

STATUTORY PROPOSALS

Proposal to establish 'Runnymede St Edwards Catholic Primary School' with effect from

Proposals published by:	Congregation of Christian Brothers
Contact Address: (for objections and comments)	c/o Jeanette Smith Schools Organisation Team 5 th Floor Cunard Building Pier Head Water Street Liverpool L3 1DS
Date proposals published:	27 January 2020
School Name:	Runnymede St Edward's
School Address:	North Drive Sandfield Park Liverpool L12 1LE
School Category:	Voluntary Aided
Closing date for comments or objections (to the contact address above):	25 February 2020

INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN SECTION 11 PROPOSALS TO ESTABLISH A NEW VOLUNTARY-AIDED SCHOOL

From Schedule 1: The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of
Schools) (England) Regulations 2013

Contact details

1. The name and contact address of the local authority or the proposers (as the case may be).

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Implementation

2. The date on which it is proposed that the school be opened or, where it is proposed that the opening be implemented in stages, the dates of and information about each stage.

The School will open on 1st September 2020.

At this stage the school will provide two forms in reception year and single form from year 1 to year 6. Over the following 6 years the school will build up to two forms from reception to year 6 as the 2020 reception cohort move up the school.

3. Where the proposals are to establish a voluntary, foundation or foundation special school, a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local authority or by the proposers, and if the proposals are to be implemented by both,
 - (a) a statement as to the extent that they are to be implemented by each body, and
 - (b) a statement as to the extent to which the capital costs of implementation are to be met by each body.

The proposals are to be implemented by the Congregation of Christian Brothers.
There are no capital costs associated with the implementation of this proposal.

Reason for the new school

4. A statement explaining the reason why the new school is considered necessary and whether it is to replace an existing school or schools.

The new school will replace, with a maintained school, provision currently provided by Runnymede St Edwards Independent School which would close at the end of the summer term 2020.

The rationale for the new school is to provide a reasonable number of additional Catholic school places in a City that continues to experience a high demand for Catholic places. Projections by the City Council and Archdiocese suggest that continued demand for Catholic places is likely to be high and will only be increased by the closure of the existing independent provision offered by Runnymede as there is limited similar provision elsewhere in the city.

The proposed age range of the school is 4-11. The admission number at Foundation 2 will be 54, rising to 60 at Year 3 to account for the admission of six places for choristers. Consistent with the trustees' existing provision within the Archdiocese of Liverpool the new school will be a choir school and will assist in the provision of choristers for Liverpool Metropolitan Cathedral. Being a chorister is a unique experience for a child, allowing them to develop social, musical and academic skills to an extraordinary level on a daily basis, receiving during daily choir practice, individual singing lessons, and an opportunity to learn to play at least one instrument.

There is already a well-established provision of Catholic school places in Liverpool, which contributes to a diverse range of school places available across the city. This proposal will help to meet the current and projected high demand for church school places in Liverpool.

The information on baptism numbers in local parishes suggests that there will be an increasing demand for Catholic school places. However, this does not account for children from non-Catholic families who still choose a Catholic school for their child. Collectively local schools already have more than the average 70.2% of Catholic children in state funded primary schools (CES Census, 2018) but can presently meet Catholic demand in the area, though this capacity is reducing as the number of Catholic children locally increases.

Category

5. The category of school that it is proposed be established (a foundation or foundation special school and, if so, whether it is to have a foundation, a voluntary school, a community or community special school, or a local authority maintained nursery school) and, if required by section 10, a statement that the Secretary of State's consent has been obtained to publish the proposals.

The proposed school will be a voluntary aided school. It is being proposed under section 11 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and does not require Secretary of State's consent.

Ethos and religious character

6. A short statement setting out the proposed ethos of the school, including details of any educational philosophy, which it is proposed that the school will adhere to.

