

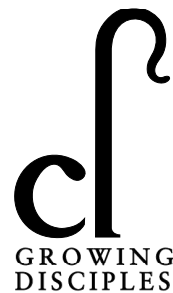
St Mary's Church of England Nursery and Infant School



Windermere Church of England Junior School

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The Diocese of Carlisle



School Amalgamation Consultation



Consultation on behalf of the governors of St Mary's Church of England Nursery and Infant School and Windermere Church of England Junior School and the Diocese of Carlisle

The Proposals

The governing bodies of St Mary's Voluntary Aided Church of England Nursery and Infant School ("the Infant School") and Windermere Voluntary Aided Church of England Junior School ("the Junior School") are proposing that:

- the two schools will amalgamate to become a single full-range (3-11) Voluntary Aided Church of England primary school ("the Primary School") from September 2013
- the Published Number (PAN) of the school on entry at 5 will be **60**
- the amalgamated school will have no junior PAN
- the new school nursery will cater for up to 104 pupils
- the process for admission of children to both schools for September 2013 is unchanged, and all children allocated places under the current arrangements will automatically have a place in the new school
- admission arrangements for the new school for admission in September 2014 will be the responsibility of the new governing body
- all pupils currently attending the Infant School will automatically have places at the amalgamated Primary School
- all pupils currently attending the Junior School in years 3 to 5 will automatically have places at the amalgamated Primary School
- arrangements for transfer from the nursery to the new school will not change

It is proposed that:

- a new full primary school will open on 1 September 2013 to include the Nursery, the Infant School and the Junior School
- the Nursery and Infant School and the Junior School will close as a separate schools on 31 August 2013 and become part of the Primary School
- all staff and pupils will become part of the expanded school, and children from both the closing schools will then be on roll at the Primary School

Published Admission Numbers (PANs) and places from September 2013

These are the Published Admission Numbers (PANs) and places currently at the schools:

Current Provision	PAN	YR	Y1	Y2	PAN	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
St Mary's CE Nursery and Infant School	60	60	60	60	-	-	-	-	-
Windermere CE Junior School	-	-	-	-	66	66	66	66	66

Nursery admission will be unchanged in the new school.

These are what the proposed Published Admission Number (PAN) and places available will be under the proposals:

Proposed Provision	PAN	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6
New Amalgamated Primary School	60	60	60	60	60	60	60	60

The new school Nursery will cater for up to 104 pupils.

This is a reduction of six in the number of available primary school places in the community for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. We will discuss this further on in the document.

Why are we making these proposals?

The Head of Windermere CE Junior School has moved to a new post. This is an ideal time to consider changing the organisation of both schools.

Where the majority of children from an infant school transfer to a single school for their junior (Key Stage 2) education, it is Cumbria County Council policy to consider amalgamating these schools, and the Board of Education of the Diocese of Carlisle supports this policy.

The governing bodies are looking for a provision that best meets the needs of children in the schools and in the area, now and for the future.

Creating a single primary school from the separate infant and junior schools will benefit children by enhancing the provision in the area.

St Mary's CE Nursery and Infant School and Windermere CE Junior School provide a good quality education. However, a full-range primary school has the following advantages:

- a seamless transition from Key Stage 1 (Infants) to Key Stage 2 (Juniors)
- greater opportunities for curriculum continuity and development
- greater opportunities for staff development
- greater flexibility with a combined budget to deploy staff and curriculum resources effectively
- greater opportunities for staff recruitment
- The range of teaching and leadership opportunities in primary schools are likely to attract aspiring head teachers in future

Demand for school places in the area

The area is currently served by 4 schools for primary age children: St Mary's Church of England Nursery and Infant School, Windermere Church of England Junior School, Goodly Dale Community Primary School and St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School. On the basis of Published Admission Numbers (PANs) the total number of Reception places in Bowness and Windermere is 86 and the total number of places at the beginning of Key Stage 2 is 92. There is also an independent preparatory school, part of The Windermere School, located in Windermere.

The position for St Mary's CE Nursery and Infant School and Windermere CE Junior School is that there are vacancies in each year group. Pupil numbers in each year group are as follows.

St Mary's CE Nursery and Infant School	PAN =60	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
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Current pupil numbers		49	42	50
vacancies		11	18	10

Windermere CE Junior School	PAN =66	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Current pupil numbers		52	47	55	51
vacancies		14	19	11	15

We foresee fluctuating numbers over the next few years as different size year groups pass through the school. The County's projected pupil numbers for the area are, however, forecast to rise. The General Practitioner register indicates that the number of pre-school children living in the area is steadily increasing from 68 Reception age children in September 2010 to 78 children who are expected to attain Reception age in September 2015.

