

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS:

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, as amended by the Education Act 2011, that the Governing Body of The Priory CE (Aided) School in co-operation with Surrey County Council, and Guildford Diocesan Board of Education, intends to make a prescribed alteration to The Priory CE (Aided) School, West Bank, Dorking, RH4 3DG from 1 September 2022.

School and local education authority details

1. The name, address and category of the school.

<p>The Priory CE (Aided) School West Bank, Dorking, RH4 3DG</p> <p>Voluntary Aided School</p> <p>Surrey County Council, Education Place Planning, Quadrant Court, 35 Guildford Road, Woking, GU22 7QQ</p>

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

2. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

<p>The Governing Body of The Priory Church of England (VA) School in Dorking, in partnership with Surrey County Council and the Diocese of Guildford, is proposing to close its sixth form provision from 1st September 2022. Current National Curriculum Year 12 students would complete their education at The Priory and the proposed closure would have no impact on current National Curriculum Year 13 students.</p>

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
 - (a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and

(b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

This is a four-week consultation, which begins on Friday 14th May and concludes on Monday 21st June. Any person may object to or make comments on the proposals by sending representations to:

Education Place Planning Team Quadrant Court, 35 Guildford Road, Woking. GU22 7AH

Alternatively, representations can be made by email to:

schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk

The consultation can also be accessed from the Surrey County Council website:

www.surreysays.co.uk

Alteration description

4. A description of the proposed alteration and, in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

The Priory Church of England (Voluntary Aided) School is a secondary school with six forms of entry and a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 180 for pupils age 11-16 years. In addition, the school has a sixth form provision with a capacity of 200 places across National Curriculum Years 12 to 13 for pupils aged 16-18 years.

The Governing Body of The Priory Church of England (VA) School in Dorking, in partnership with Surrey County Council and the Diocese of Guildford, is proposing to close its sixth form provision from September 2022. The proposal will make a prescribed alteration to the age range of the school from 11-18 years, to 11-16 years.

School capacity

5. (1)

(a) details of the current capacity of the school and, where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

The Priory CE (Aided) School currently offers up to 200 places in Years 12 and 13.

The proposed capacity after the alteration: From 1 September 2022, it is proposed that the school will cease to offer any places in the sixth form (Years 12 and 13). The pupils expected to attend in Year 13 from September 2021 will leave at the end of the academic year 2021/22.

- (b) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

The table below shows the current Year 12 and Year 13 numbers on roll as of January 2021 school census and the removal of the sixth form moving forward:

	Year 12	Year 13
January 2021	29	16
September 2021	0	29
September 2022	0	0

- (c) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

Not Applicable

- (d) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

The Priory Church of England (VA) School has a capacity of 200 places for sixth form provision and as of the January 2021 census, only had 45 pupils on roll. It is not sustainable to maintain a provision which is undersubscribed and underutilised and therefore the Governing Body of the school, in conjunction with Surrey County Council and the Diocese of Guildford are proposing that the provision be removed from September 2022.

- (2) A statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

The table indicates the number of pupils on roll at The Priory CofE (VA) School as of the school census on 13th April 2021:

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13
April 2021	95	98	139	142	136	29	16

Implementation

6. Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.

Not Applicable

Additional Site

7.— (1) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

Not Applicable

(2) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with details of the tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site of the school will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease.

Not Applicable

Changes in boarding arrangements

8. (1) the number of pupils for whom it is intended that boarding provision will be made if the proposals are approved;

Not Applicable

(a) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

Not Applicable

- (b) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision; and

Not Applicable

- (c) except where the proposals are to introduce boarding provision, a description of the existing boarding provision.

Not Applicable

(2)

- (a) the number of pupils for whom boarding provision will be removed if the proposals are approved; and

Not Applicable

- (b) a statement as to the use to which the former boarding accommodation will be put if the proposals are approved.

Not Applicable

Transfer to new site

9. Where the proposals are to transfer a school to a new site the following information—

- (a) the location of the proposed site (including details of whether the school is to occupy a single or split site), and including where appropriate the postal address;

Not Applicable

- (b) the distance between the proposed and current site;

Not Applicable

- (c) the reason for the choice of proposed site;

Not Applicable

- (d) the accessibility of the proposed site or sites;

Not Applicable

- (e) the proposed arrangements for transport of pupils to the school on its new site;
and

Not Applicable

- (f) a statement about other sustainable transport alternatives where pupils are not using transport provided, and how car use in the school area will be discouraged.

Not Applicable

Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

To improve the sustainability of the school and ensure the continued success of the school in the education of pupils from National Curriculum Years 7-11.

The retention of a small and unviable post-16 provision creates a financial burden across the whole school and the funding received for younger students.

Consultation

11. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—
- (a) a list of persons who were consulted;
 - (b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
 - (c) the views of the persons consulted;
 - (d) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and
 - (e) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

An explanatory consultation document has been made available to the public via the Council's website: www.surreysays.co.uk

All appropriate parties have been made aware of this proposal, inclusive of the Governing Body of the school. A virtual public meeting was planned for Wednesday 10th March 2021 but no one requested to attend and the meeting was cancelled.