The ethos of the school is Roman Catholic and is built around the teachings of Jesus Christ, in the tradition of Edmund Rice. The school was founded by the Congregation of Christian Brothers to provide education for children of Catholic families. The school is conducted by its governing body as part of the Catholic Church in accordance with its Trust Deed and instrument of Government and seeks at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. We ask all parents applying for a place here to respect this ethos and its importance to the school community. This does not affect the right of parents who are not of the faith of this school to apply for and be considered for a place here.

Catholic schools in Liverpool have a well-established and demonstrable track record of being inclusive schools that are welcoming to children from all faiths, those with no faith at all, and children from a range of cultures, nationalities and ethnicity. There is a demonstrable track record of non-Catholic families seeking to obtain places at Catholic schools across the city and in this area. Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim children are well-represented in the existing Catholic schools cited in this proposal, along with in excess of 100 children from other Christian denominations. All schools have children with no declared faith at all. Catholic schools in Liverpool play an important role in providing church school places for children of many faiths, nurturing an inclusive provision that guards against education exclusively for children of one particular background. An additional school will help to maintain such provision.

7. If it is proposed that the school is to have a religious character, confirmation of the religion or religious denomination in accordance with whose tenets religious education will, or may be required to be provided at the school; and a statement that the proposers intend to ask the Secretary of State to designate the school as a school with such a religious character.

Religious education will be provided at the school in accordance with the Roman Catholic faith. The proposers intend to ask the Secretary of State to designate the school as a school with a Roman Catholic religious character.

8. Where it is proposed that the school—
- (a) has a religious character, evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion; or
 - (b) adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with that philosophy that is not already met in other maintained schools or Academies in the area.

The school will operate a City-wide admissions policy providing additional Catholic places to support the overall demand across the City. Therefore there is no conflict with existing provision by other schools or academies in the immediate area. Although, traditionally, admissions to Catholic schools in the Archdiocese are based on the parish network, this is not exclusively the case and, furthermore, it is understood that families may not obtain a place at their nearest school; some families already choose to travel to access Catholic provision. Many Catholic primary schools in Liverpool are annually oversubscribed by both Catholic and non-Catholic families.

The closure of the existing independent Catholic school will generate a need for new Catholic places. That school currently has a pupil population of 141, with 80% of all children baptised into the Catholic faith (this figure is 100% in EYFS and key stage 1) and it is reasonably assumed that, in future, an additional 17 to 20 reception class places in maintained Catholic provision will be required annually as a result of the closure. In the immediate local area the local authority predicts small shortfalls of reception class places in two of the next three years – with the third year showing a balance – and therefore neither the capacity to absorb displaced children (from the closing school) into the maintained sector nor the demonstration of an existing surplus of places in the local area.

Pupil numbers and admissions

9. The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is to be made at the school.

The school will provide a single form of entry for years 1 to 6 with an admission number of 54 to the Reception class in September 2020 and annually thereafter. A further 6 pupils, who would have had successful voice trials at the Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King, would join at Year 3 each year.

The School will evolve to a 2 form entry school (Reception to Year 6) over a six year period and would ultimately have a capacity of 402 pupils.

Admission Arrangements

10. Except in relation to proposals for special schools, the proposed admission arrangements and over-subscription criteria for the new school including, where the school is proposed to be a foundation or voluntary school which is to have a religious character—
 - (a) the extent to which priority for places is proposed to be given to children of the school's religion or religious denomination; and

- (b) the extent, if any, to which priority is to be given to children of other religions or religious denominations or to children having no religion or religious denomination.

The admissions policy will be determined in accordance with contemporary school admissions legislation.

In the event of over-subscription priority will be given to baptised Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children will be given overriding priority for places, followed by Catholic siblings, Catholic children of members of staff, and all other Catholic applicants.

If places remain after Catholic applicants have been admitted, priority will be given to other Looked After Children and previously Looked After Children, siblings, children of members of staff, then all other applicants.

