

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Courtyard Extension at Lea CE Primary School
Date of decision:	15 March 2019
Decision maker:	Director for Children and Families
Authority for delegated decision:	The authority for the specified officer to take this decision is set out in the cabinet member report approved 17 December 2018 (http://hc-modgov:9070/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=5545)
Ward:	Penyard
Consultation:	The head teacher and governors of the school have all been involved in, and consulted upon, the plans.
Decision made:	To fund £79,706, including professional fees, for the courtyard extension at Lea CE Primary School. Funding to be provided from primary Section 106 receipts from Mill Lane, Lea and School devolved capital.
Reasons for decision:	<p>Lea CE Primary is a popular and successful school that has a current Ofsted rating of Good.</p> <p>Pupil numbers at the school have increased in recent years from 110 in 2012 to 123 in 2018. The school have been operating as a 4 class school, and although this is manageable with 123 children it was felt by the school that the organisation of classes across the school would be very difficult and not conducive to giving the best learning opportunities possible. The needs of the children are always a priority and to give each child a good start to school by keeping the class sizes smaller and single age was considered beneficial for their academic progress. The schools early years and phonic results improved significantly last year due to the class organisation that was implemented.</p> <p>The school was using a room that was originally the heads office combined with the old computer suite. This room however was small and dark and not favourable to a good learning environment. As numbers of children increased the class was relocated into the hall which made use of the hall for PE and dining difficult.</p> <p>The most cost effective solution was to further extend the original heads office and computer suite into the unused internal courtyard, introducing additional lighting and additional toilets for year 1 children, to make it a more conducive environment for learning and remove the need for children to walk through another classroom to use the facilities.</p>
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	§106 contributions have been secured towards Lea CE Primary School. This contribution along with schools own devolved formula capital (DFC) will be made available to deliver the necessary works

	<p>required for the school.</p> <p>Costs for the works have been calculated as:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="695 322 1214 472"> <tr> <td>Courtyard Extension:</td> <td>£69,035</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fixtures & Fittings:</td> <td>£3,667</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Fees:</td> <td>£7,004</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:</td> <td>£79,706</td> </tr> </table> <p>The work will be funded from:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="695 577 1214 689"> <tr> <td>S106:</td> <td>£79,687</td> </tr> <tr> <td>School DFC:</td> <td>£19</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total:</td> <td>£79,706</td> </tr> </table> <p>If the proposed works are not undertaken there is a risk that children will not have access to the full curriculum and that avoidable accidents involving children, parents or staff could occur if the hall continues to be used as a dual use space.</p>	Courtyard Extension:	£69,035	Fixtures & Fittings:	£3,667	Fees:	£7,004	Total:	£79,706	S106:	£79,687	School DFC:	£19	Total:	£79,706
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<p>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</p>	<p>Consideration was given to the installation of a separate building in the form of a log cabin to provide an additional classroom space. The costing for this scheme was considered prohibitive and as there was no other funding stream that could be utilised, it was dismissed as unaffordable.</p> <p>In the initial plans for the school when it was built an area was identified where an additional classroom could be built should the school need to expand. This was dismissed for the same reasons as that for the log cabin option.</p>														
<p>Details of any declarations of interest made:</p>	<p>None</p>														

Signed

Date: 15 March 2019