

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in a complete proposal

Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 and Part 1 of Schedule 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):

In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

Not applicable. The Local Authority is publishing the proposals.

In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details

1. The name, address and category of the school .

St Mary's Catholic Nursery and Infant School, West Street, Carshalton. SM5 2PT

This is a voluntary aided school

Contact details for the proposers are:
Pupil Based Commissioning Team
Stonecourt Annexe
North Street
Carshalton
SM5 2HU
Email: primaryexpansion@sutton.gov.uk

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

2. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

It is proposed to provide a single temporary classroom for September 2013 to accommodate the additional children admitted in that year's expanded intake. For September 2014 permanent accommodation for KS1 aged pupils will be provided.

Subsequently as year groups progress through primary school, a further phase of building is planned to accommodate junior aged children from September 2016 to

ensure that age appropriate accommodation is available at the relevant times.

A consequence of the physical enlargement of the school is that the number of children to be admitted at reception year (YR) will increase and therefore from September 2013 up to 90 children will be admitted to the School.

Objections and comments

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
- (a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and
 - (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

Within four weeks from the date of the publication of these proposals (6 September 2012), any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to the London Borough of Sutton.

The Statutory Notice was published in the Sutton Guardian on Thursday 6 September and valid representations must be received at the relevant offices of the Local Authority by the close of business on Thursday 4 October 2012.

Any representations should be sent to :
The Pupil Based Commissioning Team
Stonecourt Annex,
North Street,
Carshalton SM5 2HU.

Email: primaryexpansion@sutton.gov.uk

Alteration description

4. A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

From September 2013 a single mobile classroom will be provided on the current St Mary's Nursery and Infant School site to accommodate the additional reception children. Permanent accommodation (3 additional class bases) will be provided by September 2014. Permanent accommodation is currently planned to be provided through demolition of the existing temporary library building and the replacement with 3 permanent class bases plus library, including pupil toilets sufficient for the expected additional 90 pupils. Additional works may also be required to increase the size and capacity of the current school kitchen.

In due course, a further 4 classbases of Junior accommodation will be provided. The detail of this option has not yet been developed but will probably be phased as the rolls grow and could involve remodelling and new build to provide the appropriate

amount and mix of accommodation to meet the needs of the increased numbers of pupils over the full primary age range.

School capacity

5.—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8, 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the proposals must also include —

- (a) details of the current capacity of the school and, where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

The current net capacity, which assesses the physical space of the School excluding early years provision is 180. Once the proposals have been implemented and the necessary building works completed, the proposed capacity will be 270.

- (b) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

The current planned number of children who can be admitted to the School is 180 with a PAN of 60 at YR. The proposal would result in a permanent increase in PAN to 90 with effect from September 2013.

The current number of pupils on roll as at January 2012 is:

YR	60
Y1	60
Y2	60
TOTAL YR TO Y2	180

- (c) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

A bulge class has been agreed at YR for September 2012. Subsequently, the School's PAN will be permanently increased to 90 for reception aged children starting in September 2013 and each subsequent year. If the School recruits up to its PAN the projected numbers of pupils on roll will be:

YEAR	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
YR	90	90	90	90				
Y1	60	60	90	90				

Y2	60	60	60	90					
TOTAL	210	210	240	270					

- (d) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

Not Applicable.

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals) /paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

The number of pupils registered at the School (as at 15 January 2012) was 678 full time pupils aged 4 to 10 and 52 part time pupils aged 3 to 4 as follows:

Part time pupils:

3 & 4 YO 52

Full time pupils:

YR 60

Y1 60

Y2 60

Total YR to Y2 180

Implementation

6. Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.

The proposals for the expansion of the school are published by the Local Authority with the full support of the School's Governing Body. The Local Authority will be funding the additional accommodation necessary and will be responsible for the overall management of the build.

The Governing Body, as the legal Admission Authority will be responsible for the In-Year Variation to the admission arrangements i.e. an increase in the PAN to 90.

Additional Site

7.— (1) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

Not applicable

(2) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with 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.

Not applicable.

Changes in boarding arrangements

8.—(1) Where the proposals are for the introduction or removal of boarding provision, or the alteration of existing boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

- (a) the number of pupils for whom it is intended that boarding provision will be made if the proposals are approved;

Not applicable.

