

Statutory proposal for the closure of Christ Church C of E Infant School (Voluntary Aided Infant School)

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, as amended by the Education Act 2011, that Surrey County Council intends to discontinue **Christ Church C of E Infant School**, with effect from 31 August 2020. This proposal is related to the proposal to discontinue Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries and the linked proposal by the Guildford Diocesan Board of Education to open a new school on the site of Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries. The closure of Christ Church C of E Infant School is an element of the process of opening a new school by amalgamating the two schools.

Contact details

Name and address of Local Authority publishing the proposal:

Surrey County Council, County Hall, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey, KT1 2DN

Name, address and category of school proposed to be discontinued:

Christ Church C of E Infant School, Christ Church Road, Virginia Water, Surrey, GU25 4PX

Voluntary Aided Infant School

Contact details during statutory representation period:

This is a four week consultation, which begins on 11 March 2020 and concludes at midday on 22 April 2020. (Additional two weeks to allow for 4 weeks representation period during term time due to school holidays). Any person may object to or make comments on the proposals by sending representations to:

Jane Keenan, Surrey County Council, Room 326, County Hall, Penrhyn Road, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2DN

Email: schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk

Web: www.surreysays.co.uk

Implementation

Date on which it is proposed to close the school:

31 August 2020

Reason for closure

Surrey County Council, in partnership with the Diocesan Board of Education and the Governing Bodies of Christ Church C of E Infant School and Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries, have consulted on a proposal to open a new school by amalgamating the two schools into a single institution from September 2020. It is proposed that the new school would be a voluntary aided school and would be situated on the existing site of Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries.

In order to amalgamate Christ Church C of E Infant School and Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries:

1. Surrey County Council and the governing body of Christ Church C of E Infant School are proposing the closure of Christ Church C of E Infant School
2. Surrey County Council and the governing body of Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries are proposing the closure of Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries
3. The Guildford Diocesan Board of Education is proposing the opening of a new voluntary aided school and nursery with a Church of England religious character under section 11 of the Education and Inspection Act 2006 on the site of Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries

The new school will have a Published Admissions Number (PAN) of 60 at Year R, giving an overall capacity of 180 infant school places for mainstream pupils and up to 20 full time places for 2 to 3 year olds and up to 26 full time places for 3 to 4 year olds.

The proposal will formalise existing partnership working between the existing schools and the Diocese of Guildford; allow for the most efficient allocation of resources; reduce surplus places in Virginia Water and Englefield Green; and provide a sustainable offer at key stage 1 with potential to build a stronger partnership with the local Junior School St Jude's C of E Junior School

All children on roll at Christ Church C of E Infant School and Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries on 31 August 2020 will automatically be on roll at the new school on 1 September 2020

Pupil numbers and admissions

The numbers for whom provision is currently made at the school:

Christ Church C of E Infant School currently provides for 90 pupils from Year R to Year 2, with capacity for 30 places in each year group. The school is coeducational and does not presently provide dedicated specialist facilities for pupils with Special Educational Needs.

Displaced pupils

This proposal forms part of an amalgamation and, as such, no pupils at the school will be displaced. The decision on the closure of Christ Church C of E Infant School will be linked to the decisions to open the new school. If the latter decisions are not approved, this proposed closure will not proceed. Should all three proposals be approved, from 1 September 2020, pupils currently at Christ Church C of E School will have places at the new school.

As offers for admissions to reception year in September 2020 will be complete before a final decision is made, a place offered at either Christ Church C of E Infant School or Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries will automatically be a place offered at the new school, if the proposals are approved.

Impact on the community

The site of the new school is the current site for Englefield Green Infant School and Nurseries and is two and a half miles away from Christ Church C of E Infant School. There will be impacts of some pupils travelling further to the new school. The new school will be the same category as Christ Church C of E Infant School as it will be a voluntary aided church of England School. The new school is half a mile from the local junior school, St Jude's C of E Junior School and will offer opportunities for a stronger more effective partnership between the schools to provide a consistent offer from Year R through to Year 6.

Travel

Should the proposal to close Christ Church C of E School be approved, free transport to the new school would be provided for eligible pupils provided they meet the criteria. The criteria can be found on the Surrey County Council website at:

<https://www.surreycc.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/schools/school-transport/under-16-transport-to-school>