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The Bridge School Expansion

Parent Consultation

Consultation: Expansion of Specialist Provision at The Bridge School

Introduction

John Fletcher of Madeley Primary School is a mainstream primary school in Madeley for children aged 4–11 (Reception to Year 6).

We are currently organised across double, single and mixed year groups, moving towards a one-form entry structure.

We are an inclusive school that supports a wide range of needs within a mainstream setting, in a caring environment with a strong focus on learning, wellbeing and positive relationships.

What does it mean for JFOM mainstream pupils?

- Although the Bridge School will be on the same site as John Fletcher of Madeley Primary School it would be **a completely separate school**.

- JFOM Resource Base pupils would transfer across to The Bridge School, on the same site.

- Mainstream JFOM pupils would move across to the previous JFOM Junior's side of the building.

- There are enough classrooms. KS2 routines will remain largely unaffected.

- Brand new classrooms and outdoor area built for EYFS and Year 1 pupils, in the place of the former demountable building



What does it mean for JFOM mainstream pupils?

- Fencing would separate the provisions
- JFOM pupils **will not** lose the forest school or pond area facilities and will keep the large playing field
- The routines of sharing play spaces and a hall **are already in place**, with KS2 unaffected, and KS1 accessing at earlier times
- KS1 and KS2 are completely separate at lunchtimes, and EYFS would have their own brand new soft surface outdoor area
- We would have refurbishment and upgrades to classrooms that school wouldn't ordinarily afford



What does it mean for JFOM mainstream pupils?

- Stage 1 of the building work would be completed for September, with most refurbishment in the holidays

- We will not allow any interruptions during SATs week, the same as we have this year

- The aim is for our Reception and Year 1 classrooms to be ready to move into the week beginning 22nd June 2026. This should be in time for new starters to see the provision as it would be, and for our current children to adjust before September

- This will not affect class sizes or will it reduce mainstream staffing – these would be at least the same, regardless whether the project goes ahead or not



What does it mean for JFOM mainstream pupils?

- JFOM will have new break-out rooms developed, including a sensory room
- Pupil toilets and classrooms will be refurbished and fresh
- The Reception and Year 1 building includes toilets for pupils, including changing and disability access, as well as two break out rooms
- The Reception and Year 1 building will have all new furniture and facilities



What does it mean for JFOM mainstream pupils?

- We will be looking to offer the Government-backed free breakfast club to all pupils – please look out for our surveys to register your interest

- Our KS1 driveway will be turned into a one-way system for mini-buses to park off road, away from our mainstream pupils

- JFOM main entrance and offices will be situated in the former Junior School's offices – next to our South Hall. This will require further development in Stage 2 of the project, after September.

- A more secure, closer-knit school, whereby building costs will be reduced, therefore reducing the risk of needing to pull back on resources including staffing



What does it mean for JFOM mainstream pupils?

- With nation and area-wide low birthrates, we would naturally look to close down areas of the school to try to reduce unnecessary costs

- We want a more secure, closer-knit school, whereby building costs will be reduced, therefore reducing the risk of needing to pull back on resources including staffing

- We know that works have already begun. This is due to the LA having little time to ensure everything would be ready in time for September, but having to wait for the correct approvals before consultations.

- Therefore, if the project is unsuccessful, JFOM gain the benefits of the new facilities regardless.



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SEND Local Offer

SEND/Mainstream Education Demand

Adam Womack – Head of Access & Sufficiency
Laura Goodfellow – Head of SEND

SEND/Mainstream Education Demand

Increasing need for SEND provision, especially children with complex needs.

Low birth rates and aging population has led to lower demand for mainstream places in areas of the borough, particularly the south.

Large spare capacity at John Fletcher of Madeley

60 new specialist places run by The Bridge School on the site of John Fletcher of Madeley Primary School – two separate schools in one place. Opening September 2026.

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Life at The Bridge School

Nicola Davis and Emily Tracey
Headteachers, The Bridge School

Sam Bourton
Lead of the proposed provision, The Bridge School

Life at The Bridge School

The Bridge School is a school for children and young people with severe and profound learning difficulties.

Many pupils have additional needs such as autism, physical difficulties, sensory impairments, medical needs.

The Bridge School is currently located across two sites. This will increase to three sites with the proposed provision.



The Bridge School - Home

What is the new proposed provision?

- Extension of the EYFS to KS2 provision at The Bridge School. This would be 6 classes in total.
- The new site would not be a separate school. All sites will come under one name.
- Response to the requirement for more specialist places for children with severe and profound learning difficulties in Telford and Wrekin.
- Although on the same site as John Fletcher of Madeley Primary School it would be a completely separate school.



Who is the new provision for?

- Pupils who are new to The Bridge School who are EYFS to KS2.
- Pupils who are currently at the Hadley site will not move to the Madeley site.
- As the school is based on a primary site, secondary aged pupils would attend the Hadley site.



Reassurance

- Same ethos and culture
- Same curriculum and wider curricular opportunities
- Maintaining quality across all sites
- Same level of training for staff
- Current pupils not affected
- Facilities - new provision will have hygiene rooms, Soft Play and White/Dark Rooms.



What next?

Following agreement of proposal:

- New starter paperwork to be completed
- Individual meetings with class teacher/SLT
- Visit to the site in September



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Design & Site Plans

James Maxwell
Senior Project Manager – biT Team

You are welcome to view any design plans.

Please ask at the school office. Please note, however, that they may well change, so won’t be final.

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What happens next?

Shekera Tinsley – School Organisation Manager

What happens next?

- Information available on The Bridge School and John Fletcher of Madeley websites.
- We want to hear from you – help us shape this new provision.
- Consultation open until **22nd May 2026**.
- Feedback considered and decision made by 5th June 2026.
- Parents with children starting at The Bridge School will be able to discuss their individual child's needs with staff.
- Updates on building work throughout the summer holidays.
- Start back at school in September!

