

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.

St Edburg's CE Primary School (Voluntary Aided), Cemetery Road,  
Bicester, OX26 6BB

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

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

n/a

**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.

To alter the lower age limit of the school to admit children from 3 years old and to increase the Admission Number from 30 to 60 by September 2014.

**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.

Any objections or comments should be submitted in writing **by 30<sup>th</sup> May 2012** to:

Diane Cameron  
School Organisation & Planning  
Oxfordshire County Council  
FREEPOST

Or by email to:

[StEdburgs2011-manager@myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:StEdburgs2011-manager@myconsultations.oxfordshire.gov.uk)

Or via an online questionnaire at <http://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.

To alter the lower age limit of the school to admit children from 3 years old into a Nursery class, and to increase the Admission Number from 30 to 60 by September 2014. This is to serve a new large housing development in the town.

### **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;

Current capacity of the school is 210. The proposed enlargement would expand the school to a capacity of 420, plus a new Nursery class.

- (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;

St Edburg's CE Primary School has an Admission Number of 30. The proposal is to change the Admission Number to 60 on a permanent basis to serve the need of local residents moving into a new housing development in Bicester. In establishing a Nursery class, 26 full time equivalent places are expected to be offered to 3 year olds.

- (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;

Up to 60 children will be admitted into F1 (Reception) year group in the first school year in which the increased Admission Number will be implemented. The admission number for existing year groups will remain as 30 but the school will plan for additional places in years 1-6 as demanded by occupiers of the new houses.

- (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 Indicated Admission Number for St Edburg's is currently 28. Current numbers on roll by year group are:

Reception (F1) – 17

Year 1 – 19

Year 2 – 19

Year 3 – 26

Year 4 – 23

Year 5 – 24

Year 6 - 16

(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.

January 2012 number on roll is 145.

### 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.

n/a

### 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.

A new site is required for the proposed expansion of the school. The main entrance to the new site is less than two miles from the current site of the school in Bicester, in the south west of the town, next to the new housing development which the school will serve. The new site will enable the physical expansion of the school to two form entry from one form entry.

(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.

Oxfordshire County Council is to acquire the freehold interest for the site as part of a formal S106 agreement. The intention is for this to be transferred to the Trustees of St Edburg's CE (A) Primary School.

### 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;

n/a

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

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

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

n/a
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(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

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

n/a

### 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;

The proposed new site is south west of Bicester town centre, within the new Kingsmere housing development, which the school will serve. The site will not be a split site as the current site will be sold.

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

The main entrance of the new school site will be less than two miles from the current school site.

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

The new site is located within the site of the housing development which it will serve and provide sufficient school places to meet predicted Basic Need pupil demand from that community.

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

The new site will be subject to the usual Building Regulations and Planning laws regarding accessibility.

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

The majority of children attending the school will live in the housing development and will therefore be able to walk/cycle/scoot to the school.

Where St Edburg's is the nearest school to a child's home with an available place and the child is allocated a place there, and the child lives over 2 miles from the school, the Authority will provide transport.

Existing pupils attending St Edburg's who are under 8 years of age, and who live over 2 miles from the new site will be offered free transport.

Existing pupils who are over 8 years of age and who live over 3 miles from the new site will be offered free transport.

- (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.

The majority of pupils will not arrive at the school by vehicular transport as they will largely be drawn from Kingsmere housing development, where the school will be situated. The school will also draw up and implement its own Travel Plan to encourage sustainable low impact travel to school.

## Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

To enable sufficient pupil places to be made available to meet the needs of a fast-growing local community and to enable Oxfordshire County Council to fulfil its statutory duty in relation to school place provision. The proposal will also deliver modern purpose-built accommodation, which will enhance the educational offer of the school and, due to modern design, offer new opportunities for community use / extended schools etc.

## 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) A public consultation was held by the governing body of St Edburg's CE Primary School between 1<sup>st</sup> November and 17<sup>th</sup> December 2010. Consultation was carried out with staff, governors and parents of

children at the school, local councillors and MPs, relevant trade unions, other Bicester school and other interested parties. Prior to this, a previous consultation was held in 2007, when the housing development was believed to be starting at an earlier date.

- b) n/a
- c) During the public consultation, sixteen responses were received. Eleven were in favour of the proposal and five raised concerns about the proposal.

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Reasons for supporting the proposal included:

- Expansion will provide new purpose built school places for children.
- Expansion will cater for the new development and offer a Church of England ethos.
- Expansion will allow the school to offer more opportunities community involvement.
- A larger school could offer a greater breadth of specialisms among staff and therefore enrich educational opportunities for pupils.

