


Report for:	Cabinet Member Signing 4 January 2013	Item Number:	
Title:	Determination of Proposals Outlined in a Published Notice in Respect of Closure of a Junior School and the Enlargement of the Age Range of an Infant School		
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Ward(s) affected: Hornsey Ward, Crouch End Ward and any ward where children who are accepted into the school live	Report for key Decision		

1. Describe the issue under consideration

1.1 This report considers the proposals of the governing bodies of St Mary's CE Infant School and St Mary's CE Junior School to close the Junior School and to enlarge the age range of the Infant School from its current age range of 3 – 7 (including up to 60 nursery children) to ages 3 – 11. The objective of these proposals is to establish an all-through primary school, St Mary's CE Primary School, with an age range from Nursery to Year 6. A statutory notice on these changes was published on 2 November 2012 and a representation period ran for a statutory period of six weeks from that date, ending on 14 December 2012. This report considers the proposed changes as set out in the statutory notice together with any representations received as a result of the consultation, and recommends that the proposals outlined in the statutory notice issued on 2 November 2012 are approved.

2. Cabinet Member introduction

2.1 The Cabinet Member's introduction is not included here as it is the Cabinet Member who will consider the contents of this report and make the decision as to whether or not to approve the proposals set out in the statutory notice.

3. Recommendations

3.1 For the information and reasoning contained in paragraph 5 below it is recommended that the Cabinet Member for Children:

- Agrees the closure of St Mary's CE Junior School with effect from 4 January 2013
- Agrees to the enlargement of the age range of St Mary's CE Infant School from its current ages 3 – 7 (including nursery aged children) to ages 3 – 11 so that it forms an all through Primary school encompassing children from Reception to Year 6 and nursery aged children with effect from 4 January 2012.

4. Alternative options considered

4.1 As part of the deliberation by the governing bodies of the two schools on the future of the schools, a number of options were considered for the schools' future. These options were: 1) for the schools to stay as they are – as St Mary's CE Infant School and St Mary's CE Junior School, 2) to become an academy, 3) hard federation, 4) close both schools and put forward a proposal to open a new school, and 5) the proposal now before you for consideration - close the Junior school and to enlarge the age range of the Infant School from its current age range of 3 – 7 (including nursery children) to ages 3 – 11.

4.1 Following the governing bodies' consideration of all options, the proposals to close the Junior school and to enlarge the age range of the Infant School from its current age range of 3 – 7 (including nursery children) to ages 3 – 11 were put before stakeholders, including staff and parents and carers, from January 2012. Since that time, and taking into account representations made as part of that consultation, no alternative options have been considered.

5. Background information Schools

5.1 St Mary's CE Infant and Junior schools are voluntary aided schools in Hornsey ward. The Infant school address is Church Lane N8 and the Junior School address is Rectory Gardens N8. Both schools are two form entry (60 pupils are admitted into Reception and Year 3 each year) and the Infant School also has a nursery attached to it providing places for pre-school children. The Infant School is owned by the local authority and the Junior School is owned by the Church.

Ofsted inspections 2011

5.2 At its Ofsted Inspection on 2-3rd November 2011 St Mary's CE Infant School was judged to be Outstanding. The following week, 10-11th November, St Mary's CE Junior School was placed into Special Measures by Ofsted. The two relevant Ofsted reports are included at Appendix 2 to this report. The