



## **New Schools at Bishop's Stortford North Consultation in Advance of a Sponsor Competition Process**

We are consulting you in advance of holding a competition process\* to seek applications from interested Sponsors to deliver new, mixed, mainstream school provision for children and young people aged three to eighteen at Bishop's Stortford North (BSN). The aspiration is for the schools to be run as a new and innovative all-through learning village.

The purpose of this consultation is to inform interested parties in advance of the competition process and to seek feedback on the proposal to provide these new schools. Any feedback gathered will be used to help finalise the competition specification document.

### **Why are new schools needed?**

East Herts District Council has granted planning consent for up to 2,529 new homes on land at BSN; 2,200 new homes to be built by The Bishop's Stortford North Consortium, and 329 by Countryside Properties. New homes are now under construction by both developers. In time, the number of homes to be built may increase and there are other smaller scale developments in the local area that will contribute further to the total number of new homes to be built.

To meet the anticipated demand, Hertfordshire County Council will be establishing up to 5 forms of entry (fe) of new primary provision over 2 or 3 sites and a 6fe secondary site.

### **How are the school buildings being funded and when will they open?**

The school sites and buildings will be fully funded through section 106 contributions, capital receipts and Basic Need funding and will be delivered by Hertfordshire County Council.

Based on current information, the first primary provision is planned to open from September 2020, although it may be necessary to delay this until September 2021, and the secondary from 2022/23. It is anticipated that the first primary provision will offer places in multiple year groups from opening and initially, the secondary will offer up to 4fe (120 places) in year 7 only. When full, the schools will offer a total of 150 primary and 180 secondary school places in each year group.

### **How to send us your feedback**

You have until Friday 21 December 2018 to let us have your comments by emailing us at: [Education.Planning@hertfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Planning@hertfordshire.gov.uk) quoting 'BSN Competition' as your email subject. We will not be able to acknowledge or respond individually to your responses but any feedback received will be used to help finalise the competition specification and related documents.

\*Under section 6A of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (the 'free school presumption') where a local authority identifies the need to establish a new school it must, in the first instance, seek proposals to establish an academy. In advance of this process and publication of the specification, local authorities are also required to consult with interested parties and stakeholders to gather feedback that can be used to finalise the specification for the new schools. Department for Education guidance on the free school presumption can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/establishing-a-new-school-free-school-presumption>