

CABINET MEMBER DECISION

Decision:

PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF DOWNS WAY SCHOOL AND ST. MARY'S C OF E JUNIOR SCHOOL

(i) Details of decision

The Cabinet Member for Education approved the publication of a statutory notice to:

- i. close Downs Way School, effective from 31 August 2018;
- ii. alter the lower age limit of St. Mary's C of E Junior School, in order that the age range broadens from 7-11 to 4-11, effective from 1 September 2018; and
- iii. enlarge the formal capacity of this Primary School. From 360 places (i.e. the current capacity of St. Mary's C of E Junior School) to 660 places, effective from 1 September 2018.

(ii) Reasons for decision

The schools serve the same geographic area and are on adjacent sites. The proposal will formalise existing partnership working; augment the cohesiveness of the school community; provide for more streamlined transitions between key stages; and allow for the most efficient allocation of resources. The proposal to expand the school is in response to the local demand for junior school places at this school and a basic need for more school places in the Oxted & Limpsfield area. In particular, as infant provision in the area has recently been expanded, through the enlargement of Downs Way, this amalgamation provides an appropriate opportunity to expand what would become corresponding junior provision in an amalgamated all-through primary school.

In line with this, Surrey County Council has undertaken the requisite first stage of informal consultation to inform the decision making process and a significant majority of respondents confirmed their agreement with the proposed alterations. For these reasons, it is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Education approves the publication of a Statutory Notice (appended to this report as Annex 1), formally proposing the necessary prescribed alterations.

(iii) Details of any alternative options considered and rejected

None

(iv) Details of any consultation and representations received not included in the published report

None

Conflicts of Interest and any Dispensations Granted

(Any conflict of interest declared by any other Cabinet Member consulted in relation to the decision to be recorded and any dispensations granted by the Audit and Governance Committee)

None

Decision taken by:

- (i) **Name:** Mrs Mary Lewis
- (ii) **Portfolio:** Cabinet Member for Education

Date of Decision: 12 September 2017

Date of Publication of Record of Decision: 12 September 2017

Date decision effective (i.e. 5 working days after date of publication of record of decision unless subject to call-in by the Children and Education Select Committee):
19 September 2017