



WIRRAL COUNCIL

DIOCESE OF SHREWSBURY EDUCATION SERVICE

CHESTER DIOCESAN BOARD OF EDUCATION

EDUCATION AND INSPECTIONS ACT 2006

PROPOSAL TO CLOSE OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND TO ESTABLISH A NEW JOINT FAITH AIDED PRIMARY SCHOOL

Part 1

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Wirral Council as the local authority ("the Authority"), Town Hall, Brighton Street, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 8ED intends to **discontinue Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School**, Gardenside, Moreton, Wirral, CH46 2RP on 31st August 2010.

It is proposed that pupils on roll at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School at 31st August 2010 will transfer to the newly established Joint Faith Voluntary Aided school, Gardenside, Moreton, Wirral, CH46 2RP on 1st September 2010. Pupils may transfer to any local primary school, subject to availability of places and the admission arrangements published in the Authority's information booklets for parents. Parents of pupils who are due to be admitted to Foundation 2 in 2010, and who have already completed a parental preference form for Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School will automatically be considered as a preference for the new Joint Faith Aided School at Gardenside, Moreton, Wirral, CH46 2RP. These parents will also be given an opportunity to complete a new parental preference form.

The new Joint Faith Aided School will occupy the same premises as the school it replaces and will not cause any increase in car use.

Part 2

Notice is given that Diocese of Shrewsbury Education Service, Curial Offices, 2 Park Road South, Prenton, CH43 4UX and Chester Diocesan Board of Education, Church House, Lower Lane, Aldford, Chester, CH3 6HP intend to **Establish a New Voluntary Aided School** under section 10(2) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. The Secretary of State's consent has been obtained in order to publish this proposal.

It is proposed that the school will open on 1st September 2010. Current children and siblings attending Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School will be automatically admitted from 1st September 2010 if they choose to be.

The school will be situated at the former premises of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School, Gardenside, Moreton, Wirral, CH46 2RP. The school will serve the Leasowe and Wallasey areas, specifically the Catholic Parishes of Our Lady of Lourdes and English Martyrs and the Anglican Parishes in Leasowe, Liscard, New Brighton, Poulton, Seacombe and Wallasey.

The school will be fully Roman Catholic and fully Church of England. It will emphasise for pupils the traditions of both Churches and what they hold in common including respect for other Faiths.

The proposed school will have a Church of England and Roman Catholic religious character and it is confirmed that the proposers intend to ask the Secretary of State to designate the school as a school with such a religious character.

The new school will cater for pupils between the ages of 3 and 11 and provide places for 175 boys and girls. In addition, a further 26 full time equivalent places will be provided for nursery pupils.

The admission number for the school on the opening date will be 25.

The proposed admission arrangements and over-subscription criteria will be published in the Wirral Council booklet for parents. After the legal commitment to children in public care, priority will be given to baptised members of the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England on a 60:40 ratio from within the designated Roman Catholic parishes of Our Lady of Lourdes and English Martyrs and the Anglican Parishes in Leasowe, Liscard, New Brighton, Poulton, Seacombe and Wallasey.

There are no special arrangements for transport to the new school. Applications for school transport to alternative schools will be considered on the basis of the Authority's published school transport policy.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. The complete proposal can be downloaded or viewed on-line at www.wirral-abc.gov.uk/PrimaryPlaces/Leasowe.asp or a paper or CD-ROM copy can be requested by calling 0151 666 4351 during office hours, or by writing to the address below.

Within six weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposals by sending them to Howard Cooper, Director of Children's Services, Hamilton Building, Conway Street, Birkenhead, CH41 4FD.

Signed:



Dated this day: 24th February 2010

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1) The purpose of this notice is to close Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School in order to establish a new Joint Faith Aided primary school at the Our Lady of Lourdes site. Places will be provided for all children who attend Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School at the new school.

2) The new school will serve the Catholic parishes in Leasowe (Our Lady of Lourdes) and Wallasey (English Martyrs), and the Anglican parishes in Leasowe (St Chad), Wallasey (St Nicholas and St Hilary), New Brighton (St James and All Saints), Liscard (The Resurrection), Poulton (St Luke) and Seacombe (St Paul).

3) The Authority's information booklets for parents are available on request from the Children and Young People's Department by calling 0151 606 2000 during office hours, or on-line at:

www.wirral-abc.gov.uk/admissions/cover.asp

4) The two proposals are linked.

