

School Organisation Consultation Questions and Answers

Proposed change of age range and extension of
premises at St Paul's CofE Infant School

January 2024

Proposal:

It is proposed that St Paul's CofE Infant School's age range is changed to accommodate ages 4-11, becoming a 1FE primary school. This would allow for a roll of 210 pupils across the school.

There is also a separate proposal that the school lowers their age range to accommodate a nursery on site (ages 2 to 4) from 15 April 2024 (start of the summer term). As such, the following document will separately cover both proposals.

Further building work will be required on the site of the school to provide appropriate accommodation for the additional pupils.

If the proposal to expand St Paul's to 210 places is successful, the admissions authorities of Waverley Abbey Junior School and Walsh CofE Junior School may opt to submit an in year variation request to the Office of the Schools Adjudicator to vary the admission arrangements for 2025, to remove St Paul's as a named feeder school.

Frequently Asked Questions – Increase of age range at St Paul's CofE Infant School

Question	Answer
People: Impacts for pupils and their families	
1 When will the change take place and how will it impact pupils who are currently at St Paul's CofE Infant School?	It is proposed that St Paul's will become a primary school in September 2025. Therefore, pupils in Year 2 as of September 2023 will not be impacted. If the proposal is agreed, pupils in Year 1 in September 2023 would transition through the school and move into the new Year 3 class in September 2025, progressing through the school up to Year 6 in September 2028.
2 Will the admissions criteria for St Paul's change when it becomes a primary school?	The current admissions criteria will not change if St Paul's becomes a primary school.
3 An older sibling will move into Year 3 before the change and therefore move to an alternative School. What do I do if I would like the younger sibling to also transfer their Key Stage 2 education?	Parents are still able to apply for any junior school, for junior entry, should they wish to not remain at St Paul's beyond Year 2. Parents may also seek Year 3 places at other junior schools or primary schools without a separate Year 3 intake, which can be applied for via an in year application, with places offered subject to vacancies.
4 Is there any difference in the secondary schools I can apply for if my child is in Year 6 either at St Paul's or elsewhere?	The admissions criteria for all secondary schools in Surrey can be found in the admissions booklet which is published each year. St Paul's' current feeder school, Waverley Abbey CofE Junior School, is itself a named feeder school under Criterion 5 for Weydon School and Woolmer Hill School.

		<p>At this time St Paul's cannot serve as a feeder for any Secondary school as it is only an infant school.</p> <p>Due to locality, children from the Ash & Tongham area predominantly attend Ash Manor School.</p> <p>Information about how places were allocated is published by Surrey County Council each year.</p>
5	<p>Currently, due to the distance between the sites, St Paul's subsidise a bus service to transport former pupils to Waverley Abbey CofE Junior School. Will this continue?</p>	<p>This service is currently available for 4 years, the duration of the pupil's time at Waverley Abbey CofE Junior School. It is expected that the service will continue for current recipients and be available for those children in current Year 2, ceasing in 2028 when that cohort transition to Secondary School.</p>
6	<p>In line with the Key Stage 2 curriculum, is there the necessary playing field and outdoor space?</p>	<p>The school have sufficient playing field space to meet the curriculum.</p>
7	<p>How will lunch times, PE and outdoor play be managed with more pupils in the school?</p>	<p>As part of the design, a larger hall is planned; this will help with catering and also ensure that all children can take part in PE and extracurricular activities. As with the designs, there will be 3 playground areas – two at the back of the school and the existing front one. This will provide ample space for the children during their break/lunch time play and also for outdoor PE lessons. Staffing will increase as we expand to ensure these areas can be used to full effect.</p>
8	<p>What facilities and extra-curricular activities will the school offer to match with existing provision at alternative KS2 settings?</p>	<p>Currently, the school offers 3 extracurricular clubs, including gymnastics, multisport and choir. As they expand this offer will increase to include a wider range of activities on offer such as cooking, arts & crafts, and science. Computing equipment will be purchased to ensure that the KS2 computing curriculum can be taught effectively. This will include laptop and tablet devices that can be used within classrooms. Year 2 children are taken swimming, and the school will ensure that the children are provided with opportunities to swim as per the national curriculum expectations.</p>
9	<p>What plans would be put in place to ensure that children in the initial Y3 cohort receive the same standard of education as those in the established year groups?</p>	<p>New staff will be recruited; however, this doesn't mean that they will always go into the newly created year group. Leaders have developed a strong KS1 curriculum which is engaging, hands-on and rich in experiences. Leaders have experience of KS2 curriculum and will be able to develop a curriculum that builds on the experience that the children are currently accessing. School trips and experiences will be planned to further enhance</p>

