

# 2 THE NEED FOR A NEW SCHOOL

More school places are required to serve the growing population of Great Dunmow and it has long been an aspiration of Helena Romanes School to undertake a substantial investment into enhancing its existing facilities and future proof any requirements for expansion. Having considered all available options, the relocation of the existing Helena Romanes School presents the best solution.

Essex County Council has also identified that there is an immediate requirement for additional primary school places within Great Dunmow and its surroundings. There are no immediately available alternatives to this proposal to ensure delivery of the required primary school places by September 2021.

Helena Romanes School and Essex County Council have therefore identified that the relocation of Helena Romanes School provides the opportunity to invest into a new 'all through school' with shared, cutting edge facilities for both primary and secondary pupils.

This consultation therefore marks the beginning a two-phased process. A second consultation will be carried out in the autumn regarding the school's request for a 'significant change'. A 'significant change' will enable Helena Romanes School to extend its age range.

All through schools (ATS) provide continuity from primary education through to secondary (and post 16) education on the same campus, with the same Academy (or Trust), with the same ethos and learning opportunities.

The proposed 'all through school' would provide a 2 form entry primary school (up to 60 pupils per year group) together with a 9 form entry secondary school (up to 270 pupils per year group). It would also include a 250 pupil sixth form.

It is proposed that the primary school will be completed first and open in September 2021 and admitted in cohorts over a seven year period, whilst the new secondary school will open in September 2022.

Please see our Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page for further information concerning the need, proposal and benefits of a 'all through school' approach.

## CONCEPT – COLOUR TO MARK STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT

Recognition that primary, secondary and sixth form students are different, and that they should be able to express themselves in different ways. The phases in their all-age school should retain some sense of their uniqueness or diversity