MATTERS TO BE SPECIFIED IN SECTION 15 PROPOSALS TO DISCONTINUE A SCHOOL

Extract of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):

Contact details

1. The name of the LA or governing body publishing the proposals, and a contact address, and the name of the school it is proposed that should be discontinued.

Wirral Council, Town Hall, Brighton Street, Wallasey, Wirral, CH44 8ED

Implementation

2. The date when it is planned that the proposals will be implemented, or, where the proposals are to be implemented in stages, information about each stage and the date on which each stage is planned to be implemented.

31st August 2010

Consultation

3. A statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to the proposals were complied with.

All applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to the proposals have been complied with. Public consultations were originally held during January to March 2007, including a consultation meeting at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School on 7th March 2007. More recently, a consultation was held in November 2008 to January 2009, including a consultation meeting at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School on 3rd December 2008. All statutory consultees were consulted in accordance with the relevant DCSF guidance and statutory requirements.

4. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including:

- a) a list of persons and/or parties who were consulted;
- b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- c) the views of the persons consulted; and
- d) copies of all consultation documents and a statement of how these were made available.

The Council has been reviewing Wirral primary school provision on an area by area basis since Autumn 2004. The review of the Leasowe small planning area, in which Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School is situated, began in October 2006 with pre-consultation meetings involving headteachers and chairs of governors of all the schools in the area, as well as Diocesan Authorities and ward members. A number of options for change arose, and were approved for formal consultation by Cabinet. Leaflets and comments forms were provided to all parents, and at schools and local libraries. A dedicated website was established, including a feedback form, and the consultation was advertised in the press. Public meetings were held during Spring term 2007 at each of the schools named in the options.

The outcome of this consultation was described in the 20th June 2007 report to Cabinet. At this time, Cabinet's decision was that the Anglican Diocese of Chester and Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury should be given all necessary support with regard to the proposal. Discussions between the Authority and the two Diocesan bodies proceeded over the following year.

A common view between the two Diocese on how to proceed having been reached, due to the time elapsed since the original consultation, a further consultation document was produced by the two Dioceses, and a further consultation meeting was held in December 2008. The consultation document was sent via the schools to parents/carers of pupils attending Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School, Leasowe Primary School, Leasowe Early Years Centre and Castleway Primary School, as well as to the headteachers of primary schools in the North and South Wallasey and Moreton planning areas and all statutory consultees. The consultation leaflet is attached as [Appendix A](#).

The consultation closed on 16th January 2009. During this period 94 responses were received. The breakdown by school and respondent type is as follows.

School	Total	Parent	Staff	Governor
Castleway	1	1	0	0
Leasowe	42	24	15	3
Leasowe EYC	1	1	0	0
Our Lady of Lourdes	49	30	15	5
Sacred Heart	1	0	0	1

The anonymised responses are attached as [Appendix B](#).

The consultation meeting on 3rd December 2008 was attended by 33 persons, including two ward councillors, 9 parents, 17 staff members and 7 governors (some also parents or staff).

The points raised by consultees are summarized as follows:

- Size and surplus places
- Impact on other schools, especially Leasowe Primary School
- Concerns about the consultation process
- Concerns about religious issues
- Concerns about traffic and road safety
- Removal of choice

The outcome of the additional consultation period was reported to Cabinet on 19th March 2009. Cabinet's decision was that approval should be given for the two Diocesan bodies to submit an application to the Secretary of State in order to seek a waiver of the requirement to hold a competition in this case, and that this being received, statutory notices should be published in relation to this proposal. The waiver request was submitted on 7th April 2009. Approval was received on 17th July 2009. The opening date in the approval was originally given as 1st September 2009, however the delay in receiving Secretary of State approval did not allow sufficient time to open the new school by September 2009, and consequently this proposal is being published to close the predecessor school at the next natural break in the Academic year in September 2010.

Objectives

5. The objectives of the proposal.

To discontinue Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School.

Standards and Diversity

6. A statement and supporting evidence indicating how the proposals will impact on the standards, diversity and quality of education in the area.

The proposal is linked to the establishment of a Joint Faith Church of England and Catholic Aided primary school of the same size on the same site. This will increase diversity of education in the area.

Provision for 16-19 year olds

7. Where the school proposed to be discontinued provides sixth form education, how the proposals will impact on:

- a) the educational or training achievements;
- b) participation in education or training; and
- c) the range of educational or training opportunities,

for 16-19 year olds in the area.

