



Education and Inspections Act 2006

Competition to provide a new secondary school for Lowton and Golborne and proposals to close Lowton High School – A Specialist Sports College and Golborne High School

Part 1

In accordance with section 7(5) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, Wigan Council, Children and Young People's Services, Progress House, Westwood Park Drive, Wigan, WN3 4HH gives notice that following its notice of 03 September 2009 inviting proposals for a new mainstream school operating initially on the current school sites at Lowton High School – A Specialist Sports College, Newton Road, Lowton, WA3 1DU and Golborne High School, Lowton Road, Golborne, WA3 3EL from September 2011 and in new premises on the current site of Lowton Civic Hall, Hesketh Meadow Lane, Lowton, WA3 2AJ from September 2012 the following proposal has been received.

Golborne and Lowton Co-operative Learning Partnership, c/o Mervyn Wilson, Principal and Chief Executive, Co-operative College, Holyoake House, Hanover Street, Manchester, M60 0AS has submitted a proposal to establish a new Foundation School with a Foundation.

The name of the Foundation

The name of the Foundation is the Lowton and Golborne Co-operative Learning Partnership.

The rationale for the Foundation and the ethos it will bring to the school

The rationale for the Foundation (Lowton and Golborne Co-operative Learning Partnership) is to build on: the values and ethos of the Co-operative movement to create a school community in which all the stakeholders play an active part; and the longstanding and effective collaboration between Golborne High School and Lowton High School, in order to realise the full potential of its students and enhance individual and collective achievement within the community served by the Foundation. The Foundation intends to use the strengths of partnership working to deliver highly effective education and facilitate a wide range of children's and community services at the proposed new school. The core Co-operative values of: self-help; self-responsibility; democracy; equality; equity and solidarity will underpin the ethos of the school.

The names of the Foundation members

The Foundation members are: The Co-operative Group (represented by the Co-operative College), Wigan and Leigh College, The University of Central

Lancashire, Edge Hill University, Wigan Borough Sports Council, Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust, Lowton High School and Golborne High School.

The proposed ethos of the school

The ethos of the school will be to provide a school culture which promotes high aspirations and leads to the development of thoughtful, creative and enterprising young people who are ready to play an active role in their community as contributing citizens. This will take place in an environment which provides for the personal, spiritual, moral and cultural well-being of its members, through the core values of the Co-operative movement and: personalised learning; teaching which inspires; high standards; high achievement; conduct of the highest order; equality of opportunity and tolerance of difference; and education for sustainable development.

Admission arrangements

All students attending the current Lowton and Golborne High Schools will be offered a place at the new school.

For future admissions the school will provide 1500 places for children aged 11-16 and have an admission number of 300 across all year groups. The proposed oversubscription criteria (after the admission of children with a statement of special educational needs that names the school) are:

- Children in public care;
- Children with a brother or sister who will be attending the school at the time of admission;
- Children who live in Lowton, Golborne or Pennington (postcodes WA1, WA2, WA3, WN7-3) and who attend the following primary schools at the time of application: Golborne Primary; Golborne St Thomas C E; Lowton West; Lowton J&I; Leigh Gilded Hollins; Lowton St Luke's C E; and Lowton St Mary's C E;
- Other children who live in Golborne, Lowton and Pennington (postcodes WA1, WA2, WA3, WN7-3);
- Other children living nearest to the school using the straight line method.

The school will be a non-selective, all-ability school.

Specialisms the school is proposed to have

The proposer will apply to the Secretary of State to have specialisms in visual arts and sport from the date of implementation.

Extended services

The proposer intends to ensure that the school becomes a full service extended school, providing and signposting a year-round programme of opportunities which is carefully planned and integrated with learning provision. Extended services will include: a varied menu of activities for young people and adults in the area of community use; high quality childcare for the over eights; opportunities for a wide range of cultural and sports based activities; parenting support; swift and easy access/referral to other services; and appropriate adult learning experiences.

The proposer is aware of the importance of replicating the community facilities that are currently provided on the proposed site and believes that the new school's specialisms in Arts and Sport will complement the new community provision.

No other proposals have been received.

Complete copies of the proposal can be obtained from: Wigan Council, Children and Young People's Services, School Place Commissioning Team, Progress House, Westwood Park Drive, Wigan, WN3 4HH (phone 01942 486030) and on the council website at www.wigan.gov.uk/SchoolsforFuture

A public meeting will be held at The Banqueting Suite, Leigh Sports Village, Sale Way, Leigh, WN7 4JY on 26 January 2010 at 7.30 p.m. to inform people of the proposal received and how they can make their comments or objections.

Part 2

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Wigan Council, Children and Young People's Services, Progress House, Westwood Park Drive, Wigan, WN3 4HH intends to discontinue Lowton High School – A Specialist Sports College, Newton Road, Lowton, WA3 1DU on 31 August 2011.

All pupils attending Lowton High School at the date of closure will be guaranteed a place at the new secondary school which will be established on 1 September 2011 and replace Lowton and Golborne High Schools. Pupils may also access places at alternative secondary schools if their parents prefer and if places are available. The new school will temporarily operate on a split site using the existing two school sites. The governing body and senior management of the new school will decide how the split site will be managed and which year groups will occupy the two sites.

Part 3

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Wigan Council, Children and Young People's Services, Progress House, Westwood Park Drive, Wigan, WN3 4HH intends to discontinue Golborne High School, Lowton Road, Golborne, WA3 3EL on 31 August 2011.

All pupils attending Golborne High School at the date of closure will be guaranteed a place at the new secondary school which will be established on 1 September 2011 and replace Lowton and Golborne High Schools. Pupils may also access places at alternative secondary schools if their parents prefer and if places are available. The new school will temporarily operate on a split site using the existing two school sites. The governing body and senior

management of the new school will decide how the split site will be managed and which year groups will occupy the two sites.

This section applies to parts 1, 2 and 3 above

The current sites are served by public transport including dedicated school buses. The proposed new site is accessible to both the Lowton and Golborne communities. The site lies between the two current schools and many pupils will still be able to walk to school. The walking distance from Lowton High School to the proposed new site is 0.87 miles and from Golborne High School to the proposed new site 2.04 miles. To assist in sustainable travel choices, many of the residential roads adjacent to the site increase opportunities for walking and cycling, as does the Public Rights of Way Network. Officers will work with the transport authorities to ensure that there is sufficient capacity on public services to provide for children accessing the new school and/or will investigate the feasibility of the introduction of dedicated school transport services.

The SEN Improvement Test has been applied to these proposals and the local authority believes that the proposals will lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of education for pupils with special educational needs because of increased flexibility in staffing, greater accessibility of the new building and improvements to information and communication technology.

All applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to these proposals have been complied with.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposals. Copies of the complete proposals can be obtained from: Wigan Council, Children and Young People's Services, School Place Commissioning Team, Progress House, Westwood Park Drive, Wigan, WN3 4HH (phone 01942 486030) or on the council website at www.wigan.gov.uk/SchoolsforFuture

Within six weeks from the date of publication of these proposals any person may object to or make comments on the proposals by sending them to Wigan Council, Children and Young People's Services, School Place Commissioning Team, Progress House, Westwood Park Drive, Wigan, WN3 4HH or by email to schoolsforfuture@wigan.gov.uk

Signed: Nick Hudson
Executive Director Children and Young People's Services

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