

Appendix A

THE GOVERNING BODY OF CHURCH END LOWER SCHOOL, MARSTON MORETAINE,
BEDFORDSHIRE

and

THE DIOCESE OF ST ALBANS BOARD OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION AND INSPECTIONS ACT 2006

Related proposals to close Church End Lower School, Marston Moretaine and open Marston Moreteyne Church of England VC School

Part 1: The Governing Body of Church End Lower School, Marston Moretaine – Proposal to close Church End Lower School Pages 1-2

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Part 1: The Governing Body of Church End Lower School, Marston Moretaine

Proposal to close Church End Lower School

Contact details:

Chair of Governors, Church End Lower School, Church Walk, Marston Moretaine, Bedford, MK43 0NE

Name, address and category of school that it is proposed to close:

Church End Lower School, Marston Moretaine (foundation school)

This is a split-site school.

Site 1: Church Walk, Marston Moretaine, Bedford, MK 43 0NE

Site 2: Forest End, Great Linns, Marston Moretaine, Bedford, MK 43 0DD

Implementation

The process for school closure is set out in the Department for Education Statutory Guidance: Opening and Closing Maintained Schools – April 2016. The governing body proposes that Church End Lower School closes on Tuesday 30th April 2019.

Reasons for proposed closure

It is proposed to close the existing school in order to open a new (Church of England, Voluntary Controlled) school on the same sites. The informal consultation has indicated strong support from stakeholders for this proposal.

Pupil numbers and admissions

The school has a total capacity of 450 pupils (Year R to Year 4)
+ 72 full-time equivalent (FTE) Nursery Places.

Arrangements for displaced pupils

Pupils at the existing school would be accommodated at the proposed new school, hence there would be no displaced pupils.

Impact on the community

The informal consultation stage ran for six weeks between November and December 2017. Consultation documents were sent to all existing families, all staff and the immediate and wider community. The school received 86 responses of which:

- 91% of respondents supported the proposal;
- 2% of respondents opposed the proposal;
- 7% of respondents neither supported nor objected to the proposal.

In addition, the school hosted four public meetings which were attended by parents, staff, residents, School Governors and the Director of Education from the Diocese of St Albans Diocesan Board of Education.

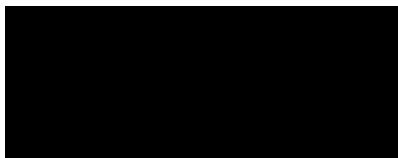
The school employs 83 members of staff, the majority of which were supportive of the proposal.

A five-week Stage 2 consultation process will take place from **Wednesday 9 January to Wednesday 20th February 2019**. The proposals will then be submitted to Central Bedfordshire Council.

Comments and objections to this proposal can be made by 5pm on **Wednesday 20th February 2019** in writing to: The Chair of Governors, Church End Lower School, Church Walk, Marston Moretaine, Bedford, MK43 0NE, or to churchend@cbc.beds.sch.uk

Travel

The closure of the current school will not cause any additional journeys to alternative provision nor any increase in car use.



Chair of Governors
Governing Body of Church End Lower School
Date: Wednesday 9th January 2019

Part 2: The Diocese of St Albans Board of Education

Proposal to open Marston Moreteyne Church of England VC School

Contact details:

Canon David Morton, Director of Education, Diocese of St Albans Schools Team, Holywell Lodge, 41 Holywell Hill, St Albans, AL1 1HE

Email: dde@stalbans.anglican.org

Tel. 01727 818170

Implementation

The proposed name of the new school is **Marston Moreteyne Church of England VC School**. It is proposed to operate as a split-site school occupying the same sites as the previous school:

Site 1: Church Walk, Marston Moretaine, Bedford, MK 43 ONE

Site 2: Forest End, Great Linns, Marston Moretaine, Bedford, MK 43 ODD

The process for opening a new school is set out in the Department for Education Statutory Guidance: Opening and Closing Maintained Schools – April 2016. The Diocese of St Albans Board of Education proposes that Marston Moreteyne Church of England VC School opens on 1st May 2019.

