

**COMPLETE PROPOSAL**

**PRESCRIBED ALTERATION  
TO COLTON HILLS  
COMMUNITY SCHOOL FROM  
1 SEPTEMBER 2027**

**CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL**

## **PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO COLTON HILLS COMMUNITY SCHOOL**

### **Introduction**

The City of Wolverhampton Council (the Council) as the Local Authority for Wolverhampton is consulting on a proposed change to Colton Hills Community School (the School). This document describes what is being proposed and why.

### **Local Authority Information**

City of Wolverhampton Council

Contact: School Organisation Team, 1st Floor, Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton, WV1 1RL. Email: school.organisation@wolverhampton.gov.uk

### **School Information**

<b>Type:</b>	Community School		
<b>Name:</b>	Colton Hills Community School	<b>DFE Number:</b>	<b>336/4133</b>
<b>Address:</b>	Jeremy Road, Wolverhampton, West Midlands, WV4 5DG		
<b>Ward:</b>	Blakenhall		
<b>Age Range:</b>	11 – 18 Years		
<b>Gender:</b>	Mixed	<b>Current Capacity:</b>	1144
<b>Last Ofsted:</b>	November 2023	<b>Rating:</b>	Good

### **What changes are proposed?**

The Council is proposing to carry out the following change to the School:

Permanently increase the school's capacity to cater for additional pupils. The school's Year 7 admission limit would increase from 161 to 240 (79 places). The admission limit for subsequent years would also be 240. The school would grow over a seven year period and by September 2031 would cater for up to 1200 pupils in Years 7-11.

Although the proposed increase in places is substantial, the school has supported the Council over the past four years by temporarily admitting additional pupils to meet local demand. The current number of places currently offered at the school is 240 for Year 7, 224 for Years 8, 9 and 10, and 180 for Year 11. These extra pupils have been accommodated through internal remodelling and a small extension to the dining facilities. Further works are underway this year to enable the school to take 240 pupils in September 2026. However, demand for school places continues to rise, and a permanent expansion is therefore now being proposed.

### **Why do we want to do this?**

#### **Background:**

The School's current Published Admission Number (PAN) for Year 7 is 161.

#### **Evidence of Demand:**

Levels of demand for secondary school places in Wolverhampton are projected to increase. In order to ensure sufficient school places are available, the City of Wolverhampton Council propose that Colton Hills Community School is permanently expanded to enable the school to cater for a greater number of pupils.

**When will these changes happen?**

Following this consultation period, if the proposal is approved by the decision maker the changes will be implemented from 1 September 2027.

**Will there be any effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area?**

There are not expected to be any adverse effects on other schools, as the proposed expansion will provide much needed school places to meet demand. The proposal is likely to have a positive effect by creating new places, allowing more families the opportunity to attend a preferred school.

The Council remains committed to ensuring that future school places are developed in areas where they are most needed, enabling children to attend schools closer to home and within their local communities. The proposed expansion of Colton Hills Community School will increase the number of places for pupils at a 'Good' school and provide greater choice for parents.

**How will this affect pupils at the school?**

Current pupils may notice the increase to the total number of pupils at the School. With the additional pupils, the school may decide to organise the school differently to ensure educational continuity but that would be the school's decision.

**How will this affect staff at the school?**

Subject to the approval of the proposed permanent expansion, it is anticipated that Colton Hills Community School will need to recruit additional staff.

While staffing levels are expected to rise in line with the proposed permanent expansion, the responsibility of the future organisation, deployment and duty of care for staff rests with the Headteacher and the Governing Body.

**Travel and Transport:**

It is acknowledged that car parking and traffic congestion in the vicinity of schools is a sensitive issue and can cause disruption for residents, often resulting in complaints to Councillors, Members of Parliament and Council representatives. There is potential for the proposed expansion to exacerbate local issues. Subject to approval of the proposal, additional safety measures will be considered and delivered where required.

As part of any associated planning applications, the Council's Highways Team would consider the impact of any proposed new build and may make some recommendations or impose certain requirements.

**Will there be changes to the school building?**

To provide the school with sufficient accommodation to cater for the increase in places the following is required:

- A new building consisting of six classrooms, three art studios, SEN Resource Base and pupil toilets
- An extension to the school hall

### **What are the project costs for this proposal and how is it funded?**

The funding for the proposed expansion will come from the Local Authority's Basic Need Budget and High Needs Budget. £6,107,000 has been allocated for this project. The ongoing maintenance and running costs for the building will be the responsibility of the school and will be funded from the school's budget.

### **Will this definitely happen?**

There is a statutory process to be followed when making these sorts of changes to schools. Following this statutory consultation, the proposal will be presented to the Council's Cabinet in July 2026; they are the decision maker for this type of proposal.

It is only after a decision and right of referral period (whereby certain bodies have a right to appeal the final decision) has taken place will we be able to say with certainty whether the proposal will be implemented. The decision will be published on the Consultation Portal on 5 August 2026 and stakeholders will be notified.

### **What will happen if this proposal is rejected?**

If the proposed increase in pupil places is not approved for implementation, the school will continue to operate with a Year 7 PAN of 161. Alternative and additional places would need to be provided at other schools, which could have a negative impact on pupils' travel distances to an alternative school and which maybe outside of their local area.

### **How do I comment on this proposal?**

We welcome any responses to consultation and interested parties are invited to object to, support or comment on the proposal in one of the following ways.

### **Any responses must be received no later than 17 May 2026.**

You can comment online via:

<https://consultation.wolverhampton.gov.uk/education/coltonhillscommunityschool>

You can write to us:

- By email: [school.organisation@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@wolverhampton.gov.uk)
- By letter:  
Miss J Heaton  
School Organisation Officer  
City of Wolverhampton Council  
1st Floor Civic Centre  
St Peter's Square  
Wolverhampton, WV1 1RL

### **What happens next?**

The dates set out below meet the government requirements for the Council to consult fully with the people affected by the proposal.

### Key Dates

Action	Date
Statutory notice published	20 April 2026
Start of 4-week consultation period	20 April 2026
End of 4-week consultation period	17 May 2026
Final decision deadline	8 July 2026
Publication of decision	5 August 2026
Changes implemented	1 September 2027

### **Stakeholders consulted:**

Colton Hills Community School: governors, staff, parents/carers and pupils  
Local Councillors  
Members of Parliament  
Local Diocesan Authorities  
Other/Neighbouring Local Authorities  
Trade Unions