- (b) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

Not applicable.

- (c) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision; and

Not applicable.

- (d) except where the proposals are to introduce boarding provision, a description of the existing boarding provision.

Not applicable.

(2) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

- (a) the number of pupils for whom boarding provision will be removed if the proposals are approved; and

Not applicable.

- (b) a statement as to the use to which the former boarding accommodation will be put if the proposals are approved.

Not applicable.

Transfer to new site

9. Where the proposals are to transfer a school to a new site the following information—

- (a) the location of the proposed site (including details of whether the school is to occupy a single or split site), and including where appropriate the postal address;

Not applicable.

- (b) the distance between the proposed and current site;

Not applicable.

- (c) the reason for the choice of proposed site;

Not applicable.

- (d) the accessibility of the proposed site or sites;

Not applicable.

- (e) the proposed arrangements for transport of pupils to the school on its new site; and

Not applicable.

- (f) a statement about other sustainable transport alternatives where pupils are not using transport provided, and how car use in the school area will be discouraged.

Not applicable.

Objectives

10. The objectives of the proposals.

To meet the need for additional school places across the Borough from September 2013 by increasing the PAN from 60 to 90 for admission at reception year.
To remodel and expand existing facilities and provide additional accommodation to

provide a sufficient and suitable mix of facilities to meet the needs of an intake of 90 children as they progress through primary education.

Consultation

11. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—
- (a) a list of persons who were consulted;
 - (b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
 - (c) the views of the persons consulted;
 - (d) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and
 - (e) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

a) The following were identified as consultees and copies of the Consultation Document and Questionnaire were made available to them:

Parents/Carers, Staff and Governors of primary schools proposed for expansion
Extended Services, Community and other of the primary schools proposed for expansion
Parents/Carers, Staff, Chairs of Governors of all other nursery and primary schools in Sutton
Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of all secondary schools in Sutton
Headteachers of all special schools in Sutton
Headteachers/Teachers in Charge of Pupil Referral Units in Sutton
Children's Centres
Principal of SCOLA
Principal of Orchard Hill College
Principal of Carshalton College of Further Education
All elected members of the London Borough of Sutton
Chairs of all Sutton Local Committees
Directors of Children's Services of neighbouring Local Authorities (Merton, Croydon, Richmond, Kingston and Surrey)
MPs and MEPs
Local Dioceses – Church of England and Roman Catholic
Chair of the Sutton Schools Forum
Chair of the Sutton Admissions Forum
Chair of the Sutton Primary Headteachers Group
Chair of the Sutton Secondary Headteachers Group
All Strategic Directors (London Borough of Sutton)
All Executive Heads of Service (London Borough of Sutton)
Secretaries of relevant Trades Unions and Teachers Professional Associations
Sutton Racial Equality Council
Chair of Early Outcomes and Extended Services Partnership
Chair of Sutton Voluntary Sector Forum (Children and Families)
Chief Executive, Sutton and Merton Primary Care Trust
Metropolitan Police – Area Commander, Sutton
Early Years and PVI settings
GPs

b) Copies of the reports to Executive (6 February 2012, 8 May 2012) and the Children, Family and Education Committee (21 June 2012) along with their appendices are at Appendix 1.

A copy of the Consultation Document and Questionnaire (March 2012) is at Appendix 2.

Copies of the overall response to the formal consultation and the minutes of the consultation meetings can be viewed, upon request, from:

The Pupil Based Commissioning Team,
Stonecourt Annex,
North Street,
Carshalton SM5 2HU.

Email: primaryexpansion@sutton.gov.uk

c) Informal discussions between officers and the Chairs of Governors and Headteachers of 5 schools initially identified as possible candidates for expansion started late in the autumn of 2011. The need for additional places and emerging developments were reported periodically to the School Asset Management Planning Group, the Admissions Forum and the Schools Forum.

In March 2012, following initial feasibility studies, the Council's Executive authorised consultation on the possible expansion of 5 schools (6 with the associated junior school) for September 2013. At this time in principle support for the expansion proposals had been forthcoming from the governing bodies of all of the schools directly involved

The period of consultation on the possible expansion of primary school provision ran from 19 March to 14 May. An estimated 3500 copies of the consultation document were distributed directly to a wide range of consultees and, in addition, via all schools, copies were made available to parents, governors and staff. The document was also made available through other services, for example, children's centres and child care and early year's providers generally. Finally, the document and response form were made available more widely via the Sutton Internet site. Details of the consultation were publicised elsewhere, for example, in Sutton Scene.

