

Consultation on Proposal to Expand King's Lynn Academy to add 300 more places from 1 September 2025

Our Proposal

Eastern MAT is proposing to expand King's Lynn Academy, Queen Mary Road, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE30 4QG, to add 300 pupil places from 1 September 2025. This will be a phased increase over time.

Why do we need to expand?

There are currently in excess of 500 homes expected to be built in the next 6 years, which will increase the current resident/catchment area of King's Lynn Academy. This growth means we would not be able to accept the expected increase in pupil numbers, within our current school site.

Our proposal is in response to this increased housing and we are working with Norfolk County Council to meet this demand in pupil places, by proposing these additional secondary school places at King's Lynn Academy.

The County Council has a statutory duty (Section 14, Education Act 1996) to plan and secure sufficient school places for their area to meet the needs of its children and families and therefore it is obliged to plan for the expansion of its school capacity.

They have identified that growth continues to build from the effects of both catchment increases and high preference patterns and King's Lynn Academy has the site capacity to allow expansion compared to the other two secondaries which support this area.

Eastern MAT sees the proposed expansion of the school as an opportunity to both meet the increasing demand for places in the local area and to develop the infrastructure, improve the existing facilities and invest in the site.

Our proposal will see the school grow from 6 FE (forms of entry) to 8FE. This means that each September from 2025, our intake in Year 7 will increase from 180 pupils to 240 pupils. The earliest that this would start is 1 September 2025.

It is hoped that the additional 300 pupils in total, will meet the demand in the area and it is not envisaged that the proposed expansion will impact on neighbouring schools.

Capital Programme

King's Lynn Academy has been assessed as having a sufficient site to allow for this expansion.

A capital project, funded by Norfolk County Council will involve;

- Expanding the current dining hall and kitchen
- Small amount of remodelling within the school, to increase the number of classrooms
- Enlarging the library space using existing rooms
- Building a new CDT block on hard surface area, located beside the South Quadrangle
- Provision of additional car parking spaces.

Every effort will be made to minimise disruption for pupils, parents and neighbouring residents during building works. For instance, scheduling as much work as possible during school holiday periods and contractors will work with the school to minimise noise during exam time.

Impact on staff and pupils

The expansion of King's Lynn Academy will generate greater financial efficiencies to allow for recruitment of new staff and also the retention of our current staff.

As a Trust, Eastern MAT is keen to support and develop staff, to make the most of the new opportunities at King's Lynn Academy.

The health and safety of staff and pupils, during the capital programme phase, will be a key element of discussions with contractors and capital works will be scheduled as much work as possible during school holiday periods. This will ensure that disruption for existing staff and pupils from any building works will be kept to a minimum.

Eastern MAT's priority is to ensure that pupils have high quality, fit for purpose accommodation and learning facilities.

School budgets

School budgets are based on a number of factors, including the number of pupils. An increase in pupil places will result in an increase in budget and associated costs.

Transport implications and safe routes to school

King's Lynn Academy will be expected to provide and if necessary, review their travel plan as part of the expansion plan.

How can you have your say?

Eastern MAT will be holding a virtual event on 2nd February at 6pm, where you can find out more about this proposal. If you would like to join this event, please contact Rebecca Schrooder (Trust Operations Manager) rebecca.schrooder@eastern-mat.co.uk for the joining details.

If you are unable to attend this event but would like to comment on our proposal, you can have your say by:

- Accessing our online survey; <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/kla-expansion>
- Completing the attached questionnaire and returning it to Eastern Multi-Academy Trust, Queen Mary Road, Kings Lynn, PE30 4QG

We need all responses by 12 noon, Monday 6 February 2023.

What happens next?

Eastern MAT will consider all the responses received during this consultation and decide whether to complete a business case and send it to the Regional Department of Education (DfE) Director for a decision.

Date: 9/1/2023

Consultation on proposed changes to King's Lynn Academy

Let us know what you think of our proposal.

How far do you agree or disagree with our proposal to expand King's Lynn Academy by adding 300 pupils places from 1 September 2025?

Please tick a box.

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree or disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Why do you say this? Please write in the box below.

Are there any other comments or suggestions you would like to make to help us with this decision and in planning for the future provision for children?
Please write in the box below.

We would like to hear from many different people as your views help us to decide whether we make these changes. We will also use any personal information to understand how different groups of people feel about our proposal to expand King's Lynn Academy.

We will process any personal information we receive from you in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679), the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Academy Trust's data protection policy and guidelines. This means that Eastern MAT will hold your personal data and only use it for the purpose for which it was collected, being this consultation.

We won't identify individuals when reporting back our findings and, under our record management policy, we will keep this information for five years. We will also, under normal circumstances, not pass your personal data on to anyone else. However, we may be asked under access to information laws to publish or disclose some, or all, of the information you provide in response to this consultation, including any personal information. We will only do this where such disclosure will comply with such relevant information laws which include the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Please tell us who you are (tick all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pupil | <input type="checkbox"/> School governor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent / Carer | <input type="checkbox"/> Local resident |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member of the Parent Teacher Association | <input type="checkbox"/> Local business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member of staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Local sports group |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Local community group |

Other (please specify): _____

At which school? _____

What is your postcode? _____

Your views will help us decide if this proposal goes ahead. You can tell us your views by;

- Completing the online survey; <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/kla-expansion>
- returning this completed form to Eastern Multi-Academy Trust, Queen Mary Road, Kings Lynn, PE30 4QG

This consultation ends at 12 noon on 6 February 2023