N/A

Need for places

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

The proposal is linked to the establishment of a Joint Faith Aided school of the same size on the same site. Former pupils of the Catholic Aided school are expected to transfer to the new Joint Faith school, although parents may choose to apply to transfer to alternative schools in the area, subject to the availability of places and the Key Stage 1 Infant Class size limit.

9. 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.

The establishment of a Joint Faith Aided school of the same size on the same site will not reduce denominational provision in the area. Parental choice for a Church of England school will be increased, as there is no such school in the area served at present.

Current School Information

10. Information as to the numbers, age range, sex and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is made at the school.

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School has 175 day only places for boys and girls aged 4 to 11, and a 52 place (26 FTE) nursery. In January 2009 it was attended by 104 pupils plus 29 F1 children. There is no LA designated SEN base or class.

Displaced Pupils

11. Details of the schools or FE colleges which pupils at the school for

whom provision is to be discontinued will be offered places, including:

- a) any interim arrangements;
- b) where the school included provision that is recognised by the LA as reserved for children with special educational needs, the alternative provision to be made for pupils in the school's reserved provision; and
- c) in the case of special schools, alternative provision made by LAs other than the authority which maintains the school.

It is proposed that pupils on roll at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School at 31st August 2010 will transfer to the newly established Joint Faith Voluntary Aided school, Gardenside, Moreton, Wirral, CH46 2RP on the 1st September 2010 or the nearest practicable date thereafter. Pupils may transfer to any local primary school, subject to availability of places and the admission arrangements published in the Authority's information booklets for parents. Parents of pupils who are due to be admitted to Foundation 2 in 2010, and who have already completed a parental preference form for Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School will automatically be considered as a preference for the new Joint Faith Aided School at Gardenside, Moreton, Wirral, CH46 2RP. These parents will also be given an opportunity to complete a new parental preference form.

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

No other measures to increase places are proposed.

Impact on the Community

13. A statement and supporting evidence about the impact on the community and any measures proposed to mitigate any adverse impact.

The proposal is linked to the establishment of a Joint Faith Voluntary Aided school on the same site and will no adverse impact on the community.

14. Details of extended services the school offered and what it is proposed for these services once the school has discontinued.

The proposal is linked to the establishment of a Joint Faith Voluntary Aided school on the same site and will no adverse impact on the extended services.

Travel

15. Details of the length and journeys to alternative provision.

The proposal is linked to the establishment of a Church of England Voluntary Controlled school on the same site. Existing pupils are guaranteed a place in the new school.

16. The proposed arrangements for travel of displaced pupils to other schools including how they will help to work against increased car use.

Applications for free transport to alternative primary schools will be considered under the guidance in the Authority's Information booklets for parents. There will be no impact on travel as pupils are guaranteed a place at the new school on the same site.

Related Proposals

17. A statement as to whether in the opinion of the LA or governing body, the proposals are related to any other proposals which may have been, are, or are about to be published.

The proposal is linked to a proposal by the Diocese of Chester and Diocese of Shrewsbury to establish a Joint Church of England and Catholic Aided school on the existing site.

Rural Primary Schools

18. 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 LA or the governing body (as the case may be) considered:

- a) the likely effect of discontinuance of the school on the local community;
- b) the availability, and likely cost to the LA, of transport to other schools;
- c) any increase in the use of motor vehicles which is likely to result from the discontinuance of the school, and the likely effects of any such increase; and
- d) any alternatives to the discontinuance of the school,

as required by section 15(4)

N/A

Maintained nursery schools

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

- a) the consideration that has been given to developing the school into a children's centre and the grounds for not doing so;
- b) the LA's assessment of the quality and quantity of alternative provision compared to the school proposed to be discontinued and the proposed arrangements to ensure the expertise and specialism continues to be available; and
- c) the accessibility and convenience of replacement provision for local parents.

N/A

Special educational provision

20. Where existing provision that is recognised by the LA as reserved for pupils with special educational needs is being discontinued, a statement as to how the LA or the governing body believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for these children.

N/A

Information required to be included in section 10 and 11 Complete Proposals to establish a mainstream school outside of a competition.

Enter the information required in the expandable boxes below.

Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 to The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):

Contact Details

1. The name of the proposer or proposers and a contact address.

Diocese of Shrewsbury Education Service, Curial Offices, 2 Park Road South, Birkenhead, CH43 4UX
Chester Diocesan Board of Education, Church House, Lower Lane, Aldford, Chester, CH3 6HP

2. Whether the proposals are being submitted independently or jointly with another proposer or proposers.

Jointly.

Category

3. The type of school that it is proposed be established (a foundation school and, if so, whether it is to have a foundation, a voluntary school or a community school) and, if required by section 10, a statement that the Secretary of State's consent has been obtained to publication of the proposals.

Church of England and Catholic Aided. The Secretary of State's consent has been obtained to publish the proposals.

Consultation

4. A statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to the proposals have been complied with.

All applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to the proposals have been complied with. Public consultations were originally held during January to March 2007, including a consultation meeting at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School on 7th March 2007. More recently, a consultation was held in November 2008 to January 2009, including a consultation meeting at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School on 3rd December 2008. All statutory consultees were consulted in accordance with the relevant DCSF guidance and statutory requirements.

5. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including —

- a) a list of persons and/or parties who were consulted;
- b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- c) the views of the persons consulted; and

d) copies of all consultation documents and a statement of how these were made available.

The Council has been reviewing Wirral primary school provision on an area by area basis since Autumn 2004. The review of the Leasowe small planning area, in which Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School is situated, began in October 2006 with pre-consultation meetings involving headteachers and chairs of governors of all the schools in the area, as well as Diocesan Authorities and ward members. A number of options for change arose, and were approved for formal consultation by Cabinet. Leaflets and comments forms were provided to all parents, and at schools and local libraries. A dedicated website was established, including a feedback form, and the consultation was advertised in the press. Public meetings were held during Spring term 2007 at each of the schools named in the options.

The outcome of this consultation was described in the 20th June 2007 report to Cabinet. At this time, Cabinet's decision was that the Anglican Diocese of Chester and Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury should be given all necessary support with regard to the proposal. Discussions between the Authority and the two Diocesan bodies proceeded over the following year.

A common view between the two Diocese on how to proceed having been reached, due to the time elapsed since the original consultation, a further consultation document was produced by the two Dioceses, and a further consultation meeting was held in December 2008. The consultation document was sent via the schools to parents/carers of pupils attending Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School, Leasowe Primary School, Leasowe Early Years Centre and Castleway Primary School, as well as to the headteachers of primary schools in the North and South Wallasey and Moreton planning areas and all statutory consultees. The consultation leaflet is attached as [Appendix A](#).

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The consultation meeting on 3rd December 2008 was attended by 33 persons, including two ward councillors, 9 parents, 17 staff members and 7 governors (some also parents or staff).

The points raised by consultees are summarized as follows:

- Size and surplus places
- Impact on other schools, especially Leasowe Primary School
- Concerns about the consultation process
- Concerns about religious issues
- Concerns about traffic and road safety

- Removal of choice

The outcome of the additional consultation period was reported to Cabinet on 19th March 2009. Cabinet's decision was that approval should be given for the two Diocesan bodies to submit an application to the Secretary of State in order to seek a waiver of the requirement to hold a competition in this case, and that this being received, statutory notices should be published in relation to this proposal. The waiver request was submitted on 7th April 2009. Approval was received on 17th July 2009. The opening date in the approval was originally given as 1st September 2009, however the delay in receiving Secretary of State approval did not allow sufficient time to open the school by September 2009, and consequently this proposal is being published to open the school at the next natural break in the Academic year in September 2010.

Objectives

6. The objectives of the proposal.

To establish a Church of England and Catholic Aided Primary school.

Extended Services

7. Information on the extended services which it is envisaged will be provided on the site of the school.

The school will look to provide a before and after school service plus a holiday club.

Pupil numbers and admissions

8. Information on —
- a) the number of pupil places the school should provide;
 - b) the upper and lower age limits of the school;
 - c) where it is intended that it should provide sixth form education, the number of pupils for whom it is intended that such education should be provided;
 - d) where it is intended that it should provide nursery education, the number of pupils for whom it is intended that such education should be provided;
 - e) where it is intended that the school should provide for boarding pupils, the number of pupils for whom it is intended such facilities should be provided;
 - f) the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will be implemented or, where it is intended that the proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the proposed school in each stage that the proposals will be implemented;
 - g) whether it is proposed that the school should admit pupils of both sexes or boys or girls only and, in the case of a single sex school where it is

intended to provide sixth form education, whether both sexes or boys or girls only are to be admitted to the sixth form.

