



## **SCHOOL ORGANISATION PROPOSALS**

### **Prescribed Alterations to Two Voluntary Aided Primary Schools**

**St Margaret Mary RC Primary School  
St Thomas More Catholic Primary School**

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

## Section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006

### 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*

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

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

*Birmingham City Council, Education & Skills Infrastructure, PO BOX 15843, Birmingham B2 2RT*

*St Margaret Mary RC Primary School, Perry Common Road, Erdington, Birmingham B23 7AB - Voluntary Aided*

*St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Horse Shoes Lane, Sheldon, Birmingham B26 3HU - Voluntary Aided*

### **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.

*1<sup>st</sup> September 2017*

### **Objections and comments**

3. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
  - (a) the date prescribed in accordance with Schedule 3 of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 20013, by which objections or comments should be sent to the local authority; and
  - (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

*Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on any or all of the proposals by visiting:*

*<http://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/stmargaretmary>*

*<http://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/stthomasmore>*

*or, by writing to School Organisation Team, Education and Skills Infrastructure, PO Box 15843, Birmingham B2 2RT. The last date for comments is **20th October 2016**. Full details on the proposals, including copies of the public notice and consultation document can be found on these webpages.*

## 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.

*The proposed changes are an expansion of both St Margaret Mary RC Primary School, Perry Common Road, Erdington, Birmingham B23 7AB and St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Horse Shoes Lane, Sheldon, Birmingham B26 3HU*

*Following publication of the Education Sufficiency requirements in February and November 2015, all schools were invited to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) if they are interested in providing additional primary school places. The Governing Bodies of both St Margaret Mary RC Primary and St Thomas More Catholic Primary submitted an EOI. These were reviewed and approved by panel and proposals have been developed with the support of Birmingham City Council officers, the governing bodies and RC Diocese.*

**St Margaret Mary RC Primary School** that was historically a one and a half form of entry primary school but has, for a number of years operating as a one form entry (30 places per year) school in line with local demand. The school used some of the available accommodation to establish a nursery in 2014.

The school has taken an additional (bulge) class offering an additional 15 places in both September 2015 & September 2016. This proposal is to permanently expand the school by 15 places per year. The school will increase their intake to 45 pupils per year with effect from 1st September 2017.

**St Thomas More Catholic Primary School** was historically a two form of entry primary school but has, for a number of years been operating as one and a half form of entry (45 places per year) school. The school has taken an additional (bulge) class offering an additional 15 places in both September 2015 and September 2016. The proposal is to expand the school permanently by 15 places per year. The school will increase their intake permanently to 60 pupils per year with effect from 1st September 2017.

Some remodelling work has been proposed for the existing accommodation of both schools and additional land has been identified for the building of extensions to the school for the additional permanent classrooms and ancillary space required to fully implement the proposals.

## School capacity

5.—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within Schedule 2 alterations other than alterations proposed in foundation proposals which may be published by a governing body or local authority as specified in Regulations 4 and 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013, the proposals 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;

<i>School</i>	<i>Current Net Capacity</i>	<i>Proposed Net Capacity</i>
<i>St Margaret Mary RC Primary School</i>	<i>315<sub>1</sub></i>	<i>315</i>
<i>St Thomas More Catholic Primary School</i>	<i>345<sub>2</sub></i>	<i>420</i>

*Both schools have taken an additional 15 pupils in both September 2015 & 2016.*

*1 The net capacity of St Margaret Mary is recorded as 315 however this figure includes accommodation that has been used for the nursery provision which opened in 2014. This capacity, which is reported to the DfE is the overall capacity of the buildings. The school have however been operating below their capacity for a number of years with an admission number of 30 and an **admission** capacity of 210. The school have taken 15 additional pupils in Reception in both September 2015 and 2016, which has increased their admission number in both of these years to 45 and the overall **admission** capacity to 240. Additional building work is now required to enlarge the school back to a one and a half form of entry school that can offer up to 45 pupils in each year with an overall capacity of 315 – excluding the nursery. An updated net capacity assessment will be carried out.*

*2 The net capacity of St Thomas More is 345. The school have been operating as a one and a half form of entry primary school with an admission number of 45 per year. In both September 2015 and 2016 the school were able to take an additional 15 pupils in Reception. These classes have made a change to the overall capacity of the school to 345. When the school expands permanently each Reception year from September 2017 will offer up to 60 places and eventually when all year groups have expanded the overall capacity will be 420. An updated net capacity assessment will be carried out.*

- (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;

<i>School</i>	<i>Nursery</i>	<i>R</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>St Margaret Mary RC Primary School</i>	16	45	39	33	31	31	30	44	269
<i>St Thomas More Catholic Primary School</i>		60	47	48	42	45	54	49	345

*These numbers correct as at September 2016*

- (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;

*Not applicable.*

*Both schools have offered an additional 15 pupils in both September 2015 & 2016.*

*This proposal is for a permanent expansion of both schools by 15 per year with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017.*

- (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.