A series of five open public meetings were arranged at the six schools (four primaries; one infant; one junior) which were the direct subject of the consultation and the consultation was considered at local committees.

166 parents, staff, governors and members of the public attended the 5 open meetings at the schools. The best attended meeting attracted 64 people.

In response to the question "Do you support the proposal to expand the following schools?" there were 635 responses given relating to individual schools from 188 response forms, e-mails and other communications. There were 353 (55.6%) responses expressing support for the expansion of a particular school; 94 (14.8%) expressing opposition to the expansion of a particular school and 188 (29.6%)

responds under the "don't know" category.

	YES	NO	DON'T KNOW	TOTAL
AMY JOHNSON	69	7	42	118
AVENUE	68	25	36	129
BANDON HILL	73	18	31	122
DORCHESTER	60	19	47	126
St MARY'S CATHOLIC	83	25	32	140
TOTAL	353	94	188	635

There was a good level of responses received in respect of all schools ranging from 140 (St Mary's Catholic) to 118 (Amy Johnson). With the exception of the Dorchester Primary where the percentage of "yes" responses was under 50% ,all schools received a majority of "yes" responses. Overall "yes" to "no" responses were received in a ratio of approximately four to one.

Concerns about traffic, congestion, parking and the like were by far the most frequent response and were raised at all of the schools involved. These were followed, in order of frequency, by the concerns listed below:

- The reduction in the amount of outdoor play space because of encroachment of additional accommodation onto such spaces which would be compounded because more children would be using the space.
- The adequacy of the school's infrastructure and whether there would be sufficient facilities such as halls, dining spaces, small group rooms, offices, toilets etc.
- The deterioration in the quality of the overall school environment because of the perceived overcrowding and therefore pressure of use on facilities.
- The perception of larger schools becoming more impersonal, especially for younger children, and therefore a loss of "family" and "community" feel and possibly a change in the ethos.
- Disruption of children's education during building works to provide additional accommodation
- Criteria for the identification of schools for expansion and the particular challenge of establishing a very large split site school.

A number of these objections will have to be addressed by the Local Authority as a matter of course because of the desirability of meeting, or even exceeding, DfE guidelines on school buildings and sites and the need to meet planning criteria and the requirements of the highways authorities.

There were also many responses welcoming the proposed expansions, particularly because of the opportunities for increased choice and the certainty of securing a place at a good school for local children. The proposed expansion of the faith (Catholic) schools drew comment, generally supportive, from those in the Catholic Community, but there were also those who sought reassurance that access would be open to all children rather than simply those of the particular denomination.

While many of the responses sought to highlight difficulties or shortcomings in the proposals, this is the typical experience in consultations of this nature and should not necessarily be taken as indicating fundamental flaws in the proposals overall.

Consultees generally were anxious to be able to see what buildings would be planned in order to accommodate the increased numbers and how the actual build itself would be managed to minimise disruption to children's progress. Some consultees expressed the view that communication had been poor and that inadequate information had been forthcoming particularly in respect of the proposed buildings.

Concerns were often raised to do with schools already being large and the perceived inadequacies of the site to cope were even more children to be admitted, for example, restrictions in the opportunities for outdoor play or crowding of facilities such as the hall and dining areas. There were also concerns raised to do with the overall operation of the school, change in ethos, play arrangements and standards.

All six Local Committees considered the expansion proposals and participated in the consultation. The responses from the Local Committees raised a number of similar issues but, not unexpectedly, with more of a focus on the potential impacts on the locality because of increased traffic, congestion, restriction of access etc. There were reassurances sought in terms of good access to information and how residents and others could engage with the processes, especially when planning permissions were being sought.

Having considered the consultation feedback and the issues raised, the CFE Committee in June decided to proceed with the publication of Statutory Proposals in respect of the expansion of Amy Johnson Primary, Avenue Primary, Bandon Hill Primary and St Mary's Catholic Nursery and Infant. The proposals in respect of Dorchester Primary will not be progressed at this time.

d) All of the requirements to consult in relation to the proposals were complied with.

e) Consultation documentation was provided by post or by email to the above list of consultees. This documentation was also available via other public venues such as libraries and GP Surgeries and via the Sutton Website.