- a) capacity is 175 pupils
- b) 3 to 11
- c) not applicable
- d) 52 pupils (26 FTE)
- e) not applicable
- f) 25
- g) both sexes

Ethos/Religious Character

9. A short statement suitable for publication setting out the proposed ethos of the school, including details of any educational philosophy, which it is proposed that the school will adhere to.

The school is to be conducted as a Catholic school in accordance with the Canon Law and teaching of the Roman Catholic Church and as a Church of England School in accordance with the teaching of the Church of England and in partnership with the churches at parish/deanery and diocesan level. Religious education is to be in accordance with (i) the teachings, doctrines, discipline and general and particular norms of the Roman Catholic Church and (ii) the teachings of the Church of England.

Religious worship is to be in accordance with (i) the rites, practices, discipline and liturgical norms of the Roman Catholic Church and (ii) the rites, practices, discipline and liturgical norms of the Church of England, and at all times the school will serve as a witness to the life and teachings of Jesus Christ.

10. If the school is to have a religious character, confirmation of the religion or religious denomination in accordance with whose tenets religious education will, or may be required to be provided at the school; and a statement that the proposers intend to ask the Secretary of State to designate the school as a school with such a religious character.

The proposed school will have a CofE and Roman Catholic religious character and it is confirmed that the proposers intend to ask the Secretary of State to designate the school as a school with such a religious character.

Area or community that school serves

11. The area or particular community or communities which the new school is expected to serve.

The new school will serve the Catholic parishes in Leasowe (Our Lady of Lourdes) and Wallasey (English Martyrs), and the Anglican parishes in Leasowe (St Chad), Wallasey (St Nicholas and St Hilary), New Brighton (St James and All Saints), Liscard (The Resurrection), Poulton (St Luke) and Seacombe (St Paul).

Admission Arrangements

12. An indication of the proposed admission arrangements and over-subscription criteria for the new school including, where the school is

proposed to be a foundation or voluntary school or Academy which is to have a religious character —

a) the extent to which priority for places is proposed to be given to children of the school's religion or religious denomination; and

b) the extent, if any, to which priority is to be given to children of other religions or religious denominations or to children having no religion or religious denomination.

The proposed admission arrangements and over-subscription criteria will be published in the Wirral Council booklet for parents. After the legal commitment to children in public care, priority will be given to baptised members of the Roman Catholic Church and the Church of England on a 60:40 ratio from within the designated Roman Catholic parishes of Our Lady of Lourdes and English Martyrs and the Anglican Parishes in Leasowe, Liscard, New Brighton, Poulton, Seacombe and Wallasey.

Grammar schools

13. Where the school is to be established in substitution for one or more discontinued grammar schools, a statement to this effect and a statement that the school may be designated as a grammar school for the purpose of Chapter 2 of Part 3 of SSFA 1998.

NA

Schools with a religious character or particular educational philosophy – parental demand

14. Where the school is —

a) proposed to have a religious character, evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion; or

b) proposed to adhere to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question that is not already met in other maintained schools or Academies in the area.

The demand for a joint Catholic and Church of England School was evidenced during the consultation exercises and it meets the need for a Church of England given that no such provision exists in the designated area.

Sixth Form Education

15. Where it is proposed that the school will provide sixth form education, how the proposals will —

a) improve the educational or training achievements;

b) increase participation in education or training; and

c) expand the range of educational or training opportunities, for 16-19 year olds in the area.

NA

Early Years Provision

16. Where the proposals are to include provision for pupils aged between 2 and 5, the following information must be provided —

a) details of how the early years provision will be organised, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number of places, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services, and how the proposals for the establishment of the school are consistent with the integration of early years provision with childcare;

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

d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools, and in settings outside of the maintained school sector who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school; and

e) the reasons why schools and settings outside the maintained school sector who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school and who have spare capacity, cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the numbers of such children.

a) The school will continue to operate a 52 place (26 FTE) LA maintained F1 class. The school is fully DDA compliant.

b) Existing early years provision at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School is currently integrated with childcare services and that provision will be carried over into the new School.

c), d) and e) Not applicable. The provision replicates the existing childcare and nursery arrangements provided by the predecessor school, and does not create any additional provision.