The following concerns were raised:

- Greater distance from and less affinity with St Edburg's church.
- Increased walking distance for existing pupils.
- The ethos of a smaller school will be lost.
- Potential deterioration of the fabric of existing buildings while the new school is being built.
- Existing pupils will need to cross a busy road to access the new school buildings.
- Parents from the first phase of housing may choose to send their children to Kings Meadow Primary School.

- d) All statutory requirements were complied with.
- e) Consultation leaflets were sent via the school to parents, local primary and nursery schools, councillors and MPs and other stakeholders.

### 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.

£6.2 million (index linked) has been secured as part of the S106 agreement for this proposal. An agreement has been reached with the Oxford CE Diocese Board of Education for transfer of capital monies to procure the



school buildings.

**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).

The financial implications of the proposal are linked to the capital works that will be carried out should the proposals be approved, and these will be the subject of a separate legal agreement with the Oxford Diocese and the school who would procure the new premises. Such an agreement will contain minimum standards for the facilities to be provided from S.106 monies secured by Oxfordshire County Council and for the transfer of capital receipts from the sale of the existing site to fund necessary additional school places in the schools serving the area served by the existing St Edburg's CE (A) primary school site. There will also be on-costs for the school for additional staff and increased maintenance requirements.

The provision of a two form entry primary school on this strategic site is identified in the county council's forward Capital Programme. The costs of the statutory process are met within the normal Children, Education & Families budget provision.

The school site and capital funds secured through the S106 agreement are to be transferred to Oxford Diocesan Board of Education (ODBE) for the provision of this school. Terms for a formal transfer agreement have been agreed between Oxfordshire County Council and ODBE.

### **Age range**

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

The current age range of the school is 4 - 11. The proposed age range is 3 – 11.

### **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;

26 fte (full time equivalent) Nursery places are expected to be created.

- (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;

3 year olds will receive early years provision through the new school Nursery and there is a good supply of childminders in Bicester with the capacity for the children aged 2 and under (sufficiency assessed by Children, Education & Families, OCC).

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

Pre-school at the current school site is oversubscribed. Community the school will serve is not in place as it is a new housing development.

- (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

Full details are attached at Annex 1. All Ofsted judgements are satisfactory or higher. Although there is a small element of spare capacity in other schools and settings within the 3 mile radius, the likely closure of the First and Second Steps Pre-School will mean a loss of 50% of the places in the Bicester Town ward. We need to factor in new places to make up for this loss and for projected population growth related to the new housing development.

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

Consultations will be held on proposals to alter the catchment areas within Bicester town so that schools with spare capacity currently will admit children who would otherwise have fallen within the existing catchment area of St Edburg's current site. For this reason, spare capacity at other schools in the town will be filled, and St Edburg's new site must establish additional provision for Early Years Foundation Stage to serve the needs of the new

housing development.

The size of development for which planning consent has been issued is 1626 houses. Current forecasts for the town to 2017/18 indicate that existing places will be required to serve underlying demographic pressures. Realignment of some catchment areas to reflect pupil residence and that the additional pupils to be generated from the Kingsmere development will require further capacity to be provided.

### 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;

N/A

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

N/A

(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;

N/A

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

N/A

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.

N/A

### 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;

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

- (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;

N/A

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

N/A

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

N/A

- (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

N/A

- (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.

N/A

**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;

N/A

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- (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;

N/A
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- (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

N/A
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- (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.

N/A
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**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.

N/A
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### 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;

N/A

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

N/A

- (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).

N/A

**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

N/A

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

N/A

### 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.

N/A

### 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;

The proposal is directly related to the development of an additional 1626 new houses in the Kingsmere development. For September 2011 the school's admission number has been published as 30 but the school is not currently full and will have space to accommodate the children generated from the first phase of development on the site which is now underway. This is essential so that the new community has clear continuity of education provision as early as possible. Current pupils would be guaranteed places in the new school. However, once the new school is available it will serve the new community. The part of Bicester town currently served by this school will be divided between other schools in the town. Further consultation exercises to vary catchment areas will need to be brought forward by the Authority in due course. These will take into account all the large developments proposed in and around Bicester to 2026.

- (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;

There are no other Church of England schools in Bicester town and one Roman Catholic Aided primary school. During the public consultation, one of the reasons given for support of the proposal was that the school would continue to offer a Church of England ethos, which no other school in the town does.

- (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.



n/a

**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

n/a

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

n/a

### **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.