

Statutory proposal for the closure of Send CofE First School (Foundation)

Notice is given in accordance with The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013 that the governing body of the Federation of Send Church of England Schools intends to discontinue Send CofE First School with effect from 31 August 2016. This proposal is linked to the governing body's proposal to make a prescribed alteration to St Bede's CofE Junior (Aided) School to alter the lower age limit to create an all-through primary school, in accordance with The School Organisation (Prescribed Alternations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

Contact details

Name and address of Governing Body publishing the proposal:

The Governing Body of the Federation of Send Church of England Schools, Send CofE First School (Foundation),
Send Barns Lane, Send, Woking, Surrey GU23 7BS

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

Send CofE First School (Foundation), Send Barns Lane, Send, Woking, Surrey GU23 7BS

Contact details during statutory representation period:

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Implementation

Date on which it is proposed to close the school:

31 August 2016

Reason for closure

The governing body of the Federation of Send Church of England Schools, in partnership with the Diocese of Guildford and Surrey County Council, is proposing that Send CofE First School and St Bede's CofE Junior School amalgamate to become one primary school in September 2016 admitting pupils from 3 to 11 years of age. This will include the current nursery provision at Send First.

It is proposed to implement the amalgamation through the closure of Send CofE First School (Foundation) and a prescribed alteration to lower the age range of St Bede's CofE Junior (Aided) School, which will then be renamed to Send CofE Primary School.

In September 2017, it is proposed that the reception PAN will increase from 58 to 60, the PAN for Year 3 will be removed.

All children on roll at either school as of 1st September 2016 will automatically continue to have a place at Send CofE Primary School.

The two schools are already federated with one head teacher and one governing body, with staff employed by the federation.

Pupil numbers and admissions

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

Send CofE First School currently provides 174 places for years R to 2, with 58 places in each year.

Displaced pupils

This proposal forms part of an amalgamation, and therefore no pupils at the school will be displaced. From 1st September 2016, pupils currently at Send CofE First School will have places at Send CofE Primary School. From September 2017 the current year 3 PAN at St Bede's will be removed and pupils in year 2 will automatically transition to year 3 in the primary school. It is also intended to increase the published admission number (PAN) for the reception year from 58 to 60 from September 2017 to match the current PAN of St Bede's.

Impact on the community

Send CofE First School and St Bede's CofE Junior School serve the same geographic area and are adjacent to each other. The proposal will provide certainty of progression to junior phase and offer an all through primary education. Therefore it is not anticipated that there will be any adverse impact on the community.

Balance of denominational provision

Send CofE First School is a Church of England school, as is St Bede's CofE Junior (Aided) School. Through the federation the two schools share the same vision:

We believe that God's love is at the heart of our school family, providing us with the strength, belief and determination to make every child's time at school happy and personally fulfilling. We believe that childhood matters. It is short, precious and cannot be repeated and we are fully committed, as a school community, to empowering every child to make their life extraordinary.

Places at Send First CofE School will be reprovided at St Bede's as an all through primary school, renamed as Send CofE Primary School, sharing the same religious character and vision, retaining the current balance of denominational provision. Therefore there will be no impact on parental choice.

Maintained nursery school

It is intended that the current nursery at Send First will continue to operate under St Bede's Junior School through the proposal to alter its lower age limit. There will be no change for children in the current setting – the location and staff will remain the same. Therefore the provision will continue to be accessible and convenient for local families.

Travel

No pupils will be displaced due to the linked proposal to alter the lower age limit at St Bede's and thereby amalgamating the two schools which are on adjacent sites. Therefore there is no anticipated impact on travel.