The following people have been made aware of the proposals: parents/carers of children attending the school; employees and Governors of the school; relevant

unions; local residents; other users of the school building; other local schools; local borough and county councillors; and the School Admissions Forum.

The consultation received 43 responses, with 11 agreeing with the proposal, 30 disagreeing and 2 stating that they don't know.

Surrey County Council has complied with all applicable statutory requirements to consult in connection with this proposal. At the conclusion of the Notice period, if permission is granted by the Surrey Cabinet Member for All Age Learning, Surrey County Council will implement the proposal.

Project costs

12. A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local education authority, and any other party.

Not Applicable

13. A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State and/or local education authority that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

Not Applicable

Age range

14. Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

The current age range is 11-18 years.

Early years provision

15. Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5—

- (a) details of the early years provision, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

Not Applicable

(b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services and how the proposals are consistent with the integration of early years provision for childcare;

Not Applicable

(c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;

Not Applicable

(d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools and in establishments other than schools who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school; and

Not Applicable

(e) reasons why such schools and establishments who have spare capacity cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the number of such provision.

Not Applicable

Changes to sixth form provision

16. (a) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

- (i) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (ii) increase participation in education or training; and
- (iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area;

Not Applicable

(b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

Not Applicable

(c) Evidence —

(i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and

(ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

Not Applicable

(d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

Not Applicable

17. Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school ceases to provide sixth form education, a statement of the effect on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

The Priory Church of England (VA) School already has an established relationship with local feeder colleges including Reigate, East Surrey and The College of Richard Collyer (Collyers) which are a popular choice for National Curriculum Year 11 pupils. There are four other secondary schools with a post-16 provision, one in Dorking (0.94 miles), two in Leatherhead (5 miles) and one in Effingham (3.9 miles).

As part of the existing careers provision, all National Curriculum Year 11 students are provided with the information and support required to make a positive transition from senior school to the next stage in their education, whether that is sixth form, vocational training or apprenticeships. Every National Curriculum Year 11 student will continue to be supported in securing the appropriate pathway that is right for them, and which closely matches their ambitions and aspirations.

Special educational needs

18. Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs—

- (a) a description of the proposed types of learning difficulties in respect of which education will be provided and, where provision for special educational needs already exists, the current type of provision;

Not Applicable

- (b) any additional specialist features will be provided;

Not Applicable

- (c) the proposed numbers of pupils for which the provision is to be made;

Not Applicable

- (d) details of how the provision will be funded;

Not Applicable

- (e) a statement as to whether the education will be provided for children with special educational needs who are not registered pupils at the school to which the proposals relate;

Not Applicable

- (f) a statement as to whether the expenses of the provision will be met from the school's delegated budget;

Not Applicable

- (g) the location of the provision if it is not to be established on the existing site of the school;

Not Applicable

- (h) where the provision will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs, a statement as to how the local education authority believes that the new provision is likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children; and

Not Applicable

- (i) the number of places reserved for children with special educational needs, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of such places.

Not Applicable

19. Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs—

- (a) details of alternative provision for pupils for whom the provision is currently made;

Not Applicable

- (b) details of the number of pupils for whom provision is made that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs during each of the 4 school years preceding the current school year;

Not Applicable

- (c) details of provision made outside the area of the local education authority for pupils whose needs will not be able to be met in the area of the authority as a result of the discontinuance of the provision; and

Not Applicable

- (d) a statement as to how the proposer believes that the proposals are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children.

Not Applicable

20. Where the proposals will lead to alternative provision for children with special educational needs, as a result of the establishment, alteration or discontinuance of existing provision, the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of—

- (a) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local education authority's Accessibility Strategy;
- (b) improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including any external support and outreach services;
- (c) improved access to suitable accommodation; and
- (d) improved supply of suitable places.

Not Applicable

Sex of pupils

21. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of one sex only becomes an establishment which admits pupils of both sexes—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single sex-education in the area;

Not Applicable

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education; and

Not Applicable

- (c) details of any transitional period which the body making the proposals wishes specified in a transitional exemption order (within the meaning of section 27 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975).

Not Applicable

22. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to a school to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of both sexes becomes an establishment which admits pupils of one sex only—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single-sex education in the area; and

Not Applicable

(b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

Not Applicable

Extended services

23. If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school’s extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

Not Applicable

Need or demand for additional places

24. If the proposals involve adding places—

(a) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

Not Applicable

(b) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

Not Applicable

(c) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

Not Applicable

25. If the proposals involve removing places—

(a) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice; and

Not Applicable

(b) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

Not Applicable

Expansion of successful and popular schools

25A. (1) Proposals must include a statement of whether the proposer considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply, and where the governing body consider the presumption applies, evidence to support this.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies to expansion proposals in respect of primary and secondary schools, (except for grammar schools), i.e. falling within:

(a) (for proposals published by the governing body) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 or paragraph 12 of Part 2 to Schedule 2;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 4 or 18 of Part 4 to Schedule 4

of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

Not Applicable