

**PENRYN COLLEGE  
PROPOSED BUILDINGS EXTENSION  
FOR CONSULTATION**

**CONSULTATION PERIOD 9 November 2015 – 5 December 2015**

**PLEASE ADDRESS ANY COMMENTS OR CONCERNS IN WRITING TO:**

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**Closing date for receipt of responses to the consultation – midnight 5 December 2015**

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## **1. Introduction**

Penryn College has been oversubscribed for the last 3 years with every expectation that that will continue for at least the next 2 years. In the school year 2015/2016, the over subscription amounts to an additional tutor group at year 7 (235 admitted against a published number of 210) and will be the same for the next 2 years. The long term predictions at this stage would indicate that from 2020 onwards the numbers seeking to attend Penryn College will drop back close to the published admission number (PAN) of 210.

However, the Cornwall Council Local Plan 2013, would indicate a planning intention of 3200 new dwellings in the immediate area and a further 800 new dwellings in the outlying villages. While it is obviously not the case that the children from these new dwellings will all come to Penryn College, it is highly likely that there will be a significant uplift in the numbers of school age children living in the local area. The majority of the 800 dwellings in the outlying villages do lie in the catchment area for Penryn College feeder primaries.

In addition, given the huge success of the College's SEN provision, it is likely that these children will continue to choose to come to Penryn for their education, and in all probability, from outside the catchment area.

## **2. Strategic Facilities Plan**

Penryn College is relatively new and was Cornwall's first 'Building Schools for the Future', built in 2008 under the previous labour government. The school remains very modern, bright and light and is a superb learning environment, described by pupils during the OFSTED inspection in 2012 as completely safe and one where they are extremely well looked after.

Recent increases in student numbers have been accommodated by converting existing spaces into classrooms at the college's own expense, however, the ability to continue this approach has reached an end with no more space available for conversion. Indeed, the additional numbers have now meant that the canteen facilities are inadequate and there is insufficient science and food technology classrooms.

In order to accommodate the immediate requirements for more accommodation, the College engaged its original architects, Poynton Bradbury Wynter Cole, to design an extension to the main building which would accommodate 2 new science laboratories and 2 general classrooms. The building of these, in turn, will allow a reshuffle of existing spaces to provide greater canteen facilities and a new food technology classroom through the redesign of an existing science classroom. The drawing of the extension is below and can be seen as Area 1 Option 1. Area 1 Option 2 is not being taken forward at this time.

This extension forms the first part of a planned 5 year programme of extensions dependent on the continuing need for greater capacity.

### **3. Approvals and Funding**

The college has already completed some Pre-Planning Application exploratory work with Cornwall Council and carried out an Environmental Survey to ensure the planned extension does not adversely affect any local flora or fauna.

The college will be seeking funding through the Educational Funding Agency's (EFA) Condition Improvement Fund, 15% of which is allocated to schools wishing to expand or improve facilities. A key consideration for the fund is the provision of science and canteen facilities, both of which feature in Penryn's application.

Additionally, under the Department for Education's policy for Making Significant Changes to an Existing Academy, the planned extension requires the permission of the Secretary of State for Education, part of his approval is based on the outcomes of this consultation.

### **4. Consultation**

The proposed extension will match the existing style of the school and will not be visible from the public domain. Subject to support for the project it will be submitted for detailed planning approval in due course however if you would like to raise any comments or concerns now please do so by following the instructions on the front of this letter.

All comments and concerns will be taken into account and considered by the Governors prior to the school seeking permission from the Secretary of State to extend the school.

We do not intend to consult further on the proposed extension prior to submission of the project for planning approval and therefore we welcome your comments at this early stage.

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