

Board of Education

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Proposal to close Millfields Primary School, Eastham and open a Church of England Primary School

Following the consultation on the proposed change to Millfields Primary School, the Diocesan Board of Education wishes to reiterate its position that we would welcome the opportunity of serving the Eastham community, and particularly those around Millfields School by this school becoming a Church of England voluntary controlled school.

The consultation meeting was largely positive, with most apprehension being around the position of the headteacher and assistant headteachers. We believe this concern has been overcome, with the governors able to agree that there are not vacancies for such posts.

Most concerns raised in responses seem to be dependent on misunderstandings over the legal process of closure and “new school” and over the possible loss of the nursery or library, which are matters outside the scope of this proposal.

We believe that achieving Church of England status will help to ensure diversity of provision in this area of the Wirral and will enable the Board, together with officers from the authority, to support and further develop the strong ethos and standard of education provided at the school.

The Board hopes the authority will agree to a joint approach to the Secretary of State to waive the need for a competition for a new school and to the opening of a Church of England voluntary controlled school in the premises of Millfields Primary School.

J Turnbull
Director of Education