

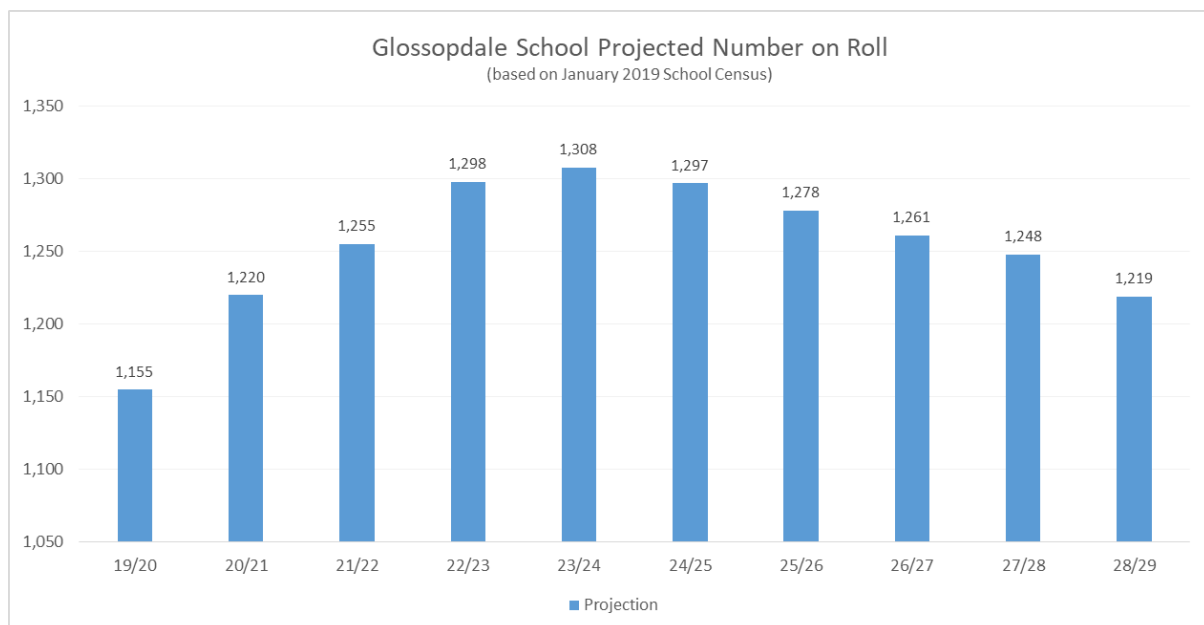
DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CONSULTATION ON THE EXPANSION OF GLOSSOPDALE SCHOOL

Derbyshire County Council is considering the expansion of Glossopdale School and would welcome the views of interested parties.

In 2018, the new building at Glossopdale School was opened on the Hadfield site. The school was designed to accommodate 1000 pupils in the age range 11–16 and 200 post 16 students. The core facilities (hall, sports hall and dining) however were built to accommodate 1440 pupils comprising 1200 pupils 11-16 and 240 post 16 students to allow for expansion to meet the need created by housing growth in the area. The layout of the school has been designed to allow for an additional wing of teaching accommodation.

In planning the new school, there was a recognition that there was a large cohort of pupils moving from primary to secondary education at present and throughout the UK there is pressure on secondary places. Although the net capacity is specified, there is an element of flexibility taking the capacity up to 1316 as the top of the range and this, together with the larger core facilities, has enabled the school to exceed its planned admission number of 200 over the past 2 years.

The table below shows the projections for the next 5 years



The graph shows a peak in 2023/2024 before a decline in numbers which reflects the reduced birth rates seen across the Country.

The projections however do not take into account the housing planned and under construction in the area. At present there are 660 dwellings with planning approval and a further 242 with pending applications. The High Peak Borough Council Local Plan identifies further sites with the potential to deliver an additional 273 dwellings over the next 5 years. Not all new houses will necessarily generate additional pupils however in a worst case scenario, the total housing could generate up to 239 secondary pupils over the next 5 years. Historically a percentage of pupils have taken places at schools outside the town however over recent years this number has reduced significantly. Using the current percentage of 85% remaining in Glossop, the likely level of demand created by new housing could be up to 203 pupils by 2024. That number added to the projections would result in a peak beyond the revised net capacity of 1440 however, using the flexibility referred to earlier, it would fall below the top of net capacity range.

On the basis of the information provided, the Authority believes that there is a strong case to expand the school however it is seeking the views of interested parties about the expansion and the provision of an additional 240 pupil places. Any decision to proceed with the expansion plans would be subject to statutory consultation, funding and planning permission for the new wing. The outcome of this consultation will be reported to Cabinet at Derbyshire County Council in January 2020 where a decision will be taken concerning the issue of a statutory notice.

This consultation will take place from 14 October 2019 to 15 November 2019. Any comments should be forwarded to Sue Pegg, Head of Development at sue.pegg@derbyshire.gov.uk or addressed to:

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