

## PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in a complete proposal

### **Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 and Part 1 of Schedule 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):**

#### **In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details**

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

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#### **In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details**

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

St Christopher's CE (VC) Primary School Temple Road Cowley Oxford OX4 2HB
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#### **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.

01 September 2012
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#### **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.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal (i.e. by 5 October 2011) any person may object to or make comments on the proposal online at [www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consultation](http://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consultation); by post to Barbara Chillman, School Organisation & Planning, FREEPOST OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL; or by emailing:

[SCPS2011-manager@myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:SCPS2011-manager@myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.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.

Oxfordshire County Council is proposing to increase the capacity of St Christopher's CE Primary School, Cowley from 1.5 forms of entry to 2 forms of entry on a permanent basis from September 2012.

#### **School capacity**

- 5.—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8, 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the proposals must also include —

- (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 current capacity of the school is 315 (Reception – Year 6) and the proposed capacity will be 420.

- (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;

Until 2010 the published admission number for the school was 45. By agreement between the county council and St Christopher's governing body, the school admitted over its admission number in 2009 and 2010, accepting up to 60 children. For 2011 entry the school published an admission number of 60. This proposal is to make this level of admissions

permanent.

- (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 gradual growth of the school has led to a rise in indicated admission number over the last few years:

- For admissions up to and including September 2007 the indicated admission number was 40. This affects year groups 3-6 in the May 2011 pupil census. Of these year groups, only Year 5 was below this number in the May 2011 census, with 37 children.
- For admissions in September 2008-2010 the indicated admission number was 45. This affects year groups R-2 in the May 2011 pupil census. Of these year groups, all were above this number in the May 2011 pupil census.
- From September 2011, the indicated admission number is 49. 60 children are expected to be admitted.

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals) /paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

At the May 2011 pupil census, the number of pupils (Reception -Year 6) registered at the school was 324. For September 2011 this is expected to rise to around 345

### 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.

The proposal will be implemented by the local education authority.

**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.

No new or additional site will be required.

(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) Where the proposals are for the introduction or removal of boarding provision, or the alteration of existing boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

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

Not applicable

(2) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

- (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.

This proposal forms part of Oxfordshire County Council's strategy to expand primary school provision within Oxford to meet the needs of the local population.

Oxford city is experiencing rapid growth in pupil numbers, and Primary Care Trust records and the annual census of local children in early years settings show that the demand for places at St Christopher's CE Primary School is likely to continue to be above the planned admission number. Other nearby schools are also expected to be full or nearly full, and expansions are underway or planned for several other schools in the city.

For September 2010, 50 parents chose St Christopher's CE Primary School as their first preference against a published admission number of 45, and to help accommodate the rising numbers of children needing primary school places in Oxford, the school agreed to take more than its admission number (as it had already done in 2009) accepting up to 60 children into the reception class. It also agreed to publish an admission number of 60 for September 2011 entry.

This proposal is to make the increased admission number permanent through an increase in capacity of the school.

## 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.

- a) Consultation was carried out with staff, governors and parents at St Christopher's CE Primary School; local early years providers; local residents; local councillors (parish, district and county) and MP; trade unions representing staff at the school; other local primary and secondary schools; CE and RC dioceses; and other interested parties.
- b) No public consultation meeting was held.
- c) Thirteen responses to the consultation were received.
- o Eight respondents supported the proposal (though some with qualifications as noted below).
  - o Three respondents opposed the proposal.
  - o Two were neutral.
- Reasons for supporting the proposal included:
- o Expansion will provide school places for local children.
  - o Expansion will cater for the increase in population.
  - o Expansion will allow the school to teach in single age classes
  - o The school site is large enough to support expansion.
- The following concerns were raised:
- o Traffic at the start and finish of the school day (3 respondents).
  - o The need for additional accommodation (3 respondents)..
  - o The school should not be expanded until it has been out of special measures for some time. The priority should be on improving the school's performance (3 respondents).
  - o The need for additional staffing and other resources (2 respondents).
  - o That the school should avoid the use of fair banding for admissions (1 respondent).
- d) All applicable statutory requirements to consult have been complied with.
- e) The consultation leaflet is attached as Appendix 1. These were sent via the school to parents. Consultation leaflets were also sent to local primary schools, early years providers, the local secondary schools, local councillors and MPs, and other stakeholders. The leaflet was also available on the county council's website.

### 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.

A feasibility study is underway to identify the options for providing additional accommodation to address the infrastructure issues related to this expansion.

The estimated cost of providing the additional classroom spaces in permanent buildings is in the region of £1.7m. It is anticipated that capital works will be funded by the local authority; the school will be responsible for furniture and IT equipment.

13. A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Learning and Skills Council for England (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

Oxfordshire County Council capital funding forward plans include funds to assist with demographic issues on school places. Once the preferred solution, costs and phasing options have been identified and agreed, funding will be allocated from within the County Council's Capital Programme 2012/13 onwards. It is anticipated that there will be opportunities to recover some of the costs for the work from future housing developer funding (S.106) agreements.

### Age range

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

Not applicable

### 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.

Not applicable

### 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;

Due to rising numbers across Oxford City, 60 places were allocated to the school for September 2009 and 2010. As a consequence the school's admission number for 2011 was published at 60, using existing permanent accommodation and a temporary classroom installed in 2010. In September 2011 the school has more than 45 children per year from the Reception Year to Year 4 inclusive.

By the application deadline for 2011 entry, the partnership of schools in this part of Oxford had received 358 first preference applications for 325 Reception places; there were also late applications.

In recent years Oxford has experienced a significant and sustained rise in primary pupil numbers. To meet this demand, in 2008 an additional 105 primary school places across the city were agreed; in 2009 a further 245 additional primary school places were created, and in 2010 another 238 additional places were created. Looking to the future, significant additional housing is included in Oxford City Council's Core Strategy, which will, in turn, lead to increased pupil numbers across the city.

- (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;

The number of places at CE schools does not meet parental demand in Oxford. Within Oxford city there are 484 Reception places available at Church of England (VC or VA) schools (with St Christopher's at 45). For 2010 there were 613 first preference applications for these schools; by the close of applications for 2011 there had been 526 first preference applications, with more expected from late applications.

- (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).

The presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools does not apply in this case.