

## **Appendix 9: response received on behalf of West Hove Infant School**

### On behalf of West Hove Infants, Connaught Site

West Hove Infants, school road is an outstanding school and we were asked by the local authority to expand across two sites to meet the need for local schools for local children in 2011 and we were very happy to do this. The Connaught Site is in very close proximity to St Andrews with whom we enjoy an extremely positive and supportive relationship including use of the field at St Andrews.

Our site has grown in size from 90 children in 2011 to 330 if we are at full capacity in September. The site was originally designed to be 3 forms of entry however, we too, have been asked to take additional classes over the last two years and, as of September 2014, we will be a 4 form entry site.

However, our numbers are far from stable and we have never been at full capacity. Clearly there are many factors affected this and we know that anxiety over the distance between the junior site has led to many parents moving their children. Over last 3 years we have lost 57 children (nearly 20% of school population), 7 of which have joined St Andrews. Our transience is averaging at nearly 20% and we currently have 25 spaces across the school, 19 of which are in Yr. 1. This amounts to nearly a whole class.

This understandably has a huge impact in all areas including pupil attainment and resourcing. Having spaces also means that we are one of the few schools in the area who are able to accept more vulnerable children often from our area and we are finding it increasingly difficult to meet their needs with the resources that we have.

We sincerely believe that an additional class at St Andrews will only add to this situation and we ask that the potentially negative impact on neighbouring schools be taken into account.