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Parents, Carers & Guardians,
Members of Staff &
Members of Governing Body
of Robert Clack Secondary School

Dear Parents, Carers, Guardians of Pupils, Staff and Governing Bodies

Proposed Extension of Age Range and Expansion of Secondary School Facility of Robert Clack Comprehensive School from September 2019

You may be aware that the borough has been experiencing high demand for school places over the past 8 years and this trend has been closely monitored in order for the Council to plan and respond to this demand. The Council has planned for steady expansion of school places in both the primary sector and more recently the secondary sector over the last few years, as the increase in the primary sector move up to secondary school. The forecast for the school population is for a steady increase over the next 10 years with some years having more prominent increases.

The Council have an on-going programme for the expansion of both primary and secondary schools and for new schools and this has to be kept under review in the light of changes implemented by Government for providing new schools that includes other parties as providers for education.

Robert Clack Comprehensive School has been asked to:

1. Extend the age range for pupils attending the school in order to accommodate primary aged pupils and also nursery aged pupils. The proposal is to have ninety places (3 forms of entry) per year group for Reception Year through to Year 6 and also 39 AM and 39 PM places for nursery pupils beginning in September 2019. This would mean the school would begin with 90 places (3 forms of entry) in Reception Year in 2019 and also the nursery places and then grow year on year (for Reception through to Year 6) until all year groups were operating by 2025.
2. Expand its Secondary School facility from 10fe to 18fe from September 2019. This would mean an additional 240 places (8 forms of entry) per year group for Years 7 to 11 growing year on year until all year groups would be operating at eighteen classes per year group. (NB: The school has had two additional classes from Year 7 since September 2015.)

The school will continue to admit pupils into Year 7 at age 11 years using the admission criteria of the Local Authority.

In addition the School will continue to support up to 20 pupils in Year 10 and 20 pupils in Year 11 at the West Ham Academy located in Rush Green Road, Romford.

The school has agreed to the above and we will work in partnership to ensure the school has the support it needs to accommodate the additional pupils. Further, the school and the Council are working to achieve this proposal and the Council has given assurance that funding will be made available to improve the existing provision at the school and help to create these additional school places. The spaces at the school is in the formation stage.

We are therefore considering a permanent expansion at the school. As mentioned above, we know that there is demand in the area for more school places, due to the steep rise in the birth rate over the past 8-9 years, and with some reorganisation of the school site and an additional site at Lymington Fields (close to Chadwell Heath Station), the school does lend itself to expansion.

Therefore, we are anticipating that with a new school building at the Lymington Fields site, the three sites of the school would be able to accommodate the equivalent of an 18FE Secondary School and a 3FE Primary School (plus a nursery) to become an All-Through School over 3 sites.

If you have any views about these proposals, I would be pleased to receive them by no later than 14 April 2017 in writing at the address at the top of this letter.

Yours sincerely



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