		the curriculum, this will include residential visits for the older year groups.
10	Could a safe drop-off system be considered to make it easier for parents who drive pupils to school?	A travel plan will be included in the planning application for the expansion should the proposal be agreed.
11	Is there a carpark nearby parents could use to park and then walk into school?	The parking and traffic impacts of the proposal to expand St Paul's CofE Infant will be looked into as part of the travel plan alongside the planning application.
Economy: Financial impacts		
12	How is the building being funded and are S106 monies being used?	The project is being funded through a combination of school basic need funding and S106 monies.
Environmental: Impacts for residents and local area		
13	Where can I view plans of the new building?	The planning application can be viewed on the Surrey County Council Planning Portal when it is live: Online register of planning applications for minerals, waste and our development - Surrey County Council (surreycc.gov.uk)
14	What are the timescales for planning permission? When will a decision on planning be made and by whom?	The application will be made in early 2024, with a view to achieving planning permission by May 2024.
15	Will there be additional parking spaces for staff in order to prevent staff and visitors parking on residential roads?	Additional parking places for staff will be created as part of the building design plans.
16	How will you inform residents of the planning consultation, and will there be another public meeting where residents can see plans and have their say?	A planning consultation meeting took place on the 30 th November 2023 from 2-7pm.
17	The roads around the school are congested at peak times. Have impacts on traffic in the area been considered?	The travel plan will help SCC better understand the impacts and what can be done to mitigate any additional traffic.
18	Has a new school in an area with more space been considered rather than expanding a small school?	Places are required for junior-aged pupils in Ash & Tongham, if successful this proposal will ensure that infant and junior school places are equalled in the area. Currently the vast majority of pupils transition out of area from St Paul's, our latest residential forecasts indicate the change of age range at St Paul's is needed to provide sufficient places for the local community.
19	There is additional planned housing in the area. Will the expansion meet the needs of families moving into new housing or will a new school be needed.	<p>SCC's pupil place forecasts include projected housing supplied by Guildford Borough Council, which is updated on an annual basis.</p> <p>Surrey County Council's Education Place Planning team are monitoring the impact of new housing within Ash and Tongham and the surrounding areas.</p>
20	What impact could this expansion have on neighbouring planning areas and the existing feeder schools?	We are not anticipating a significant impact to the existing feeder schools for St Paul's CofE Infant School. Our forecasts indicate that there are sufficient pupils in the Ash and Tongham and West Waverley planning areas.

	Both Waverley Abbey CofE Junior School and Walsh CofE Junior School are academies, and the academy trust can decide whether to apply to the schools adjudicator to remove St Paul's CofE Infant as a feeder school.
--	---

Frequently Asked Questions – Lowering of age range at St Paul's CofE Infant School

Question		Answer
People: Impacts for pupils and their families		
1	Are the proposals to extend and lower the age ranges of St Paul's separate from each other?	Yes, the proposals are entirely separate and should be considered on their own merits. It is therefore possible that, depending on responses, one, both, or neither proposal could be agreed.
2	Will children attending the nursery automatically gain a place in Reception at St Paul's once they are school age?	No. Parents of children applying for a reception place would need to apply in the normal way for admission to the primary school whether their child attends the nursery provision or not. There is no priority for pupils who attend the nursery. Places at the school are allocated by applying the admissions criteria for community and voluntary controlled schools. The admissions criteria for all schools in Surrey are published each year in the <u>schools admissions booklets</u> . St Paul's CofE Infant School can be found in the Primary School Booklet for Guildford primary schools.
3	Where will the nursery be on the school site and does any building work need to be undertaken?	The nursery provision will be within existing rooms previously used by the former private nursery provider that was on site until August 2023. Minor works and alterations are required to update, refresh, and furnish the space i.e. provision of new toilets and changing area to accommodate the needs of 2 year olds as well as updating the outdoor play spaces.
4	Will the nursery offer the 15 and 30 hours funded early education for 2, 3, and 4 year olds?	Yes, St Paul's will offer the funded entitlements including <u>2 year FEET funding</u> .