*Where the number of pupils on roll in any relevant year group is lower than the admission number, this is as a result of movement during the year. Birmingham currently has a high*

*level of net cohort growth meaning that the level of places available can change greatly over the year in different areas of the city as families arrive requiring school provision.*

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within Schedule 2 alterations other than alterations proposed in foundation proposals which may be published by a governing body or local authority as specified in Regulations 4 and 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

*At the time of publication, the total number of students on roll is:*

*St Margaret Mary RC Primary: 269 (including nursery)*

*St Thomas More Catholic Primary : 345*

### **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.

*Not applicable*

### **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 Schedule 2 alterations other than alterations proposed in foundation proposals which may be published by a governing body or local authority as specified in Regulations 4 and 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 —

(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 Schedule 2 alterations other than alterations proposed in foundation proposals which may be published by a governing body or local authority as specified in Regulations 4 and 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 (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.

*Additional places are required within Kingstanding and Sheldon in order to meet Basic Need. The two schools covered by these proposals are considered to be appropriate solutions. We are proposing to expand St Margaret Mary RC Primary School so that the school will be able to admit 45 pupils each year across Reception to Year 6 rather than the current 30. The growth of the school will be gradual. The school has successfully offered additional places in Reception in September 2015 & 2016. These classes have been accommodated in available accommodation at the school.*

*We are proposing to expand St Thomas More Catholic Primary School so that the school will be able to admit 60 pupils each year across Reception to Year 6 rather than the current 45. The growth of the school will be gradual. The school has successfully offered additional places in Reception in September 2015 & 2016. These classes have been accommodated in available accommodation at the school.*

## Consultation

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

*All statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with. Due regard and careful consideration was given to the guidance contained within The Department for Education “Making Prescribed Alterations” to maintained schools – Statutory guidance for proposers and decision-makers’ document, April 2016. All individuals or bodies suggested in the guidance are being consulted and their views considered.*

*St Margaret Mary - As part of an initial pre-statutory consultation, all pupils, parents, Governors, teaching and non-teaching staff were sent a proposal document pack (Appendix 1a and 1b) on 15<sup>th</sup> June 2016 .*

*St Thomas More - As part of an initial pre-statutory consultation, all pupils, parents, Governors, teaching and non-teaching staff were sent a proposal document pack (Appendix 1a and 1b) week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> June 2016.*

*All teaching associations and trade unions, The Archdiocesan and The Anglican Diocese of Birmingham, Executive Members for Erdington (St Margaret Mary) / Yardley (St Thomas More) and respective ward councillors, and all neighbouring authorities were advised of the consultation by email and advised how to obtain consultation packs.*

## 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 authority, and any other party.

*Estimated project costs are as follows;*

*St Margaret Mary: £ 848,843.00*

*St Thomas More: £ 811,675.00*

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

*All costs will be met jointly by Birmingham City Council through Basic Need funding allocation and LCVAP funding.*

### Age range

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

*Not applicable*

### Early year's 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 year's provision with childcare services and how the proposals are consistent with the integration of early year's provision for childcare;

*Not applicable*

- (c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early year's 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.

### Directorate of People



*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 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 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 paragraph 3 of Schedule 11 of the Equality Act 2010).

*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;

*Birmingham City Council is proposing the above prescribed changes, in line with our Additional Primary Places Programme.*

*Please find here a link to the Education Development Plan [www.birmingham.gov.uk/edp](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/edp) and Education Sufficiency Requirements document published in November 2015: [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schools/esr](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schools/esr) . The headlines are as follows:*

*Birmingham City Council as the local authority for Birmingham has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places.*

- The city of Birmingham has a growing population with one of the youngest populations in Europe and the number of births in the city has risen rapidly over the last few years.*
- To compound this Birmingham is also experiencing high levels of in year growth in the city.*
- Certain areas of the city have experienced a larger increase in the birth rate than others. As a result, demand for places has grown and unless action is taken, there will not be sufficient places for each child in the ward.*
- Our projected pupil numbers showed that we needed to provide an additional 600 Reception places in the city by 2017.*

(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;

*Not applicable*

(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*

## **Appendix 1a & 1b –Consultation document**

*These resources can be accessed by visiting*

*1.a) St Margaret Mary RC Primary School*

[www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/stmargaretmary](http://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/stmargaretmary)

*1.b) St Thomas More Catholic Primary School*

[www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/stthomasmore](http://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/stthomasmore)