



# What You Need to Know about Hampshire County Council's Proposals to Build a New Primary School in Whiteley

THE PARISH COUNCIL WOULD WELCOME YOUR SUPPORT IN OBJECTING TO THE PROPOSED USE OF THE MEADOWSIDE RECREATION GROUND FOR A NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL

**THE PARISH COUNCIL CONSIDERS THAT HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL SHOULD PURSUE THE ALTERNATIVE SITE FOR THE NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL.**

Please contact Whiteley Parish Council, Heatherdene, Turkey Island, Shedfield, Southampton SO32 2JE Tel 01329 835019

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For several years Whiteley Parish Council has vigorously campaigned for a new two-form entry school for Whiteley, questioning the accuracy of the calculations used by Hampshire County Council to provide school places for children in Whiteley.

Following a public consultation earlier this year Hampshire County Council agreed to provide a one-form entry primary school with potential to expand to two-form entry, subject to funding and a suitable site being found. Funding has subsequently been approved by central government; a suitable site has yet to be agreed.

## Q1 Does Hampshire County Council own any land within Whiteley that would be suitable for building a new school?

Hampshire County Council has confirmed that it does not own any land suitable for a new Primary School. However, two sites have been identified for further study.

## Q2 Where are these sites in Whiteley?

One site is the Winchester City Council owned Meadowside recreation ground adjacent to the Meadowside Centre. The other is nearby in private ownership.

## Q3 Which site does Hampshire County Council prefer?

It is understood that Hampshire County Council prefers the Meadowside recreation ground. Hampshire County Council believes the alternative site will take longer to acquire.

## Q4 Does the Parish Council support the provision of a school on the Meadowside recreation ground?

No. The Parish Council believes the alternative privately owned site should be pursued to allow the recreation ground to be retained. The Parish Council believes both sites will take time to acquire.

## Q5 Will backing retention of the Meadowside recreation ground delay the opening of the new school in 2006?

Whiteley Parish Council believes that this will not be the case. Hampshire County Council has indicated that the new school will be in temporary buildings for some time before relocating to permanent buildings. School entry in September 2006 is independent of the selected final location.

## Q6 Is recreation land being offered elsewhere to compensate for the loss at Meadowside?

No.

## Q7 What are Whiteley Parish Council's principal objections to the use of Meadowside recreation ground?

The unacceptable loss of well-used amenity, recreation space and sports pitches. Although a one-form entry school is planned, expansion to a two form-entry school could mean the loss of about two thirds of the current sports pitches. (see map on reverse)

## Q8 What would happen to the Meadowside Centre and other facilities if a school was built on the Meadowside recreation ground?

Meadowside Centre would be unable to undertake any expansion; the tennis courts and proposed skate park would have to be relocated elsewhere within the site.

## Q9 Will residents be consulted on the proposals?

Hampshire County Council has indicated that it will consult with residents in January 2006. Your views are very important and you are urged to respond.

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