



Relocation of Torbay School, Consultation

In February 2016 the Council gave its approval for the relocation of Torbay School subject to consultation.

Since then Officers have been working with the school and others to identify a suitable site for that relocation.

The attached paper provides you with some background information to the relocation and details of the site we are proposing to relocate the school to.

We would like to hear your views on this proposed site and have attached a questionnaire which you can complete and return. This consultation forms part of a prescribed statutory process for making changes to a school and as such can only consider responses that relate directly to the impact of the proposed changes to the school in question. The criteria for upholding objections are specifically focused on the impact on teaching and learning and on the Council's statutory duty for providing school places.

If you require this document in a different format or would like any further information then please contact 01803 208260,

The closing date for responses is 30th May 2016.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Richard Williams', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Richard Williams
Torbay Council - Director Children Services

Relocation of Torbay School Consultation Information

In February 2016 the Council approved the proposal to move Torbay School from its current location at Torquay Road, Paignton TQ3 2AL, to a new site with purpose built accommodation for secondary pupils with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. This move is supported by the school leadership team and Governing Body.

Background

The main part of Torbay School has been at its current location since 2003. Under a reorganisation of the Council's provision for pupils with special needs it was established as a special school for 60 pupils aged between 9 and 16 with behavioural, emotional and social difficulties. Since then the demand for places has continued to rise so in 2013 the age range of the school was changed; it became a provision for secondary aged pupils only.

In 2014 the school was amalgamated with the Council's Alternative Provision; this made Torbay School a split site school with premises at The Preston Centre, Torquay Road, Paignton; The Assessment Centre, Higher Polsham Road, Paignton and The Hillside Learning Centre, South Parks Torquay.

With these changes and the size and access limitations of the Torquay Road site the school had been in discussion with the Council about the long term suitability of its existing site and premises for its pupils.

Where Are We Now?

Since the decision in February, Council Officers and the school have been looking at a number of different sites for the main school to relocate to; they have been considering the size, location and suitability of each site.

As a result of those discussions the most appropriate site identified, is the site at MyPlace, Paignton. It is this site which we would like to consult with you on.

MyPlace (also known as Parkfield) is located just off Paignton seafront at Colin Road, Paignton TQ3 2NR.

The site is approximately 9 acres in total and in 2011 it was developed as a purpose built youth facility with a sports hall which can be turned into a theatre or music venue, an indoor climbing wall, an international standard BMX track and a skate park.

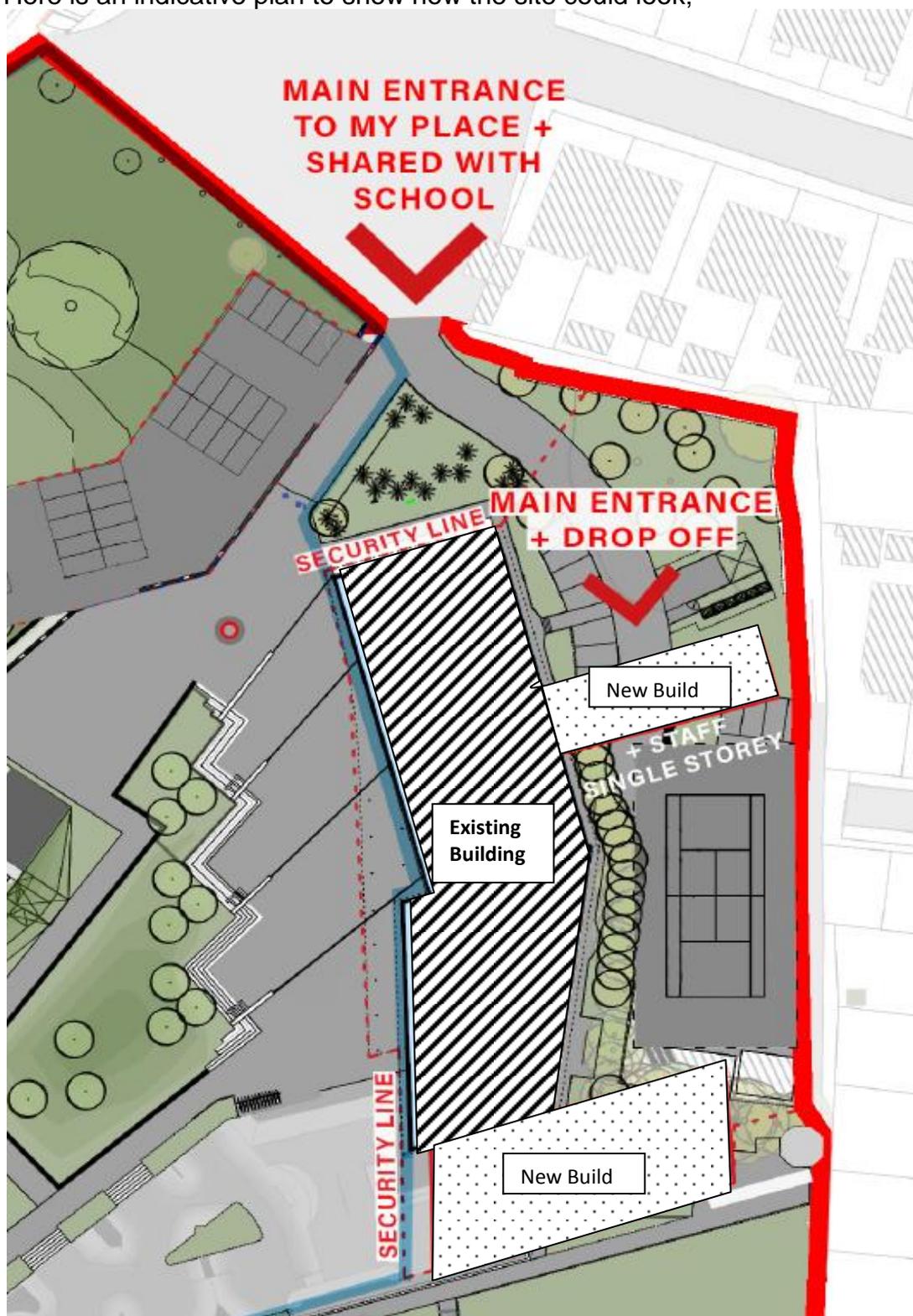
The proposal is for Torbay school to sit alongside what is already there allowing its young people sole access to those facilities during school hours. The facilities would then be available for the Youth Trust to use outside of school hours and during school holidays. Children Services would work in partnership with the school and the Youth Trust to ensure that the MyPlace site meets the needs of both services. Other potential users of the wider Parkfield site (BMX Track) would be unaffected by these proposals.