Early Years Provision

11. Where the proposals are to include provision for pupils aged two to five—

- (a) details of how the early years provision will be organised, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number of places, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

The school will not include this provision

- (b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services, and how the proposals for the establishment of the school are consistent with the integration of early years provision with childcare;

- (c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;

- (d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools, and in settings outside of the maintained school sector who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school;

- (e) the reasons why schools and settings outside the maintained school sector who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school and who have spare capacity, cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the numbers of such children.

Sixth form provision

12. Where it is proposed that the school will provide sixth form education, how for 16 to 19 year olds in the area the proposals will—
- (a) improve the educational or training achievements;
 - (b) increase participation in education or training; and
 - (c) expand the range of educational or training opportunities available to them.

The school will not provide sixth form provision.

Special educational needs provision

13. Whether the school will have provision that is recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs and, if so, the nature of such provision.

The school will not have provision that is recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs.

14. Details of the proposed policy of the school relating to the education of pupils with special educational needs.

The proposed school will offer inclusive provision modelled on the teachings of Jesus Christ where every child is considered to be a unique and special person. The staff and Governors' aims are to ensure that every child, regardless of their background or circumstances, has the support they need. We recognise that all children are individuals and differing needs and abilities and that they are entitled to receive a broad and balanced curriculum relevant to their own needs. We strive to provide children with special educational needs and disabilities the special provision and care required to meet their particular needs thus enabling them to take a full and active part in school life.

15. Where the school will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs—
- (a) a statement on how the proposer believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and range of educational provision for these children;
 - (b) details of the improvements that the proposals will bring in respect of—

- (i) access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local authority's Accessibility Strategy;
- (ii) access to specialist staff, both education and other professionals, including any external support or outreach services;
- (iii) access to suitable accommodation; and
- (iv) supply of suitable places.

The school will not replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs.

Single sex school

16. Where the school is to admit pupils of a single sex —

- (a) evidence of local demand for single sex education and how this will be met if the proposals are approved; and
- (b) a statement giving details of the likely effect the new school will have on the balance of provision of single sex education in the area.

The school will not admit pupils of a single sex.

Curriculum

17. Confirmation that the school will meet the general requirements in relation to curriculum contained in section 78 of EA 2002 and an outline of any provision that will be in addition to the basic curriculum required by section 80 of EA 2002, in particular any 14-19 vocational education.

The school will meet the general requirements in relation to curriculum contained in section 78 of EA 2002 and an outline of any provision that will be in addition to the basic curriculum required by section 80 of EA 2002.

Relevant experience of proposers

18. Evidence of any relevant experience in education held by the proposer, or proposers (other than a local authority) including details of any involvement in the improvement of standards in education.

The proposers already operate four publicly-funded Catholic academy schools in England demonstrating overall consistently high performance. Presently three schools are judged by Ofsted to be outstanding and one good. Attainment and levels of progress are strong in all four schools.

The proposers also see their schools as playing a positive role in the development and support of other schools and educational establishment. By way of example, St Joseph's College Teaching School Alliance has engaged in school-to-school support, Initial Teacher Training and CPD to improve schools locally, and in other Dioceses via activities that include a) school-to-school support that has included coaching and mentoring teachers, middle leaders and senior leaders, leading departmental reviews, developing SEND approaches; b) initial teacher training, including forming a SCITT and devising bespoke training, quality assurance and mentor training for a number of schools; c) CPD for over 200 teachers, including NQT training, a Chairs of Governors Leadership Development Programme, NPQML, NPQSL, peer coaching, Teach First placements, and bespoke CPD for schools.

Effects on Standards and Contributions to School Improvement

19. Information and supporting evidence on:

- (a) how the school will contribute to enhancing the diversity and quality of education in the area; and
- (b) how the school will contribute to school improvement.

The new school will both contribute to and benefit from working in partnership with networks of schools in the locality and across the City, learning from the good practice identified within the family of schools, sharing and promoting the good practice within the school itself, identifying training and development needs across the networks in order to plan and deliver high quality, cost effective inset. This will include active involvement in the Archdiocese of Liverpool School Improvement Trust through which staff in all areas of the new school will benefit from the access and input to a collective school-led improvement grouping involving 184 other primary phase schools from across eight local authority areas.

