

Details

Status:	Implemented
Title:	To discontinue Bellfield Junior School and to alter the age range and enlarge Bellfield Infant School by Amalgamation
Include item on Forward Plan	No
Is Key Decision	No
Item Contains Exempt/Private Reports	No
Reference:	016329/2026
Urgent Decision - Not in Forward Plan	No
Details for Agenda Sheet	Report of the Interim Executive Director Children & Families
Implementation Date (not before meeting on)	Wed 8 Apr 2026

Purpose

This report seeks approval of the statutory proposal to amalgamate Bellfield Infant School and Bellfield Junior School into a single all-through primary school.

The proposals are:

- to discontinue Bellfield Junior School;
- to alter the age range of Bellfield Infant School from 3–7 to 3–11 years;
- enlarge Bellfield Infant School by incorporating the Bellfield Junior School site and pupils to make one primary school.

If approved, these changes will take effect on 1 September 2026.

Pupils currently attending Bellfield Junior School will automatically transfer to the amalgamated primary school, ensuring continuity of education. The amalgamated school will offer 60 places in Reception, retain the existing campus at Vineyard Road, and is expected to deliver educational and operational benefits including:

- a unified ethos and leadership,
- seamless transition from KS1 to KS2 with no need for parents to apply for a Year 3 place,
- consistent curriculum and tracking across all years,
- efficiencies that support financial sustainability and reinvestment in front-line teaching.

This proposal has no impact on the Council's General Fund. All costs associated with the amalgamation, including any transitional or staffing-related implications, will be met from within the individual school budgets.

Key Portfolio	Children Young People and Families
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Decision Maker	Not Applicable
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Chief Officer Decision Maker	----- N/A -----
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Reason For Key Decision	
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Relevant Documents	
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Decision Type:	Committee
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Decision Maker:	Cabinet Member
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Directorate	
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Other Information

Private Reason

Decision Outcome

On the 08 April 2026, the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People & Families approved the statutory proposal to:

- (i) discontinue Bellfield Junior School.
- (ii) Enlarge Bellfield Infant School by expansion to incorporate the Bellfield Junior School; and
- (iii) Permanently change the age range at Bellfield Infant School from 3–7 to 3–11 years.

THE DEADLINE FOR CALL-IN IS 1600 HOURS ON MONDAY 13 APRIL 2026.

Would the recommended decision be contrary to the budget and policy framework:

No

Decision Options:

Additional Information

Reg 10

Reg 11

Decision Criteria

This Decision does not contain any decision criteria records.

Wards

This Decision does not contain any Ward records.

Topics

This Decision does not contain any Topic records

Overview and Scrutiny

This Decision does not contain any Overview and Scrutiny records.