The existing accommodation on site would be remodelled to ensure it meets the schools needs and the needs of the Youth Trust. The final design of the building is yet to be determined but this will provide a resolution to the use of space. In addition Torbay Council will be using Department for Education (DfE) guidance and

recommendations for a 64 place Special secondary school, for young people with emotional, social and behavioural difficulties. The Youth Trust, the Torbay School Leadership Team and governors will be involved throughout the design process to ensure that what is provided meets the needs of the young people who will be attending.

Funding has been set aside by Torbay Council to deliver this project.

Here is an indicative plan to show how the site could look;



MyPlace is a fantastic local facility which is currently underused. Being a facility for young people currently it is mostly used outside of school hours. By having Torbay school there alongside the Youth Trust, Children's Services are seeking to maximise the potential of that site and ensure that it remains sustainable.

There are, however, some groups that do use the facilities during school hours; the Council will be consulting with them and looking to see how their needs can be accommodated in the future scheme.

The Next Steps

All responses received during this consultation will be collated and presented so a decision can be made in early June 2016.

If approved, then the following would happen:

Spring 2016	Development of plans in consultation with stakeholders Tendering for the contract Finalised plans to be shared via the school
Summer 2016 – Summer 2017	Contractors on site
Summer 2017	Decant of the school
September 2017	Torbay School to open its doors in its new location

This means that Torbay School would stay at its current location until the end of the next academic year (2016/17).

How to Make Your Views Heard

We would like to hear your views on this proposal, please find attached a questionnaire which you can complete and return. This questionnaire can also be completed online, go to: www.torbay.gov.uk/consultation.

You can also send your views in by letter or email to the following addresses.

Letter: Samantha Poston
Schools Capital & Planning Officer,
Schools Capital & Planning Team, TDA
3rd Floor Tor Hill House
Union Street
Torquay
TQ2 5QW

Email: schoolscapital@torbay.gov.uk

The closing date for responses is 30th May 2016.



Relocation of Torbay School Consultation Questionnaire

Please read each question and indicate your preferred response by ticking the relevant box. Your comments are also welcome and space has been provided after each question for this purpose. If you require this questionnaire in a different format please phone 01803 208260. This questionnaire can also be completed online, go to: www.torbay.gov.uk/consultation.

1. Are you completing this questionnaire as;

- A Governor at Torbay School
- A Staff Member at Torbay School
- A Parent or Carer of a child at Torbay School
- A Torbay resident
- Other, please tell us in the box below:

If you are completing this questionnaire in an official capacity, please give details of the group you are representing:

2. Do you agree with the proposal to relocate Torbay School to the site at MyPlace (also known as Parkfield), Paignton?

- Yes No Not sure

Please tell us why you gave the above answer:

3. Please provide us with any further comments you would like to make about the proposal to relocate Torbay School (Positive or negative):

These questions help us to understand the views of different groups of people.
Please only complete them about yourself.

4. Are you male or female? Male Female
5. Which of the following age groups apply to you?
 0-15 16-24 25-34 35-44 45-54 55-64 65-74 75+
6. Do you consider yourself to be disabled in any way? Yes No
7. If yes, please tell us how it affects you
- It affects my hearing It affects my vision
- It affects my mobility it affects me in another way

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.

Please return it by 30th May 2016 to:

Samantha Poston, Schools Capital & Planning Officer. Schools Capital & Planning Team, TDA. 3rd Floor, Tor Hill House. Union Street, Torquay TQ2 5QW

Data Protection: The information you provide on this questionnaire will be processed by Torbay Council in accordance with the Data Protection Act, 1998. Your responses will be stored electronically and will be only used to assist in the analysis of opinion, and will not be retained for longer than necessary. By giving us your personal data, you acknowledge that you have read and understand this statement. If you wish to access your personal information at any time please contact the Information Compliance Team on 01803 201201.