



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

FULL STATUTORY PROPOSAL

The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)
(England) Regulations 2013

Proposed Change of Category from Voluntary Controlled to Voluntary Aided for Aston Rowant Church of England School

1. School and LA details

School: Aston Rowant CE Primary School

Address: School Lane, Aston Rowant, Oxfordshire, OX49 5SU

Local Authority: Oxfordshire County Council

2. Description of alteration

Change of Church of England category from Voluntary Controlled to Voluntary Aided.

3. Outline of proposed change and evidence of demand

The Governors wish to maintain a close working relationship between the school, the local church and community, whilst continuing to work with the Local Authority. The school's current way of working is more closely aligned with that of a voluntary aided school than voluntary controlled. The Governors also recognise that with ageing school buildings it is strategically important for the Board to have as much control and input as possible over the running of the school and the financial decisions made, in particular relating to premises maintenance and management. These reasons have resulted in the Board's view that the best interests of the pupils, parents and school would be served by Aston Rowant CE School seeking a change to the voluntary aided category. This will better represent the vision and ethos of the school.

4. Objectives

The proposed alteration would:

- Better align the way the school currently operates with its Church of England status;
- Offer the Governing Board greater input and flexibility over financial management.

5. The effect on other educational institutions within the area

This proposed change will not have significant material impact on other local educational institutions.

6. Project costs and funding

The costs of delivering this project are not significant and will be met by the school. Funding for future works on buildings etc will be able to be met through accumulated savings and fundraising from the school and its supporters (e.g. PTA etc).

7. Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

It is anticipated that this change will take place before the end of the 2023/24 academic year.

8. Objections and comments

Comments or objections must be received by **Thursday 28 March 2024**.

Respond by:

- using the online questionnaire at letstalk.oxfordshire.gov.uk/aston-rowant-school-category
- or emailing school.planning@oxfordshire.gov.uk (*please quote ASTON ROWANT CONSULTATION in the header*)
- handing in a written response at the reception office of Aston Rowant CE Primary School

9. Decision-making

The decision-maker for this proposed expansion is Oxfordshire County Council. The decision will be made by the Cabinet Member responsible for Education at a meeting which is open to the public, and publicised on the county council's website. The decision must be made within a period of two months of the end of this representation period, and is currently expected on 15 May 2024.