

## LEICESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### FULL PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE 10 PLACE COMMUNICATION & INTERACTION (C&I) UNIT AT LOUGHBOROUGH THORPE ACRE JUNIOR SCHOOL

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 (updated October 2018) that Leicestershire County Council of County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8RF proposes to provide a new 10 place Communication and Interaction Unit at Thorpe acre Junior School from Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

1. Name, address and contact details of proposer

Leicestershire County Council,  
School Organisation Service,  
Children and Family Services,  
County Hall,  
Glenfield,  
Leicester LE3 8RF  
Tel: 0116 3056661  
Email: SchoolOrgService@leics.gov.uk

2. Name, address and category of school

Thorpe Acre Junior School (DFE NO 2116)  
Alan Moss Road,  
Loughborough,  
Leicestershire LE11 4SQ  
A Community School

3. Description of alteration and evidence of demand

A new standalone Communication & Interaction Unit will be built on the school site to accommodate 10 pupil places age 7 to 11 years requiring SEND provision.

This unit will be part of Thorpe Acre Junior School.

The development of more provision will help improve choice for parents/carers and pupils, and will have the added benefit of enabling pupils to be educated in their locality/community.

Locally, and nationally, demand for SEND places has risen and forecasts for the next 5 years indicate demand will rise by up to 22%.

The County Council has undertaken a consultation on specialist provision between 7<sup>th</sup> January and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Schools were invited to submit bids to run a unit on their school site. Thorpe Acre Junior School submitted an application and were successful.

#### 4. Objectives

Leicestershire County Council proposes to increase the permanent capacity of Loughborough Thorpe Acre Junior School by 10 pupil places requiring SEND provision to meet the demand for school places in the Loughborough area, both at the current time and in the future.

The project fulfils Leicestershire County Council's statutory obligation of providing sufficient school places and to try to ensure pupils are able to attend their local primary school. The changes will also assist schools in improving educational standards by preventing excessive class sizes and will also ensure parental choice is maintained through the provision of the additional places.

#### 5. The effect on other schools, academies and educational establishments within the area

It is not anticipated that there will be any effect on other schools, academies and educational establishments within the area.

#### 6. Project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved

The project to build the 10 place Communication & Interaction Unit on the school site will cost £640,000.

Project costs will be met from the Local Authority Capital programme.

Long term value for money will be achieved by building to appropriate building and DfE requirements to ensure it can be used long term.

#### 7. Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

It is proposed that Thorpe Acre Junior School will increase its SEND capacity by 10 pupil places with effect from 24<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

Admission arrangements will be through LCC SENA and only be given to children with an Education Health Care Plan.

The new school accommodation will be completed August 2020 to enable the school to offer the number of available places for the 2020/21 school year.

Within 4 weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any interested party may support, object to, or make comment upon the proposal by sending them to School Organisation Service, Children and Family Services, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester LE3 8RF or by email to [SchoolOrgService@leics.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolOrgService@leics.gov.uk)

The closing date for comments and objections is 24<sup>th</sup> June, 2020.

Signed: Lauren Haslam  
Director of Law and Governance

Date: 27<sup>th</sup> May, 2020