

## Sixth Form Extension Proposal

**9<sup>th</sup> December 2022**

Balcarras is proposing to build an extension to the sixth form facilities.

Balcarras Sixth form has been growing and growing since it started in 1998. A wonderful extension to the facilities was built in 2007, to extend the common room and study space. However, with the success that Balcarras has had at A Level, the sixth form continues to be an enormously popular choice for pupils Post 16.

The proposal is to increase pupil numbers in Year 12 by 50 pupils. In order to meet this target, the school has submitted a bid to the DfE for an extension to the sixth form block. The extension would be situated between the existing sixth form block and the canteen.

The pupils would benefit from additional study space, a new science laboratory and additional classrooms to ease the pressure on the existing teaching spaces. If the bid is successful, the building would take 2 years to build, and so be ready for the current Year 9 pupils when they become Year 12.

### **Sixth Form Success**

Balcarras Sixth Form is an outstanding Post 16 provider. Balcarras was designated a **"World Class"** school on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018. In the last OFSTED inspection (2014) it was judged, once again, **outstanding against every criteria**, with the sixth form highlighted for particular praise. *"The sixth form is outstanding. The quality of teaching, leadership and what the school provides is exceptional. Students gain a very high standard in examinations."*  
OFSTED

The ALPS score is the **highest in the county** and this is reflected in the ever-increasing number of pupils applying for a place at Balcarras Sixth Form.

In 2018 **"The Times"** newspaper recognised Balcarras as the highest performing comprehensive school at A Level in the Southwest Region.

### **Pupil Increase**

The additional pupils will all come from the local area (within a radius of 2.4 miles of the school)\*. Balcarras is very keen that Sixth Form pupils walk or cycle to school. The increase should have negligible effect on traffic congestion in Charlton Kings.

**\* In September 2022 admissions into Year 7 live a maximum distance of 1.27 miles from the school**

### **Consultation**

As part of the process, Balcarras is going to hold a consultation about the proposed extension. On the website, parents will find further details of the proposal alongside a questionnaire about the sixth form extension. We would be really grateful if parents could complete the questionnaire and contribute to the consultation.

This is a wonderfully exciting prospect for the school. It will add much needed facilities to the sixth form and ensure that the environment for A Level teaching continues to be outstanding.

### **Questionnaire**

The questionnaire can be completed by going to the following web address:

<https://forms.office.com/e/zXHSVvvaCX>

Anyone interested in finding out more about the plans is welcome to view the details on the school website or contact the school in the usual way.

Yours sincerely,

**N. A. Baxter**

N. A. Baxter  
Deputy Head

## 4.2 Site Analysis Overview



## 5.8 Preliminary Visualisations

Option A



Option B