The proposal would be implemented by Central Bedfordshire County Council as the Local Authority with the support of the Board of Education of the Diocese of St Albans. Any capital costs would be met by the Local Authority who will transfer to the trustees of the new school the sites to be occupied by it.

Reason for the new school

The past few years have seen considerable housing growth within and around the village. It is anticipated that this will continue for the foreseeable future.

The 'new' school would replace the existing Church End Lower School on the same sites, with capacity as follows:

Total Capacity: 600 pupils (Year R to Year 4)

+ 96 FTE Nursery places

Category

Church of England Voluntary Controlled

The Secretary of State's consent has been obtained to publish these proposals.

Ethos and religious character

Church of England Voluntary Controlled School

This will be a Church of England school and in accordance with statute, RE (Religious Education) will be provided in accordance with the Agreed Syllabus or on request in accordance with the diocesan syllabus.

The proposers intend to ask the Secretary of State to designate the school as a school with such a religious character.

The informal consultation carried out in November/December 2017 evidenced strong support for the proposal from parents, staff, governors, and other stakeholders, through questionnaires and a series of public meetings, with 91% of respondents supporting the proposal, 7% taking a neutral view and only 2% opposing.

Pupil numbers and admissions

Total Capacity 600 pupils (Year R to Year 4)
+ 96 FTE Nursery places

Admission arrangements

The Local Authority will be the admissions authority for the school and (with the support of the Diocesan Board of Education) does not propose that any priority be given to children of any particular religion or denomination. The proposed admissions policy will be consistent with the Local Authority's standard admissions policy for Church of England Voluntary Controlled schools.

Early Years Provision

The Early Years provision would be maintained as provided in the existing school, with potential extension in the future if needed.

Curriculum

The proposed new school will meet the general requirements in relation to the curriculum contained in section 78 of EA 2002.

Relevant experience of proposers

The Diocese of St Albans Board of Education's staff are a team of experienced education professionals providing focused support to over 130 Church of England schools within the Diocese, including standards and school improvement. Over 90% of Church of England schools in the Diocese are either 'Outstanding' or 'Good'.

Effects on standards and contributions to school improvement

By joining the Church of England family of schools, Church End will be working with other local schools which share our educational vision and promote our values. In so doing, it is our belief that this will provide pupils with the best opportunity to thrive, aspire to the very

highest possible standards and go on to successfully contribute to their local and wider community.

The existing school was inspected by Ofsted in November 2016. The report recognises that the school's leadership team 'plan for continuous improvement and are outward-looking and visionary'. The report recognises that attainment is above average.

The school already works closely with the local pyramid of schools; encouraging and developing innovative approaches to liaison and assessment moderation. The school has an 'open door' policy in all aspects ranging from supporting Governance and Headteacher Mentoring to Initial Teacher Training. The school is actively involved in working with The University of Bedfordshire and both the Headteacher and the Deputy Headteacher are part of the Central Bedfordshire LSCB (Local Safeguarding Children Board).

The school is looking forward to developing strong and successful partnerships from within the Diocesan family of schools.

Location and costs

The new Church of England Voluntary Controlled school would primarily continue to serve the village of Marston Moretaine and the immediate surrounding area. It would replace Church End Lower School which would close on 30th April 2019; and would occupy the same split site as the school it replaces:

Site 1: Church Walk, Marston Moretaine, Bedford, MK 43 ONE

Site 2: Forest End, Great Linns, Marston Moretaine, Bedford, MK 43 ODD

The school sites would be transferred freehold to the Diocesan Board of Education as trustee of the new school. The playing fields will be provided to the school by the Local Authority.

The existing school would be closed, with the same sites needed for the same pupils in the new school. There is thus a nil cost to providing the sites for the new school, and no planning permission is required.

Travel

The opening of the new Church of England Voluntary Controlled School will not cause any increase in car use.

Federation

There are no proposals at this time for the school to be established as a federated school.



Director of Education

On behalf of the Diocese of St Albans Board of Education

Date: Wednesday 9th January 2019