Specialisms

17. Whether the school will have any specialisms on implementation and whether the promoter intends to apply to the Secretary of State for the school to be a specialist school from implementation.

NA

Effects on Standards and Contributions to School Improvement

18. Information and supporting evidence on:

a) how the school will contribute to enhancing the diversity and quality of education in the area; and

b) how the school will help to raise the standard of education in the area and contribute to school improvement.

The School will serve the community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian belief and practices and, by nurturing the aspirations and self esteem of all of the children in its care, contribute to school improvement.

19. Information and supporting evidence on how the proposals will contribute to enabling children and young people to be healthy, stay safe,

enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution to the community and society, and achieve economic well-being.

The proposal is to create a safe, stimulating, happy and healthy environment where, via an ethos of praise and encouragement, high aspirations for every child will be encouraged in order that they may make a positive contribution to the community and society and achieve economic well being.

Community Cohesion

20. The following information relating to the proposals —

- a) how the school will promote and contribute to community cohesion;
- b) how the school will increase inclusion and equality of access for all social groups; and
- c) how the school will collaborate with other schools, and in relation to secondary school proposals how the new school will collaborate with colleges and training providers.

a) The DCSF in 'Faith in the System' say that 'providers of all schools, including faith schools should encourage collaboration both within and outside their faith communities as a way of promoting community cohesion and integration.'

<http://publications.teachernet.gov.uk/eOrderingDownload/FaithInTheSystem.pdf>

The Church of England and Catholic Church seek to serve communities and individuals and by working in the community and with other organisations this will add to the promotion of community cohesion.

b) The inclusion of all will be central to the vision of the new School by promoting respect, valuing diversity and ensuring equal opportunities for all social groups. Parents and carers from all backgrounds and especially those who feel insecure in an academic environment will be involved in decision making and the life of the school.

c) As well as continuing to work with the Local Authority and the Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury, the school will become part of and collaborate with the wider network of Church of England schools across the ten authorities within the Diocese of Chester.

Single sex or co-educational school

21. Where the school is to admit pupils of a single sex —

- a) evidence of local demand for single sex education and how this will be met if the proposals are approved; and
- b) A statement giving details of the likely effect the alteration will have on the balance of provision of single sex education in the area.

NA

Location

22. A statement about —

- a) the location of the site (including, where appropriate, the postal address or addresses if the school is to occupy a split site);
- b) whether the school will occupy a single or split site;
- c) the accessibility of the site (or if the school is to occupy a split site the

accessibility of the accommodation);

d) the current ownership and tenure (freehold or leasehold) of the site and the proposed use of any buildings already on the site;

e) 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 including details of any provisions which could obstruct the governing body or the head teacher in the exercise of any of their functions under any of the Education Acts or place indirect pressures upon funding bodies;

f) whether the site is currently used for the purposes of another school which will no longer be required for the purposes of that school. If so, provide details as to why the site will no longer be required for the purposes of that school; and

g) the estimated costs of providing the site and a statement about how the costs will be met.

a) The former premises of Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School, Gardenside, Moreton, Wirral, CH46 2RP.

b) Single site

c) Site is fully accessible

d) Site is owned by Trustees of the Diocese of Shrewsbury.

e) The tenure is held on a freehold basis and ownership is vested in the Trustees of the Diocese of Shrewsbury.

f) Predecessor school is Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School. Closure of that school is entirely linked to the establishment of the Joint Faith school since a change in religious status cannot be achieved any other way.

g) No costs involved. Changes in signage will be met by the school.

Implementation

23. The date when it is planned that the proposals will be implemented, or where the proposals are to be implemented in stages, information about each stage and the date on which each stage is planned to be implemented.

1st September 2010

24. Where the proposals are to establish a voluntary controlled or foundation school, a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the LA or by the proposers, and if the proposals are to be implemented by both,

a) a statement as to the extent that they are to be implemented by each body, and

b) a statement as to the extent to which the capital costs of implementation are to be met by each body.

a) The closure of the current school will be implemented by the LA and the opening of the new school by the Diocese of Shrewsbury and the Diocese of Chester.

b) Capital costs are being met 60% Diocese of Shrewsbury and 40% Diocese of Chester.

Project Costs

25. A statement of the estimated capital cost of the proposals and the extent to which the costs are to be met by the proposers and/or the LA.

Two projects totalling £294,000 are being funded through LCVAP by the proposers.

26. A copy of a confirmation from the Secretary of State or LA or 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).

