

Summary of consultation responses raising concerns about proposals with School response

	Consultation Feedback raising concern	School Response
1	Do we have enough lockers?	Yes. The governors have committed to every student having access to a locker to support wellbeing (not carrying books/heavy bags around all day) and to keep classrooms clear of clutter/trip hazards (supporting health & safety). Use of a locker supports development of student personal organisation skills and provides them with a personal storage space. Lockers are also provided for students who need them for cyclists for storage of wet weather gear
2	Although I agree that SMHS needs more classrooms, I am against the impact on loss of open space, on wildlife in the area and on local residents.	Prior to planning permission being granted, environmental impact surveys were completed that satisfied local and national requirements. The area that will be required to complete the extension to the school building is relatively small and very close to the existing building and will not disturb wildlife or cause any loss of green space. A few local residents may be slightly inconvenienced during the build period when there will be some increase to noise levels and obscured views due to the construction process. Once the build is completed there will be no impact on local residents.
3	Personally I would hope that more time would be allowed for break/lunch with the extra numbers and more supervision but otherwise a good idea.	The arrangements for lunch and break service and supervision are under constant review and significant investment of £30K has been made recently to increase capacity of the service areas in the dining room. This has successfully reduced waiting times for service and increased access for students to 'grab & go' (pasta/pizza) options and vending machines. Students tell us that this has been positively received and they like to the new arrangements. Supervision is always high in the dining room and other service areas to ensure safeguarding of students. This remains a high priority.
4	I think the school has enough pupils already and are struggling to find teachers as it is	The school was always planned as an 8FE school with 1400 students and the staffing structures and recruitment programmes have been aligned to the increase in roll over the past eight years. It is unclear on what evidence the statement 'struggling to find teachers' is based. St Mary's does not have any more of a challenging recruitment of high quality staff than that which is evident nationally and has been recognised for creative and effective use of recruitment processes by Ofsted and the DfE. The school has been and remains fully staffed.
5	More children from out off area , and not many good teachers.	St Mary's does not have 'catchment area and as such, no children on roll can be considered to be from 'out of area'. There has long been a perception of some in the local community that children from 'out of the area' access St Mary's at the cost of places for local students but this is not true and the admission criteria

	Consultation Feedback raising concern	School Response
		<p>for St Mary's prioritises families from local parishes. Students who travel further to St Mary's are doing so out of choice for the school as a faith and/or because of the quality of education offered to, and sought by, parents/carers.</p> <p>It is unclear where the evidence for the comment 'not many good teachers' comes from as this is unsubstantiated. St Mary's has a 'good' judgement from Ofsted (May 2018), an 'Outstanding' judgement from the SIAMS (Church school inspection) and has a positive Progress 8 score showing that students are making more progress than the national average.</p>
6	<p>Bigger school with more students may be harder to keep it under control and the quality of school can get reduced (<i>reduced?</i>)</p>	<p>As the school has grown, the number of staff employed to supervise students has been increased and this will continue to ensure that there is appropriate supervision to allow the school to operate safely and to maintain a high standard of teaching and learning.</p> <p>These standards have been confirmed in recent Ofsted inspections where behaviour of students (and safeguarding) has been found to be consistently 'good'.</p> <p>The Governors and leadership team have demonstrated the ability to maintain and improve standards during a sustained period of rapid growth and there is a high level of confidence that this will continue to be the case as the school is completed and the school is filled to capacity in all year groups.</p>
7	<p>Is the existing over crowded dining going to be extended because it would be needed</p>	<p>Please see answer above to question/statement 3</p>
8	<p>School struggles to provide adequate provision for existing students let alone another 200. Need to focus attention to existing students and secure adequate and consistent teaching staff.</p>	<p>It is not clear where the evidence is for the statement that, 'school struggles to provide adequate provision for existing students' – please see comments re performance measures and inspection judgements in response to question/statements 5 & 6. The current performance measures would not be achieved without a secure, high quality provision for students.</p> <p>The governors have a plan to continue to increase staffing and leadership capacity to support the growing roll and ensure that quality of provision is maintained and can be improved further. The ability to support a larger sixth form provision than currently possible at St Mary's will increase the effectiveness of staffing and use of funding. The provision of the additional eight classrooms will enable a sixth form of 200 students to be established so providing sufficient places for more students wishing to remain at St Mary's after Year 11.</p>
9	<p>could effect the standard of teaching for all pupils, will definitely effect the canteen facilities for all and create more queues, the transport links are not great, will</p>	<p>The statement, 'could effect the standard of teaching for all pupils', is true but with the considerable success that the governors and leadership team have managed the original build of, and move to the new school (in 2010), and the maintenance of standards that have been confirmed by Ofsted and SIAMS inspections, there is a high level of confidence that the governors plans to support this final phase of building and increase in roll to 1400 will be efficient and effective.</p> <p>The dining room capacity has been addressed (see response to question/statement 3) and will continue to</p>

	Consultation Feedback raising concern	School Response
	create more cars in the morning and evening.	<p>be reviewed and managed to ensure that dining service supports student numbers. The increase in students taking school lunch is linked to range of catering service and the popularity of the food offer.</p> <p>Transport links could be improved with the provision of a public bus service but this is beyond the control of the governors who have requested that the local bus companies consider provision of a route that incorporates a stop at St Mary's. The School has been designed to allow a public bus stop on site but to date local bus companies have not responded to requests to consider altering their bus routes.</p> <p>Whilst it is acknowledged that there is local congestion in the car park for short periods of time at start and ends of school days, some of this is due to inconsiderate driving/parking and the governors continue to work to encourage students and families to consider healthier travel options.</p> <p>The large number of students who choose to cycle to school reflects the success of the School's Green travel Plan to date.</p>
10	Other facilities would also need to be expanded. Mostly the lunch time queues.	<p>Please see answer to question /statement 3</p> <p>All facilities in the school such as toilets, play space and sports facilities have been provided to the specification required to serve an 8 forms of entry school (1400 students). The architects and planners used DfE school building specifications to provide sufficient space for core facilities for an 8 forms of entry school. The additional eight classrooms being proposed, are in line with the building specifications required to meet the needs of a curriculum provision for 1400 students.</p>