily expanded three year groups to 240 students, we are proposing to phase in this permanent expansion over a five year period, starting in September 2023.

How will pupil numbers be affected?

Although Silverdale's current official "Pupil Allocation Number" (PAN) is 1,300, we have had more students than this in some year groups, in school for many years now. This is in response to the high demand for places locally, and the economies of scale that being a larger school brings.

A breakdown of current and future numbers is below:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Total projected pupil numbers in each year
2022/23	180	180	180	240	240	220	240	1480
2023/24	240	180	180	180	240	240	220	1480
2024/25	240	240	180	180	180	220	240	1480

Chorus Education Trust CEO: Chris James



2025/26	240	240	240	180	180	220	220	1520
2027/28	240	240	240	240	180	220	220	1580
2028/2029	240	240	240	240	240	220	220	1640
2029/2030	240	240	240	240	240	240	220	1660
2030/31	240	240	240	240	240	240	240	1680

Under the new arrangements we do not expect to go over PAN as in previous years, instead the PAN and the reality will be matched more closely.

Will the look and feel of the school change?

The overall look and feel of our current building will not change as a result of these works, the internal changes will be in keeping with the current design. The outward and internal appearance of the new building will also be in line with the design of the current school building.

Where is the planning permission and planning consultation?

Please note this is not a planning consultation. Silverdale School and Chorus Trust will handle all planning matters separately. Full designs and specifications for the project will be shared by Sheffield City Council via their Planning Portal and people will be able to respond formally. This is an initial communication to make our parents / carers aware and gauge the level of support for the expansion.

How will it be paid for?

All capital costs associated with building the new building will be funded by the Local Authority.

What are the risks?

With any change of this magnitude, there could be risks or unintended consequences. We have taken all of these into consideration and have plans in place to mitigate these. The main potential issues we have highlighted are as follows:

Risk	Mitigation
Effect the proposed building has on the education of existing students, either during the redevelopment, or after the extension is completed.	This will be covered in planning consultation. The company delivering the project has extensive experience of this kind of work. As this is a modular style building, this allows for some 'off site' works to be completed. Any construction work that could disturb learning will be completed in the school holidays, wherever possible.

How will the school prevent overcrowding in corridors and communal areas at times such as lesson changeovers?

As always, at Silverdale School, student and staff safety is paramount. Staff at Silverdale School carry out break and lunch duties to ensure easy and safe movement around the school and this will continue. There will be more students but equally there will be both more space and more staff for supervision. The new building will have stairways at both sides of the building along with a lift. The building is over 3 floors and we intend to implement a one way system, as we already do within the current school building. The increase is also phased over several years, which will allow us to observe and manage any issues about student movement around the school.

In summary, although we are in the early stages of this process, we hope parents and carers will share our excitement for this planned expansion. These plans will improve access to education at Silverdale for local families, many of which are disappointed to not secure a place at Silverdale each year under our current arrangements.

Further details about the expansion can be found here: www.silverdale-chorustrust.org/consultation

Parents and carers now have a chance to offer their support or ask questions / raise concerns. In the first instance, this can be done via an email:

significantchangeexpansion@silverdale.chorustrust.org

Or in writing to:

Consultation Regarding Admissions Arrangements

Silverdale School

Bents Crescent

Sheffield

S11 9QH

There will be an initial period of consultation from **Monday 25th April 2022** and ends on **Tuesday 24th May 2022** at noon. Consultation responses will then be considered by the Chorus Board of Trustees and we will update parents and carers and confirm any further communications, as required.

Yours faithfully



Sarah Sims
Head of School