NA

27. Details of how it is proposed to fund the proposer's share of the capital costs of implementing the proposals (if any).

LCVAP

Travel

28. The proposed arrangements for travel of pupils to the school.

Pupils currently attending Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School are expected to continue to attend the new Joint Faith Primary School, using whichever means of transport they are currently using.

Applications for free transport to an alternative primary school will be considered under the guidance issued in the Authority's information booklets for parents.

Federation

29. Details of any proposals for the school to be federated with one or more schools (by virtue of section 24 of EA 2002 and section 12).

None.

Curriculum

30. Confirmation that the school will meet the general requirements in relation to curriculum contained in section 78 of EA 2002 and an outline of any provision that will be in addition to the basic curriculum required by section 80 of EA 2002, in particular any 14-19 vocational education.

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

Voluntary aided schools

31. In addition, where the school is to be a voluntary aided school —

a) details of the Trust on which the site is to be held; and

b) confirmation that governing body will be able and willing to carry out their obligations under Schedule 3 to SSFA 1998.

The Governing Body is willing and able to carry out their obligations as laid down under Schedule 3 to SSFA 1998.

Staff

32. Not applicable – removed by amending Regulations.

Foundation Schools

33. Where the school is to be a foundation school, confirmation as to whether the new school —

a) will have a foundation established otherwise than under SSFA 1998 and, if so, the identity of that foundation;

b) will belong to a group of schools for which a foundation body acts under section 21 of SSFA 1998; or

c) will not fall within sub-paragraph (a) or (b).

NA

34. Where the school is to be a foundation school which has a foundation:
a) the name of the foundation where known;

b) the rationale for the foundation and the particular ethos that it will bring to the school;

c) the details of membership of the foundation, including the names of the members;

d) the entitlement to appoint charity trustees and the number of trustees to be appointed;

e) the proposed constitution of the governing body;

f) details of the foundation's charitable objects;

g) where the majority of governors are to be foundation governors, a statement that a parent council will be established in accordance with section 23A of EA 2002;

h) a statement that the requirements set out in the School Organisation (Requirements as to Foundations) (England) Regulations will be met;

i) a statement of how the foundation will contribute to the advancement of education at the school and how it is envisaged it will help to raise standards; and

j) a statement of how the foundation will contribute to the advancement of community cohesion and the impact the foundation will have on the diversity of school provision in the area.

NA

Special educational needs

35. Information as to whether the school will have provision that is recognised by the LA as reserved for children with special educational needs and, if so, the nature of such provision and the proposed number of pupils for whom such provision is to be made.

NA

36. Details of the proposed policy of the school relating to the education of pupils with special educational needs.

The school will have a special needs co-ordinator (SENCO) who helps children with SEN, sometimes by helping the child's own class or subject teachers to plan and prepare work and sometimes by providing or arranging additional teaching, perhaps individually or in a small group.

The school will follow the SEN processes and procedures set out in the Authority's Special Needs Handbook. These processes and procedures are governed by the 1996 Education Act (as amended by the SEN and Disability Act, 2001) and regulations made under that Act, notably the Education (Special Educational Needs) Regulations; and the 2001 SEN Code of Practice and the Disability Code of Practice.

37. Where the school will replace existing educational provision that would be recognised by the LA as reserved for children with special educational needs:

a) a statement on how the proposer believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of educational provision for these children;

b) details of the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of —

i) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the LA's Accessibility Strategy;

ii) improved access to specialist staff, both education and other professionals, including any external support and/or outreach services;

iii) improved access to suitable accommodation; and

iv) improved supply of suitable places.

NA

Relevant experience of proposers

38. Evidence of any relevant experience in education held by the proposer, or proposers (other than a local authority) including details of any involvement in the improvement of standards in education.

Both Dioceses have been heavily involved in education provision over many years with a long record of encouraging improved educational standards in the large number of schools for which they hold responsibility.

Planning permission

39. Where the establishment of the new school involves development for the purpose of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, a statement as to whether planning permission has been obtained and, if it has not been obtained, details of when it is anticipated that it will be obtained.

NA

Independent schools entering the maintained sector

40. A statement that the requirements of section 11 (3) are met.

NA

41. A statement as to whether the premises will meet the requirements of the Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999 and, if not:

a) details of how the premises are deficient; and

b) details of how it is intended to remedy the deficiency.

NA