

A new primary school for East Wick

Call for Academy Providers for a New 3 Form Entry Primary School in East Wick, Hackney

Background and Location

The school will be established in 2015 and is one of three planned as part of the development of Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The school will be located in East Wick, one of five new neighbourhoods planned as part of the Legacy Communities Scheme. East Wick will be a high quality neighbourhood with a mix of homes, commercial uses and local amenities. Neighbouring the established community in Hackney Wick, the East Wick neighbourhood will include a significant proportion of family housing, and benefit from generous public spaces, the Copper Box Olympic & Paralympic venue and the employment hub of iCity.

This school falls within the Hackney Local Authority area and as such is being developed as a partnership between the London Borough of Hackney and the London Legacy Development Corporation.

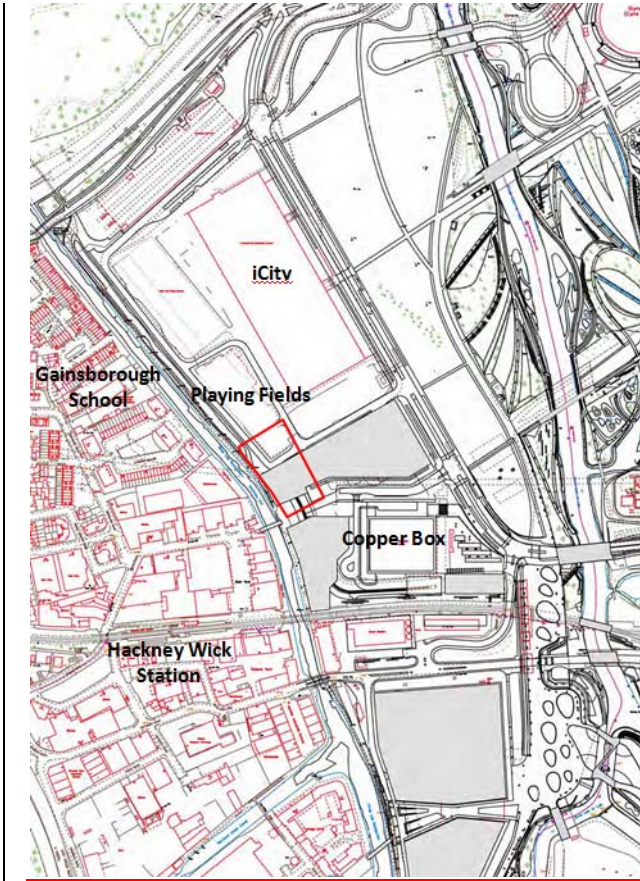
It is proposed that the new school would open for September 2015; initially for 90 Reception children; and would admit a new Reception year group each September until full in all year groups. However, it is possible that the school would open in phases; with smaller year groups initially. This will be dependent on the phasing of the occupation of residential units on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The current projection is an indication of the expected need for places,

The new school will be established in close proximity to an existing community school (Gainsborough School); its neighbouring schools on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, and near to many other existing Hackney schools and academies. Both Hackney and the Legacy Corporation are seeking to ensure that all schools work closely together to provide high standards of education, equality of opportunity for all children across the local area and ensure the best possible outcomes.

As well as fulfilling the demand of the Legacy Corporation's residential neighbourhoods, this project will form an essential part of Hackney Council's strategy to meet the growing demand for school places whilst increasing diversity and raising the standards of education.

We are seeking proposals from Academy Providers who have a proven track record of providing outstanding education. The successful Provider will demonstrate that they can establish partnerships with both local and national organisations and play an integral role in the community.

The map identifies the school site:



The School site sits alongside the Lee Navigation Canal, where a new linear park known as the Canal Park will be delivered by 2014, and just north of the main pedestrian route connecting Hackney Wick and Hackney Wick station with the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. To the North of the school site sits brand new playing fields which will be shared with Gainsborough Primary School located on the west of the canal. The new education provider will work closely with the LLDC and share the sports facilities managed by LBH.

Once delivered, the Legacy Communities Scheme will see the delivery of approximately 7,000 residential units on Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, generating a need for 1,241 primary school place, 701 secondary school places and 235 sixth form places. This demand will be met through the provision of two 3-form entry primary schools and a 6-form entry secondary school with a sixth form.

Capital works

Indicative funding has been secured through the EFA Targeted Basic Need Programme. The LA and the Legacy Corporation will be responsible for the design, development and construction of this new school.

A feasibility study has been instructed by the Local Authority in parallel with the competition to identify an education partner.

Hackney's Local Education Partnership will develop the feasibility works and, as part of their instruction, will be required to demonstrate value for money. The LEP is expected to be the procurement vehicle for the delivery of this new school.

The feasibility study is programmed to conclude in December 2013, in line with the education provider being confirmed.

Once the education provider has been confirmed, the chosen sponsor will be expected to work in line with the LA project management team to ensure the design supports the education vision, is delivered within the funding timescales and is contained within the funding envelope.

Call for Providers

LB Hackney, in consultation with the Legacy Corporation, are seeking proposals from approved DfE sponsors* to become the education provider of a new 3 form of entry (FE) primary school and a 25 FTE nursery in East Wick.

**Providers that are not yet approved by the Department for Education (DfE) can still apply but need to make a separate application to the DfE to become a sponsor. The original date for this was 6th September 2013; however it is possible that interested parties would still be considered.*

Process and timescales

Academy Providers should submit their proposals for this 3FE primary school by 4 October. Proposals should set out:

1. The provider's strategic vision for the East Wick school, reflecting the ambitions of the Provider, LB Hackney and the London Legacy Development Corporation. The vision should show how the Provider would work to promote high standards and demonstrate a focussed and coherent education plan.
2. Evidence of the provider's track record including current educational capacity and performance; experience of support and challenge to the primary phases of education including high quality professional development; financial planning and operational capacity and governance and experience of forming strong partnerships with both local and national organisations and playing an integral role in their local community
3. Giving LB Hackney's ambition for the East Wick school to complement and enhance existing provision in the borough, it is desirable that the Academy Provider has strong connections to Hackney (ideally being an existing education provider in Hackney). Where this is not the case, it is essential that the Academy Provider demonstrates how it proposes to work as part of the Hackney 'family of schools' and work closely with the Local Authority to improve education for all children in the borough.

In their applications interested providers should set out clearly and succinctly how they meet the above requirements.

Decision-making process

All applications will be assessed and scored on how well they meet the requirements. Applicants may or may not be invited to meet with representatives of the evaluation panel as part of the process. The completed assessment will then be sent to the Department for Education along with details of all the bids received and the Secretary of State will make the final decision.

Timetable

1	w/c 9 Sept 13	Hackney publishes specification inviting proposals
2	Friday 4 October 13	Deadline for applications

		<i>Any applicants not yet approved as sponsors by the DfE need to make a separate application directly to the DfE as soon as possible.</i>
3	Friday 18 October 13	Hackney provides the Secretary of State with an assessment of all proposals received and our scoring of the proposals, alongside a written notification setting out the steps the authority has taken to seek proposals for an academy.
4	Thursday 12 Dec 13	DfE confirms sponsor and funding allocations

Full proposals should be emailed to asa.melander@learningtrust.co.uk by Friday 4 October 2013.

For further questions, please contact Asa Melander, Divisional Business Manager & Head of School Place Planning on 020 8820 7578.