

## **Proposals for six extra classrooms submitted to help deal with rising number of pupils at Twynham school site**

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PROPOSALS for six new classrooms at [Twynham School](#) have been submitted to planners as part of a scheme dealing with rising numbers of school pupils.

The application for the two-storey block of six classrooms on the site at Sopers Lane follows plans to place two temporary classes at Twynham in September 2015.

Earlier this year, cabinet members at Dorset County Council approved £1.2million to provide more classroom space to alleviate increasing demand for school places in the borough.

And although it was hoped that a new school would be built by 2016, those plans for the site at Marsh Lane have been delayed due to ongoing talks between the county council and the landowner, Sembcorp Bournemouth Water.

The new classrooms at Twynham will be used for secondary school pupils, while modular classrooms will be provided for the infant school youngsters in 2015.

If approved, the work will most likely take place in the spring of 2015 to “minimise disruption to day-to-day school life”, the application says.

They would start during February half-term and hopefully be completed by the end of May.

Headteacher [Dr Terry Fish](#) said he had been warned there could be a delay to the plans for a new primary school in Christchurch.

“We have moved two modular classrooms from one site to another to create our temporary primary school and that released a site to put the six classroom block on,” he said.

“Everyone wins in this situation; [Christchurch Infants](#) cannot house the extra classrooms and we had the space so all in all, we benefit as well.

“We’re really looking forward to having the younger students with us.

“We are working with Christchurch Infants really closely and their head teacher Jane Ashenden has been brilliant.

“We aim to work closely with them as time goes on.”

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## Key Points from Christchurch Schools Action Group Twynham meeting notes – November 2014

- **Will new school be a feeder to Twynham?**

*Yes and there will be 'no problem' for anyone in catchment, they will get in.  
The school will be part of Twynham Trust.*

- **What will it be called?**

*They, as we do, want the school to have it's own identity as soon as possible. A possible name could be 'Twynham Primary'.*

- **Will we be able to use Twynham facilities?**

*Yes. There are plans to allow us to have access to their music room/ drama room/ tennis courts etc. As the seniors will have a different timetable, this can be accommodated.*

- **Hot school meals**

*Twynham management are looking at the possibility of hot meals. This will depend on the quality of provision available. If quality is deemed poor we will stick with cold lunches.*

- **Parking**

*Twynham mgt are actively liaising with the council regarding parking options. They are looking at the possibility of a permit to park at certain times for drop off and pick up.*

- **After/before school clubs**

*They are looking at this as a matter of priority*

- **Extra support**

*Any child requiring any kind of extra support will benefit from an extensive range of support through the teachers at Twynham. There will also be a detailed handover with Christchurch Infants to ensure care is continued.*

- **When will a new Head be appointed?**

*Dr Fish is hoping to appoint a new Primary Head by Easter. They have already had possible applicants asking! This Head would then spend a term familiarising him/herself with Christchurch Infants' procedures and timetable. Also by starting early he/she will play a key part in setting up the new school and getting to know the children.*

- **School hours**

*Likely to stay the same as Christchurch Infants as they wouldn't clash with Twynham hrs. They currently operate 8.40-3.15*

- **Will parents get to see the site?**

*There are plans for parents to view the site in late spring when the evenings are lighter, prior to the building work starting. The children will also visit the site when it is safe to do so.*

- **When will uniform change?**

*As soon as the land has been officially bought the 'school within a school' can be officially named. At this point we would decide on a new uniform.*

- **How many classes will there be?**

*Twynham will have 3 classrooms initially (one form intake) but has the capacity to expand to one more classroom if the new school is not ready for 2016. Building works are due to start in May and completed by August. Two mobile classrooms have already been moved.*

- **When will we move to the new school?**

*This depends on when the land can be bought. It is possible we would move mid year to the new site - the aim is to get there as quickly as possible.*

- **Entrance?**

*Yes there will definitely be a separate entrance.*

- **Library Facilities?**

*They are looking at making one of the mobile classrooms a library*

- **September 2015 intake:**

*'School within the school' will be on the offer letter.*