



**County Hall
Hertford
SG13 8DF**

Tel: 0300 123 4043

My ref: School Planning

Date: 4 July 2017

Dear Consultee

**Consultation on a proposal to ‘amalgamate’ Redbourn Junior School, Long
Cutt, Redbourn, Hertfordshire, AL3 7EX and Redbourn Infant & Nursery
School, Long Cutt, Redbourn, Hertfordshire, AL3 7EX from 17 April 2018**

What is the proposal?

We are consulting you on the proposal to ‘amalgamate’ these two schools.
Technically, this means that the legal proposals are:

- 1. The closure of Redbourn Junior School on 16 April 2018
and**
- 2. The extension of the age range of Redbourn Infant & Nursery
School from 3 to 7 years to 3 to 11 years from 17 April 2018.**

These proposals, if enacted, would create one primary school (3- 11 years of age) for both infant and junior pupils. The two schools currently admit up to 60 pupils in each year group and it is proposed that the new primary school will also admit 60 reception aged pupils each year from September 2018.

Why is this being proposed?

The governing bodies of both the Infant and Junior Schools have asked the county council to amalgamate the schools to create a 2 f.e. primary school, providing education through from four to eleven, in the best interests of the local community and children. The governors’ judgement is that the new school will provide a consistent approach to each child’s primary education under the leadership and management of one head teacher and one staffing structure. It is proposed to extend the age range of the infant school to create the new primary school because currently this school is high performing and is

judged by Ofsted to be 'outstanding'.

How would the primary school work?

The current buildings will continue to be used as they are now, but it is intended that the primary school will have one main entrance for visitors. The proposed new primary school would have a single governing body, head teacher and one staffing structure, ensuring flexibility throughout the new school.

The Governing Bodies of the Infant and Junior schools will work together to consider how the new single Governing Body might be constituted in terms of numbers and different categories of governors. Following agreement by the Governing Body a document called the "Instrument of Government" will be drawn up to complete the process.

What will the impact be on staff at the two schools?

The Infant School governing body has resolved to undertake a 'Junior staff first recruitment protocol' which is intended to minimise the risk to staff at the junior school. Initial projections indicate an anticipated retention of the majority of existing staff. It is hoped that other staff at risk of redundancy will be able to secure alternative posts. Existing staff at the Infants and Nursery School will not be affected by the expansion.

The main benefit to an all-through primary school will be to ensure consistency of provision for the children in their primary years, from three to eleven years.

What will happen about uniforms?

There will be no change to the existing uniform as both schools already share the same uniform.

Have your say

The county council supports the governing bodies' wishes and believes that the 'amalgamation' of Redbourn Junior and Redbourn Infant & Nursery Schools will have a positive impact for existing and future pupils and the local community.

You have until 25 September 2017 to let us know your views on this proposal. The easiest way you can do this is by completing the online form on our website at www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/consultations . You can tell us if you agree or disagree with the proposal and leave your comments.

If you do not have access to the internet you can visit your local library where free access is available to all Hertfordshire residents. Should you wish to request a hard copy of the response form or need help understanding this information you can email contact@hertfordshire.gov.uk or alternatively please call us on the number above. An interpreting service is available for those who need it.

Your comments must be received by 25 September 2017. We will not be able to acknowledge or respond individually to your comments but they will be taken into account, as explained below.

How the decision will be taken.

This is a consultation and no decision has been made yet. All responses received will be made available to elected members who make the final decision. All responses may be made available in public reports, although personal details will be removed to respect individual privacy.

The following timetable outlines the decision-making process. Please note that meetings marked with * will be open to the public. Although it will not be possible to inform everyone individually of the decisions made, you will be able to access this information throughout the process at:
<https://cmis.hertfordshire.gov.uk/hertfordshire/CabinetandCommittees.aspx>

Process	Date
Public consultation	4 July – 25 September 2017
Enterprise, Education & Skills Panel*	7 November 2017
Cabinet*	13 November 2017
Statutory notice period (4 weeks)	23 November– 21 December 2017
Cabinet* (for final approval if any objections are received)	22 January 2018
Implementation	17 April 2018

Yours faithfully



**Jenny Coles,
Director of Children's Services**