

STATUTORY PROPOSAL FOR THE DISCONTINUANCE OF ST. URSULA'S CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL

Extract of Part 4 of Schedule 2 to the School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013

Contact details

1. Name and contact address of the local authority publishing the proposals:

London Borough of Havering, Town Hall, Main Road, Romford, RM1 3BD

Name, address and category of the school proposed to be discontinued:

St. Ursula's Catholic Infant School Straight Road, Romford, Essex, RM3 7JS and Voluntary aided

Implementation

2. The date on which it is proposed to close the school:

The proposed date of closure is 31 August 2020

Reason for closure

3. A statement explaining the reason why closure of the school is considered necessary.

The Authority and the Diocese of Brentwood has brought forward the proposal as they consider that an amalgamation of St. Ursula's Catholic Infant and Junior Schools will be in the best educational interest of current and future pupils.

A four week period of public consultation, including meetings with staff, governors, and parents, along with other interested parties was undertaken from 20 January to 17 February 2020. The views of responses received during the consultation period is as detailed in the consultation feedback report; appendix 2 of the executive decision for the publication of statutory notice which can be viewed via this link

<https://democracy.havering.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=5512>

Pupil numbers and admissions

4. The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is currently made at the school.

St. Ursula's Catholic Infant School is a co-educational catholic infant school for pupils aged 3 to 7.

The school has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 60 for each year group, giving a total of 180 places (excluding the nursery places). As at the October 2019, the school had 217 pupils on roll of who 45 are children attending the nursery provision.

The school does not have boarding provision or provide educational provision recognised by the local authority as being reserved for children with special educational needs. There are 14 pupils on roll (January census 2019) who have been identified as having special educational needs (SEN support) and 4 pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Displaced pupils

5. A statement and supporting evidence about the need for school places in the area including whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

No pupils will be displaced

6. Details of the schools or further education colleges at which pupils at the school to be discontinued will be offered places, including—

- a. any interim arrangements;
- b. the provision that is to be made for those pupils who receive educational provision recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs; and
- c. in the case of special schools, the alternative provision made by local authorities other than the local authority which maintain the school.

All pupils attending St. Ursula's Catholic Infant school at the time of its closure will automatically transfer onto the roll of the enlarged Primary School

7. Details of any other measures proposed to be taken to increase the number of school or further education college places available in consequence of the proposed discontinuance.

Not applicable

Impact on the community

8. A statement and supporting evidence about the impact on the community of the closure of the school and any measures proposed to mitigate any adverse impact.

There will be no impact on the community through the closure of St Ursula's Infant School as the new Primary School will serve the same community and will use the same site.

Rural primary schools

9. Where proposals relate to a rural primary school designated as such by an order made for the purposes of section 15, a statement that the local authority or the governing body (as the case may be) considered section 15(4).

Not applicable

Balance of denominational provision

10. Where the school has a religious character, a statement about the impact of the proposed closure on the balance of denominational provision in the area and the impact on parental choice.

Closure of the school will not have a negative impact on the balance of denominational provision in the area. The single school would maintain the Roman Catholic religious character and would continue to ensure that pupils' spiritual needs are met.

Maintained nursery schools

11. Where proposals relate to the discontinuance of a maintained nursery school, a statement setting out—

- a. the local authority's assessment of the quality and quantity of the alternative provision compared to the school proposed to be discontinued and the proposed arrangements to ensure the expertise and specialism continues to be
- b. the accessibility and convenience of replacement provision for local parents.

The amalgamated single primary school will offer nursery provision for all current nursery pupils at St. Ursula's Infant school if discontinued.

Sixth form provision

12. Where the school proposed to be discontinued provides sixth form education, the effect for 16 to 19 year olds in the area that the closure will have in respect of—
- their educational or training achievements;
 - their participation in education or training; and
 - the range of educational or training opportunities available to them.

Not applicable

Special educational needs provision

13. Where existing provision that is recognised by the local authority as reserved for pupils with special educational needs is being discontinued, a statement as to how the local authority or the governing body (as the case may be) believe the proposals are likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for these children.

St Ursula's infant is an inclusive school and do not provide educational provision recognised by the local authority as being reserved for children with special educational needs. The school has 4 students with Education Health Care Plans; their needs will continue to be met in the amalgamated single school.

Travel

14. Details of length and journeys to alternative provision.

The new primary school will utilise the site of both St. Ursula's Catholic infant and junior schools, therefore, there will be no change in the travel journey to the new amalgamated single primary school.

15. The proposed arrangements for travel of displaced pupils to other schools including how the proposed arrangements will mitigate against increased car use.

Not applicable

Procedure for making representations (objections and comments)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by:

Email: schoolsorganisation@havering.gov.uk

Post: Pooneeta Mahadeo,
School Organisation Manager
London Borough of Havering 9th Floor Mercury House,
Mercury Gardens Romford RM1 3DW

Any objections or comments must be received on or before 5pm on Friday 27 March 2020