

Primary School Expansion Consultation Responses

We are keen to hear your views!

Please complete a response form if you haven't already done so.

Please only complete one form!

The responses to this consultation will help determine the preferred mix of schools to expand in order to ensure that there are sufficient primary school places in the future. The local authority is also arranging feasibility studies of building works required at individual schools to accommodate the additional pupils. The final strategy for expansion will therefore depend on a combination of the availability of sites for new schools (including the likely outcome of planning applications), feasibility studies, and responses to this initial consultation.

Primary School Expansion

Guiding Principles on Planning School Places

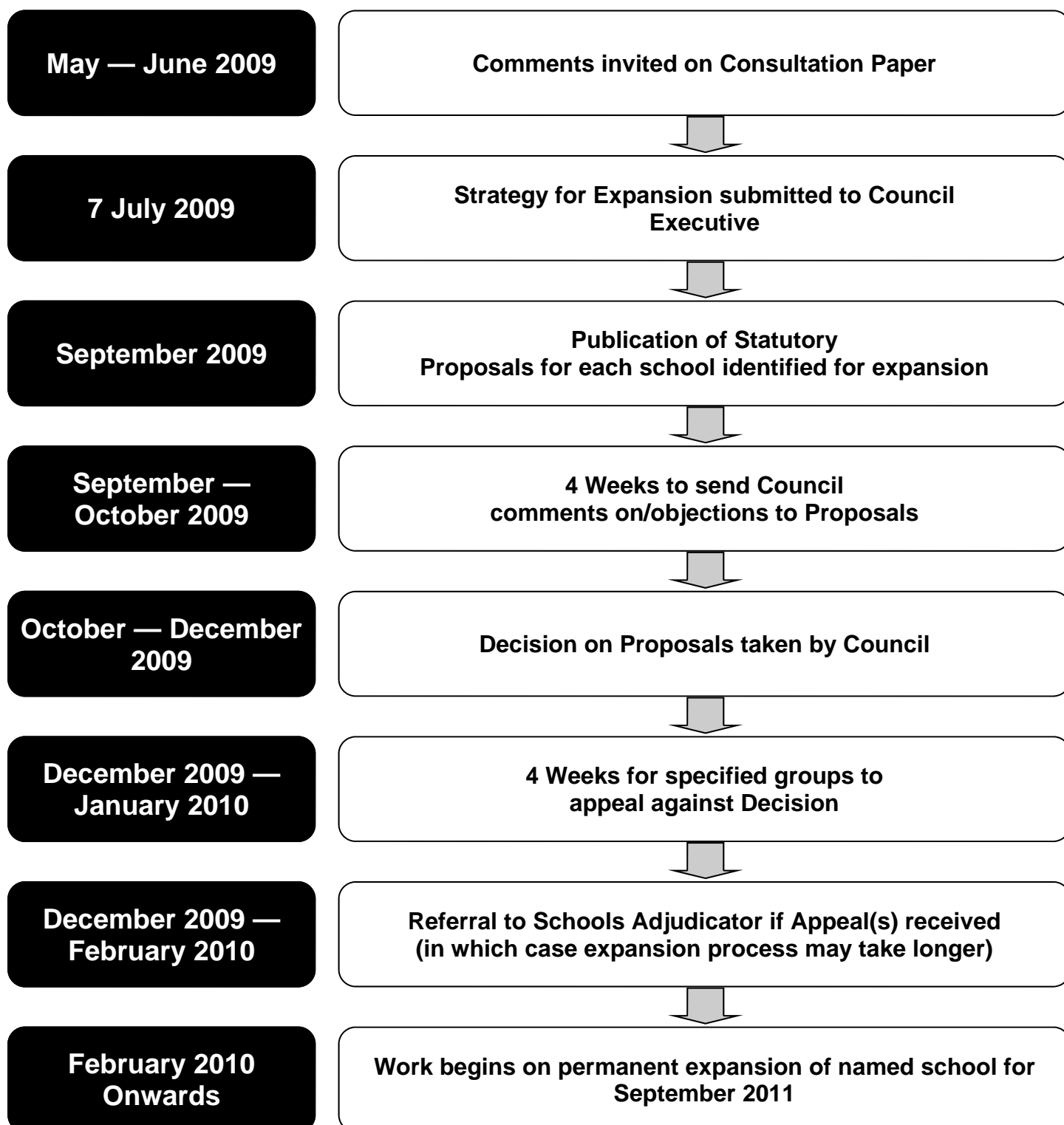
Kingston Council has adopted some guiding principles used when looking at where to put additional school places. It is recommended that anyone who responds to the consultation considers these alongside what is important to them. The guiding principles are:

- to minimise the use of temporary accommodation and invest in permanent buildings
- pupils should be able attend a school within their own locality (within two miles of their home)
- consideration should be given to parental preference by expanding popular and high achieving schools which are on sites that are physically capable of expansion and where Government guidelines allow
- schools should be planned within the following range of sizes:
 - primary schools (for pupils aged 4 to 11) with an intake each year of between 30 and 120 pupils
 - infant schools (for pupils aged 4 to 7) with an intake each year of between 60 and 120 pupils
 - junior schools (for pupils aged 7 to 11) with an intake each year of between 60 and 120 pupils
- class sizes at reception and Key Stage 1 (4 to 7 year olds) should be 30 pupils or fewer - the local authority (with governing bodies) is responsible for securing the legal requirement to limit infant classes to 30 or less
- class sizes at Key Stage 2 (7 to 11 year olds) should be of 30 pupils or less – this is an aim of the local authority not a legal requirement
- there continues to be a balance between community and faith schools in line with the local authority's legal obligation to meet diversity of provision
- the local authority aims to retain some surplus capacity in its schools to try (as far as possible) to accommodate parental preference and allow for the in year admission of pupils (for pupils moving into the local authority area and requiring a school place during the academic year).

Expanding an Existing Primary School

Key Stages

To permanently increase the number of places available in a Borough primary school, the Council is required to go through a number of key stages. Before work can begin to expand an existing school, there is a statutory consultation process of about 5 months. The timeline below shows the minimum timescale if the statutory process begins in September.



Establishing a New Primary School

Key Stages

To permanently increase the number of places available in Borough primary schools, the Council is required to go through a number of key stages. Before work can begin to establish a new school, there is a statutory consultation process of at least 9 months. The timeline below shows the minimum timescale if the statutory process starts in September.