Project costs

12. A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local education authority, and any other party.

The current indicative estimates for a KS1 extension of 1FE typically are **£1.5m** capital costs for the proposed first phase of expansion to accommodate additional infant aged children. The provision of a single temporary classroom for the expanded YR cohort for September 2013 could cost in the order of **£0.2m**.

The cost of the expansion will be borne by the Local Authority using capital funding

from the 2012/13 capital settlement.
Depending on the future decision as to how best to expand provision at Key Stage 2, the necessary funding will be used from future capital settlements.

13. A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and 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).

The Local Authority confirms that funding will be made available for this project.

Age range

14. Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

Not applicable.

Early years provision

15. Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5—

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

(d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools and in establishments other than schools who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school; and

Not applicable.

- (e) reasons why such schools and establishments who have spare capacity cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the number of such provision.

Not applicable.

Changes to sixth form provision

16. (a) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

- (i) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (ii) increase participation in education or training; and
- (iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area;

Not applicable.

- (b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

Not applicable.

- (c) Evidence —

- (i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and
- (ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

Not applicable.

- (d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

Not applicable.

17. Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school ceases to provide sixth form education, a statement of the effect on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

Not applicable.

Special educational needs

18. Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs—

- (a) a description of the proposed types of learning difficulties in respect of which education will be provided and, where provision for special educational needs already exists, the current type of provision;

Not applicable

- (b) any additional specialist features will be provided;

Not applicable

- (c) the proposed numbers of pupils for which the provision is to be made;

Not applicable

- (d) details of how the provision will be funded;

Not applicable

- (e) a statement as to whether the education will be provided for children with special educational needs who are not registered pupils at the school to which the proposals relate;

Not applicable

- (f) a statement as to whether the expenses of the provision will be met from the school's delegated budget;

Not applicable

- (g) the location of the provision if it is not to be established on the existing site of the school;

Not applicable

- (h) where the provision will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs, a statement as to how the local education authority believes that the new provision is likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children; and

Not applicable

- (i) the number of places reserved for children with special educational needs, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of such places.

Not applicable

19. Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs—

- (a) details of alternative provision for pupils for whom the provision is currently made;

Not applicable.

- (b) details of the number of pupils for whom provision is made that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs during each of the 4 school years preceding the current school year;

Not applicable.

- (c) details of provision made outside the area of the local education authority for pupils whose needs will not be able to be met in the area of the authority as a result of the discontinuance of the provision; and

Not applicable.

- (d) a statement as to how the proposer believes that the proposals are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children.

Not applicable.

20. Where the proposals will lead to alternative provision for children with special educational needs, as a result of the establishment, alteration or discontinuance of existing provision, the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of—

- (a) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local education authority's Accessibility Strategy;
- (b) improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including any external support and outreach services;
- (c) improved access to suitable accommodation; and
- (d) improved supply of suitable places.

Not applicable

Sex of pupils

21. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of one sex only becomes an establishment which admits pupils of both sexes—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single sex-education in the area;

Not applicable.

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education; and

Not applicable.

- (c) details of any transitional period which the body making the proposals wishes specified in a transitional exemption order (within the meaning of section 27 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975).

Not applicable.

22. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to a school to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of both sexes becomes an establishment which admits pupils of one sex only—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single-sex education in the area; and

Not applicable.

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

Not applicable.

Extended services

23. If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school's extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

Not applicable.

Need or demand for additional places

24. If the proposals involve adding places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

Sutton, in line with a number of other London boroughs, has experienced a significant increase in the number of births in its area. In September 2008, for the first time in many years, all reception classes in Sutton primary schools were full, and the transfer rate of births to reception numbers (based on children born in 2003/04) was approximately 90%. However, there have been fluctuations in demand from year to year which has complicated planning for increases in the numbers of pupils to be accommodated. Currently there is very little surplus capacity in the whole of the primary phase, and, for 2012/13 the primary pupil number on roll exceeds the aggregate primary net capacity.