The proposed new school will have a reduced number of Key Stage 2 places (from 66 to 60). This will still leave more than sufficient school places in the area to accommodate the expected levels of demand.

As a larger school, the proposed amalgamated school will be in a stronger position to cope with the expected fluctuations.

Amalgamation Process

When two schools amalgamate there are 3 possible routes:

- close both schools and establish a new primary school
- close the Infant School and expand the Junior School
- close the Junior School and expand the Infant School

The preferred process

The governors of both schools believe that the formal closure of both existing schools and forming a new full-range primary school best reflects the strengths of the two good schools we have, and will form the most effective basis for combining their qualities in the new school. The proposals are linked and the new school could not happen without agreement to close the schools.

This consultation is being carried out on behalf of both governing bodies and the Diocese of Carlisle. Legally only the Diocese is allowed to propose creating a new church school, while it is the responsibility of the governing bodies to close the existing schools. The Diocesan Board of Education has passed a resolution supporting in principle the amalgamation subject to the outcome of the consultation process.

Have Your Say

We would like to know what the people in the area feel about our proposals. There is a Consultation Response Form on page 5 of this leaflet.

What happens next?

We are going to hold a public meeting at Windermere Church of England Junior School, Princes Road, Windermere, LA23 2DD on Wednesday 17th October, 2012 at 7.00 p.m. Please come and share your views. The Consultation lasts until **Friday 9th November, 2012.**

We want to emphasise that **NO FINAL DECISION WILL BE TAKEN ON AN AMALGAMATION OF THE TWO SCHOOLS** until your views are known. The response form asks whether or not you think an amalgamation is a good idea.

We will analyse the responses and then a report goes to each governing body and to the Diocesan Board of Education. The governing bodies and the Diocesan Board of Education, will consider whether to take the amalgamation forward in light of the responses to the consultation. If they decide to go ahead linked Statutory Notices will be published. There will be a 6 week representation period to comment on these Notices.

The responses to the Statutory Notices received during the representation period are analysed and a report is then sent to the County Council's Cabinet which makes the final decision regarding closure of the schools and the opening of the new school.

If the proposals are approved, a temporary governing body will be set up for the new school which will be responsible for the appointment of staff and the other arrangements that are required. This will be made up from governors from both schools. The existing governing bodies will manage the existing schools until their closure.

Where can I find out more?

This consultation document is available on the schools' web sites and the diocesan web site. There will be an opportunity to ask questions and make your views known at the public consultation meeting.

A digital version of the response form which follows is available on the schools' websites and on the diocesan website. You can either print it off and fill it in by hand, or complete it on your computer and print it off. Some users may also be able to email the completed form direct.

Consultation Response Form

on the proposals to amalgamate St Mary's Church of England Nursery and Infant School and Windermere Church of England Junior School into a single Church of England primary school

Please give us your views. Please tick the box that best shows what you think of the following questions. Also give us any comments you have. You can write on the other side of this sheet if you want more space to write comments.

1. St Mary's CE Nursery and Infant School & Windermere CE Junior School should become a single Primary School from September 2013

Agree
 Don't know
 Disagree

Comments:

2. The process should be that both existing schools are closed and a new school is formed

Agree
 Don't know
 Disagree

Comments:

Please will you tell us something about yourself. Please tick the boxes that apply to you and please tick the box for the school involved.

	St Mary's CE Nursery and Infant	Windermere CE Junior	Another School
A parent/carer of a child who may go to one of the schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A parent/carer of a child at one of the schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Someone who works at one of the schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
A Governor of one of the schools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some other link to one of the schools *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Someone else with an interest *	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

* Please give details

Please will you also give your postcode

Please tick if you have written comments on the other side

Please return by **midday** on **9th November, 2012** to: either "The School Office" at St Mary's C of E Nursery and Infant School, Princes Road, Windermere LA23 2DD **or** Windermere C of E Junior School, Princes Road, Windermere LA23 3DD

email: manager@windermere.cumbria.sch.uk or manager@st-marys-windermere-inf.cumbria.sch.uk

St Mary's Church of England Nursery and Infant School and Windermere Church of England Junior School Amalgamation Consultation Response Form

Additional Comments

Please will you also give your postcode again