**Consultation on the proposed closure of Sixth Form Provision at Carlton Bolling College and increase the Published Admission Number of the school to 300.**

This letter is to seek your views on the proposal to close the sixth form at Carlton Bolling College and increase the published admission number (PAN) from 240 to 300 per year group. The total capacity of the school would remain the same.

A review was undertaken by the Department for Education (DfE) on sixth form provision, the outcome is that they are proposing to launch new level 3 vocational qualifications. These Technical or Tech level qualifications will be broad based programmes designed to be the equivalent to ‘A’ levels leading to degree level vocational studies or high level apprenticeships. There is likely to be a need for additional resources to deliver these changes.

Bradford Council also commissioned a review of post 16 Education producing [a report](https://www.bradford.gov.uk/media/3075/a-joint-approach-to-post-16-education-improvement-in-bradford-and-the-need-for-change.pdf) ‘A joint approach to post-16 education improvement in Bradford and the need for change’ in July 2016, which is available on the Council’s website. The report sets out a new approach into how post-16 education should be delivered in the future so that young people are offered high quality ‘A’ level and vocational education and training.

Carlton Bolling College are requesting permission to close their sixth form as it would be difficult for them to provide this range of programmes particularly as their provision is currently 70% vocational. The school also feel that should the sixth form close it would give them the opportunity to increase their intake for 11 to 16 year olds (statutory ages) which in turn would help to meet the increase in demand for school places.

The Education Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) approved the opening of 2 sixth form colleges for 2019. These colleges will hold a total of 2000 students initially but could expand further. Students requiring post 16 courses could therefore be accommodated at these colleges who will be able to offer a wider, high quality and more specialised range of courses.

The capacity of Carlton Bolling College is currently 1564 although a new school building is due to open with a similar capacity. The May 2017 census indicated that there were 1511 pupils attending the school of which nearly 300 were in the sixth form.

If the PAN was increased to 300 this would mean 5 year groups of 300 totalling 1500 pupils.

Secondary schools are grouped into 8 planning areas as required by the DfE in order to produce pupil forecasts. Carlton Bolling is in the Bradford East planning area which includes Feversham, Hanson, Immanuel, Laisterdyke and One In A Million secondary schools. The forecast for this planning area shows a shortfall of places in the future

unless additional places are provided. Please note that Bradford Council is only allowed to include additional pupils expected in the pupil forecast once housing developments have been granted planning permission. The Council is however aware of significant developments over which a decision has not yet been made and recent completed developments may not be occupied.

Currently the number of year 7 places available for children moving from primary school to secondary schools in this area is 1155. Both Immanuel and One In A Million are to increase their intakes by 60 and 25 respectively which will give a total of 1240 places. Over recent years there has been a significant increase in the number of primary aged children. These children are now working through the primary school year groups and will require secondary school places in the future.

The pupil forecast shows the following number of places will be required up to 2023.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| School year | 2018/19 | 2019/20 | 2020/21 | 2021/22 | 2022/23 | 2023/24 |
| Pupils | 1315 | 1345 | 1357 | 1311 | 1281 | 1257 |

Although we are working with schools that may make changes in this and other planning areas, increasing the numbers of places available at Carlton Bolling College by another 60 will help to meet some of the demand for places.

There would be no changes to the admission arrangements for the school other than increasing the number of year 7 pupils admitted each year from 240 to 300.

If this proposal is approved there would be no provision of level 3 courses for year 12 students in academic year 2018-19 although a smaller cohort of year 12 students taking level 2 courses would be admitted. The last entry for level 3 courses would be those starting in September 2017.

The sixth form would close once these students complete their courses in July 2019.

This letter is therefore to gain your views and comments, on the Council’s proposal to close sixth form provision at Carlton Bolling College and increase the school’s published admission number, as part of the overall consultation prior to any decision being made. We will also be informing the local community and other stakeholders in the area.

The consultation process will continue until 20 October 2017 after which a full analysis will be carried out and a report with recommendations will be made to the Executive of the Council in December 2017.

Letters of consultation are also to be sent to all schools within the District, the Catholic and Church of England Diocese, the Muslim Association and other relevant bodies and Local Authorities.

Any comments or suggestions can be made on the response form which is included. This should be forwarded to Nina Mewse at the above address or alternatively emails may be sent to: educationconsultation@bradford.gov.uk quoting changes to Carlton Bolling College.

Online responses can be made on the Bradford Council [consultation website](https://www.bradford.gov.uk/consultations/current-consultations/consultation-and-engagement/) under current consultations.

Yours sincerely

Nina Mewse

Senior Provision and Places Officer

**Response form**

Please complete details and return to:

**Nina Mewse**

**Senior Provision and Places Officer, Education Client Services,**

**1st Floor, Margaret McMillan Tower, Princes Way, Bradford BD1 1NN by 20 October 2017 at the very latest**

Consultation on the proposed closure of Sixth Form Provision at Carlton Bolling College and increase the Published Admission Number of the school to 300

Name (optional)

|  |
| --- |
|  |

Full postcode (of your home address) *eg BD1 1NN*

|  |
| --- |
|  |

Please indicate which of the following applies to you - *please tick all that apply*

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|   |  | Parent/carer |
|  |  |  |
|   |  | Member of school staff |
|  |  |  |
|   |  | School Governor at Carlton Bolling College |
|  |  |  |
|   |  | School Governor at another school |
|  |  |  |
|   |  | Local Councillor |
|  |  |  |
|   |  | Member of the Local Community |
|  |  |  |
|   |  | Parent of a younger child, not yet attending a secondary school |
|  |  |  |
|   |  | Other |

If other please give details

|  |
| --- |
|   |

Please indicate your response to this consultation below

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|   |  | I agree that Carlton Bolling College should close its’ sixth form provision to enable it to  |
|  |  | increase its’ admission number from 240 to 300 |
|  |  | I disagree and feel that the school should retain its’ sixth form and that the admission  |

 number should remain at 240

Please add any further comments below

|  |
| --- |
|  |