Confirmed data indicates that the cumulative increase in the number of births between 2001/02 and 2008/09 was 34.1%. The GLA has identified Sutton as having the fifth largest rise in birth rates in London. This level of increase alone requires additional classes to be opened. When coupled with a rise in transfer rate, such as in 2008, 2010 and 2011 the impact has been even greater. There is also emerging evidence of significant levels of in-migration from inner London Boroughs and, to a certain extent, from elsewhere in England and from abroad.

Initial data in respect of Borough-wide numbers of births up to mid-year 2011 confirm previous estimates of significant increases in numbers of children and therefore future demand for primary school places in Sutton schools. On current trends, there will be a significant increase in demand for places in Reception Year (YR) from 2013 over and above that experienced in 2011 and 2012.

Projections by the GLA indicate that after a peak in 2 to 3 years time, there could be a decline in the number of births but, if a new stable level is reached, this will still be significantly higher than the level of recent years. However, the Borough's own projections indicate there could be continuing growth for the foreseeable future.

The increase in demand for YR places in Sutton is forecast to be at +16FE to +18FE in 2013 relative to 2010. These projections are based on actual births to reception entry in 2015 and a transfer rate of approximately 90% as indicated above. The projections will be updated regularly as new data becomes available.

Ward-level analysis of births in the Borough is available up to 2008/09 only. For the five year period 2004 to 2008 this analysis shows that particular wards continue to experience larger increases in births, for example, Worcester Park, Sutton Central, Sutton West and St Helier. However, because many children travel out of their home wards to neighbouring wards to go to school, a more representative picture can be gained from consideration of the data aggregated by Primary Review Planning Areas, which shows on-going strong growth in the Central Area at over 150 followed by North Area at over 100 and the other two Areas at around 80,

If the actual numbers of births are considered, a block of eight wards, seven of which are from the Central and Northern Areas, accounted for 54% of births in 2008/09. These are Sutton Central, Sutton South, Sutton West, Carshalton Central, The Wrythe, Wandle Valley, Wallington North and St Helier. With Worcester Park added, the largest nine wards accounted for 61% of the births in the Borough in 2007/08.

These changes in demography have obliged the Borough to shift its focus and priority away from the proposals outlined in the 2008 Primary Capital Programme, Strategy for Change in order to concentrate on meeting its statutory duty to provide sufficient school places: hence the Primary School Expansion Programme, of which this expansion is part of the third phase..

- (b) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

Faith (denominational) schools have always had an important part to play in the provision of education in Sutton. The Local Authority, in its strategic role as the commissioner of school places, has a general duty to promote the diversity of provision across schools in its area and this includes the need to ensure, wherever possible, there should be no reduction in the proportion of faith school provision offered. In recent years, the proportion of YR places available in the faith sector has been approximately 15% to 16%.

In the first phase of primary school expansions for September 2011, when 6 primary schools were each expanded by one form of entry, it was not possible to include any faith schools. The Council did, however, give an undertaking to work closely with the Dioceses and schools to ensure that it would include faith schools in subsequent tranches of expansions to take place with effect from September 2012 onwards. Accordingly, from 2012 three VA schools were put forward for expansion. This proposal for 2013 in respect of St Mary's Catholic represents a further expansion in this sector.

St Mary's Catholic Nursery and Infant is a popular and therefore over-subscribed school. In recent years applications received have been almost three times the number of places available. The admission arrangements give priority to children of families from the local Catholic community.

- (c) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

Not applicable.

25. If the proposals involve removing places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice; and

Not applicable.

- (b) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

Not applicable.

Expansion of successful and popular schools

25A. (1) Proposals must include a statement of whether the proposer considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply, and where the governing body consider the presumption applies, evidence to support this.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies to expansion proposals in respect of primary and secondary schools, (except for grammar schools), i.e. falling within:

(a) (for proposals published by the governing body) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 or paragraph 12 of Part 2 to Schedule 2;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 4 or 18 of Part 4 to Schedule 4 of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

The Local Authority considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply in the case of St Mary's Catholic Nursery and Infant because the school's performance is of a consistently high quality, the number of applications for places is high and intake numbers are healthy and the school's Ofsted rating of 'Outstanding' was confirmed in the Interim Assessment Statement of 12 July 2010.