

12 November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer/Staff

In January I wrote to all parents of children at St Mary's Community Nursery School and Overleigh St Mary's CE Primary School advising them of the proposal to amalgamate the two schools under the governance of the Overleigh St Mary's governing body. My letter announced a period of public consultation on the proposal. This ran between 27 January 2020 and 01 March 2020. Unfortunately, the Coronavirus pandemic has led to an unavoidable delay in the process but having considered the feedback to the consultation the Director of Education and Inclusion has now decided that the proposal for amalgamation should be formally progressed as related proposals to:

Discontinue (close) St Mary's Community Nursery School and a related proposal to extend the age range of Overleigh St Mary's CofE Primary School to 3-11.

Full details of the proposal can be found at
www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/stmarysconsultation

Publication of the proposal begins a four week period of 'representations' (from 12 November- midnight 09 December) when anyone, including pupils, parents and staff may make their views on the related proposals known by emailing them to
schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

What happens next?

Following the period of 'representations' the Cabinet Member for Children and Families will consider all representations received together with the responses to the earlier period of consultation and will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in January 2021. If the decision is in favour of amalgamation it is currently proposed this would take effect from September 2021 when any nursery children remaining on the roll of St Mary's Community Nursery School and all of those children due to start at the nursery school would be placed on the roll of the nursery class at Overleigh St Mary's CE Primary School. Children at the nursery school wishing to join the Overleigh St Mary CE reception class will still need to make application through the primary school admission process irrespective of whether the proposal is approved.

Yours sincerely,



Carolyn Davis
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