At school level careful planning of the curriculum and consistent assessment of pupil progress will ensure the provision of learning experiences which are appropriate to each child, building on present understanding in order to develop and extend skills and knowledge. Well informed transition between Key Stages will ensure progression and continuity of curriculum provision from the Foundation Stage to the end of Key Stage 2.

Teaching and Support staff will be deployed across the school to best meet identified need. This will ensure that curriculum provision and the use of resources supports the school's stance on issues of equal opportunity in terms of race, gender and special educational need, contributing to the personal development of all pupils.

Location and costs

20. A statement about —

- (a) the area or particular community or communities which the new school is expected to serve;

The proposed new school will serve children from across the City of Liverpool.

- (b) the location of the site or sites including, where appropriate, the postal address or addresses;

Runnymede St Edward`s School, North Drive, Sandfield Park, Liverpool, L12 1LE

- (c) the current ownership and tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease;

The site is owned by the Congregation of Christian Brothers, who are the Trustees. The land and buildings will be held in a lease to the school.

- (d) whether the site is currently used for the purposes of another school and if so why the site will no longer be required by the other school;

The site is currently occupied by Runnymede St Edwards Independent School. If this proposal is approved then the independent school would close on 31st August 2020.

- (e) the estimated capital costs of providing the site and how those costs will be met (including the extent to which the costs are to be met by the proposers and the local authority) and how the proposers intend to fund their share of the costs of implementing the proposals (if any);

The proposed school will utilise the site and buildings of the current independent school which is also owned by the same proposers. No new site is required and consequently there are no site acquisition or assembly costs associated with the proposal. Similarly, there are no anticipated capital costs for provision of the site.

- (f) whether planning permission is needed under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and when it is anticipated that it will be obtained;

No planning permission is required. The location is already a functioning school.

- (g) confirmation from the Secretary of State or local authority (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

The Proposers are providing the buildings and land available to the proposed school free of charge. Once established the new school would form part of the local voluntary aided capital programme managed by the Archdiocese and would

also be subject to direct investment from the school trustees where appropriate.

21. The proposed arrangements for travel of pupils to the school.

As the proposed school will be on the site of an existing school, no significant revision of travel arrangements arise from these proposals. Liverpool City Council's Home to School Transport Policy will be applied. The school will develop a School Travel Plan setting out how it will encourage a reduction in car use.

Federation

22. Details of any proposals for the school to be established as a federated school.

There are no proposals for the school to be established as a federated school.

Voluntary aided schools

23. Where the school is to be a voluntary aided school —
- (a) details of the trusts on which the site is to be held; and
 - (b) confirmation that governing body will be able and willing to carry out their obligations under Schedule 3 to SSFA 1998.

The Trust is the Congregation of Christian Brothers Trust. The Governors will carry out their obligations under Schedule 3 to SSFA 1998

Foundation schools

24. Where the school is to be a foundation or foundation special school, confirmation as to—
- (a) whether it will have a foundation and if so, the name or proposed name of the foundation;
 - (b) the rationale for the foundation and the particular ethos that it will bring to the school;
 - (c) the details of membership of the foundation, including the names of the members;
 - (d) the proposed constitution of the governing body; and
 - (e) details of the foundation's charitable objects.

The proposed school is not to be a foundation or foundation special school.

Independent schools entering the maintained sector

25. Where a school is an independent school entering the maintained sector—

- (a) a statement that the requirements of section 11(3) are met;
- (b) a statement as to whether the premises will meet the requirements of the School Premises (England) Regulations 2012(b) and, if not,
 - (i) details of how the premises are deficient; and
 - (ii) details of how it is intended to remedy the deficiency.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) The proposals will be implemented by the proposers. There are no capital costs associated with this proposalb) The existing premises meet the requirements of the School Premises (England) Regulations 2012(b) and are already used for the provision of primary age education. |
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