

**ROTHERHAM BOROUGH COUNCIL – REPORT TO MEMBERS**

<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting:</b>	<b>Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families' Services</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Date:</b>	<b>21<sup>st</sup> May, 2014</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Title:</b>	<b>Proposal to amalgamate Brampton the Ellis Junior and Infant Schools by the discontinuance of the Junior School and the change of age-range of the Infant School – final determination.</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Children and Young Peoples Services</b>

### **5. Summary**

This report seeks a final determination by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Family Services in relation to the proposed amalgamation of Brampton the Ellis (CE Aided) Infant and Junior Schools.

### **6. Recommendations**

**In the absence of any representation that the proposal to amalgamate Brampton the Ellis (CE Aided) Infant and Junior Schools be approved by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Families Services with effect from 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2014.**

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## **7. Proposals and Details**

Proposals to amalgamate the two schools by discontinuance of the Junior School and change of age range of the Infant School have stood since 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014 including the statutory notice period 14<sup>th</sup> March to 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

Previous reports on the proposals were submitted to Cabinet Member on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014 respectively.

The principal objectives of amalgamation are:

- 1) to provide a continuous primary entitlement across the key stages; and
- 2) to provide a unified management structure with a single school ethos which will be more efficient and make more effective use of resources.

## **8. Finance**

The proposed amalgamation will allow the Headteacher and Governing Body to structure financial resources to best support a through school ethos across the Infant and Junior sites.

## **9. Risks and Uncertainties**

There are always risks and uncertainties when school place provision is considered since future pupil numbers are based on estimations. Over provision at one school could influence pupil numbers at other schools. Local Authorities are obliged, however, to provide sufficient places, promote diversity and increase parental preference. (CYD0015/018 - Corporate risk register).

A final decision should be determined by the decision maker within 2 months from the end of the representation period. If this fails to be done, then the matter is referred to the Schools Adjudicator for decision.

The advantages and disadvantages of the amalgamation were reported to Cabinet Member on 15<sup>th</sup> January and 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

## **10. Policy and Performance Agenda Implications**

The major theme supported by the proposal is 'to ensure that everyone has access to skills, knowledge and information to enable them to play their part in society'.

### Rotherham School Improvement Mission:

- ~ All children will make at least good progress
- ~ There will be no underperforming cohorts
- ~ All teachers will deliver at least good learning
- ~ All schools will move to the next level of successful performance

## **11. Background Papers and Consultation**

The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013

The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013

School Organisation (Maintained Schools) guidance for proposers and decision makers (January 2014)

A full pre statutory and statutory consultation has been undertaken with relevant stakeholders.

Reports to Cabinet Member 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014 and 5<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

Public Notice period 14<sup>th</sup> March to 11<sup>th</sup> April 2014.

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