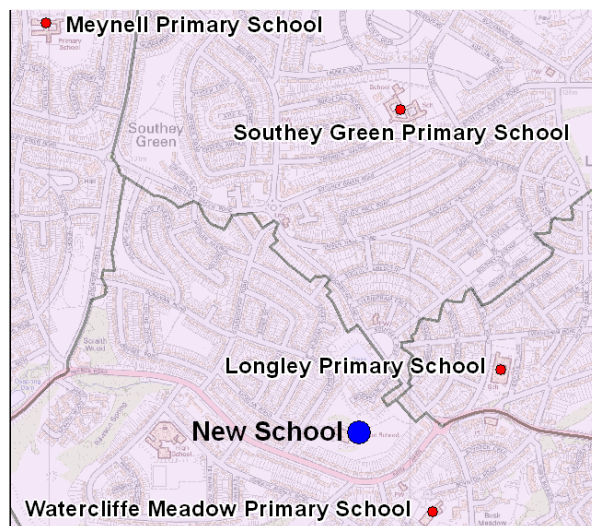


New Primary School

A New Primary School on the Watermead site

The rising population means that more primary school places are needed in your area so we can offer families a local primary school place. On the 21st November Sheffield City Council's Cabinet agreed to build two new primary schools in the North East of the city. One in Fir Vale and another in the Shirecliffe/ Southey area (see map).

Each school will offer 60 places in each year group, so will be the same size as the other local schools, and will open in September 2014.



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Primary schools in your area

This area currently has four primary schools serving the local community: Longley Primary, Meynell Primary, Southey Green Primary School and Watercliffe Meadow Primary School. We would expect the new school to work just as hard as all the existing local schools to support local families and help every child reach their potential.

What happens now?

There have been recent changes to the process the Council must follow when opening a new school. The Council must invite expressions of interest from groups who may have an interest in running the school as an academy. We would then pass all expressions of interest on to the Secretary of State for Education to decide who will run the school. The Council can make its own views known to the Secretary of State to help that decision.

The Council has set a deadline of 21st January 2013 to receive expressions of interest. Whilst that is happening we would like to take the opportunity to talk to local parents and the wider community about the new schools. We would like to hear what qualities you would want from the provider of a new school. We also want to know how you would like to see the school and its site used by the wider community in years to come. Over the page are details of how you can get involved in the discussion and the next steps.

More detailed information on the need for the two new schools can be found in the report to Cabinet. You can get a copy of this and more information on the expressions of interest process at www.sheffield.gov.uk/newprimaryschools or by contacting us on the details over the page.



Things to consider

- What are the most important qualities you want from the provider of the new school?
- What community involvement and services would you like to see in the new school?

Some questions answered

Will my catchment area change? How will admissions to the new school work?

The Council will ask any organisation interested in running the school to sign up to the Sheffield admissions policy. You can let us know your views on the admissions policy as part of this discussion and any changes were proposed, such as the current catchment areas, this would be subject to local consultation.

How does the new school fit with the previous school reorganisation?

The Shirecliffe area was previously served by two infant schools and a junior school. These schools faced significant challenge and required considerable building work. Watercliffe Meadow has been a successful solution to these issues. The population has now risen beyond previous levels and a new school on the Watermead site would complement the other local schools to maintain the much improved education offer for local families.

How you can get involved

Information will be available on display boards at the venues below between 3rd December and 21st January. There will be comments boxes for you to post your views. Council officers will be available at these venues between the following times to answer any questions and listen to your views if you would like to drop in and have a chat.

Shirecliffe Community Centre

Thursday 13th December, 1:30 - 2:30pm

Tuesday 18th December, 6:30 - 7:30pm

Southey Library

Wednesday 12th December, 1:30 - 2:30pm

Monday 17th December, 5:00 - 6:00pm

You can also contact us at the following:

Web: www.sheffield.gov.uk/newprimaryschools

Email: schoolreorganisation@sheffield.gov.uk

Letter: School Organisation Team, Floor 3, Howden House, Sheffield S1 2SL

Next steps

Thank you for taking the time to read this newsletter. The views we have heard will be collated on the website at the end of January at the link above. We will make sure that what you have told us forms part of the Council's submission to the Secretary of State.

We will be in touch again to let you know which organisation is chosen to run the school. This would be expected in March 2013. The planning application for the new schools would also be expected in summer 2013 when local residents would have a chance to view and comment on the building plans.