**5 January 2015 – Press release**

**re Silsoe Lower design consultation event.**

Parents and residents in Silsoe will have the chance to find out more about proposed designs for the new lower school there during a public consultation event next week.

Central Bedfordshire Council’s has approved plans to expand and relocate Silsoe CofE Lower School as part of its commitment to provide 6,500 new school places over the next five years.

It means that from September 2016, the lower school will move from its current location in High Street, to a new site on the former Cranfield University campus within the village. The new lower school will be able to offer 240 places, up from 135 at the current site.

People will be able to view proposed designs during an event at Silsoe Parish Hall on Tuesday, 13 January. It will take place from 2.30pm to 6pm, with visitors having the chance to speak with someone from the council's Highways department, while representatives from David Turnock Architects will also be on hand to answer questions.

Councillor Mark Versallion, Executive Member for Children’s Services, said: “A key role for the council is for all children across Central Bedfordshire to have a place at a local school. And with significant plans to build new homes in the area, there is a real need for new school places in Silsoe.

“That is why we are investing more than £100million over the next five years to provide thousands of new school places and helping children across Central Bedfordshire to reach their potential.”

For more information about the council’s new school places programme, visit [www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/school-places](http://www.centralbedfordshire.gov.uk/school-places)

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