

11 SEPTEMBER 2002

Change of School Category

Submission of Prescribed Information

To: Buckinghamshire School Organisation Committee

From

The Governing Body, Curzon C of E Voluntary Controlled Combined School

School Name: Curzon C of E Voluntary Controlled Combined School

Local Education Authority: Buckinghamshire County Council

Diocese: Oxford

Proposals published by: The governing body of Curzon C of E Voluntary Controlled Combined School

Date Proposals published: 9th July 2002

Proposed implementation date: 1st January 2003

**The Governing Body, Curzon Church of England Voluntary Controlled Combined School,
Penn Street Village, Near Amersham, Buckinghamshire.**

Proposed change of category from Voluntary Controlled to Voluntary Aided

The Public Notice

Notice is hereby given in accordance with paragraph 2 of schedule 8 to the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998 that the Governing Body of Curzon Church of England Voluntary Controlled Combined School proposes that Curzon Church of England Voluntary Controlled Combined School shall change category and have made the following proposals for that purpose:

That with effect from 1st January 2003, the school will change from its present category as a voluntary controlled school to become a voluntary aided school and will from that date be known as Curzon Church of England Voluntary Aided Combined School.

The rationale for this proposal is to consolidate the strong links between the school and the church, whilst continuing to work closely with Buckinghamshire Local Education Authority.

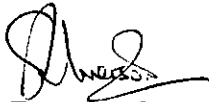
The current admission authority is Buckinghamshire Local Education Authority. After change in category this will become the Governing Body of Curzon Church of England Voluntary Aided Combined School.

The school will continue to have a foundation established otherwise than under the Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998, namely a foundation created in 1821, the Trust Deeds of which are held at Diocesan Church House, Oxford. The Trust Deed will not be changed as a result of the change of category.

Full details of the application and supporting papers are available for inspection in the school office and also in Hazlemere Library, Hazlemere. Within two months after the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to the proposals by sending their objection to:

School Organisation Committee, County Hall, Aylesbury, HP20 1UZ

Signed



Ms Susan Everson, Chair of Governors, Curzon Church of England School

Date: 8th July 2002

Introduction:

Curzon School was founded in 1847/8 opening with two classrooms at the present site. The present trustees of the school site are Oxford Diocesan Board of Education and the Parochial Church Council. The school was founded for the purpose of educating the children of the parish. Its reserved area for children joining the school at rising 5 is shown on the map in Appendix 1. In 1944 it became a voluntary controlled school. The school has always maintained close links with Penn Street Church. A change to Voluntary Aided Status would consolidate the school's strongly Christian ethos, whilst allowing it to continue working closely with Buckinghamshire LEA and our local cluster of schools.

Consultation:

At the Governing Body meeting on 22nd January 2001 it was decided that the school would seek to change to Voluntary Aided Status. At a subsequent meeting of the Governing Body held on 2nd April 2001 it was agreed that a representative from the Oxford Diocesan Board of Education would be invited to speak with all the Governors and representatives from the Parochial Church Council. A meeting with Mr Sullivan, Director of Oxford Diocesan board of Education was held on 22nd May 2001. Following this meeting the Governing Body decided to undertake a public consultation on the issue during the academic year 2001/02. The teaching staff were consulted and were in favour of the change. Information leaflets (see Appendix 2) were sent out in January 2002 to all staff, parents, local residents, parish councillors, members of the Parochial church council and LEAs and headteachers of the other nearby schools. A public meeting was held on 20th February 2002 with Mr Sullivan in attendance. Four written responses were received and 22 people (including the school Governing Body) attended the public meeting. The headteacher of the school raised no objection. The Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council are supportive of the change. Letters received are held on file by the Governing Body.

Capacity of other local school:

A map is attached (Appendix 3) showing the location of all schools in South Buckinghamshire within a 2 mile radius. There are primary schools in the adjoining South Bucks villages of Coleshill, Hazlemere, Holmer Green, Amersham, Little Missenden and Penn and Tylers Green. The capacity and forecast numbers on roll for all these schools are shown in the tables in Appendix 4.

Cost of change:

The school is generally in a good state of repair. The present building dates from 1961. During the last five years two major building projects have been undertaken, the most recent of which has resulted in the addition of two permanent classrooms to the main school building. The school now has five permanent classrooms. It is anticipated that the existing temporary classrooms will be removed from the site during 2002. The outside of the building was re-painted this summer, the school having bought into the County scheme. Subsequent external maintenance costs will transfer to the Governing Body. The school would anticipate raising 10% of the costs. The latest LEA conditions survey is attached (Appendix 5). The school's financial position is sound and we have run a budget surplus every year for the last 15 years. Our budgeted carry forward for the year 2002/03 is anticipated to be 5% of our annual budget.

Full and part-time provision:

The school currently provides full-time places for all pupils from the term in which they have their fifth birthday.

Inspection under section 10:

The school was inspected under section 10 of the School's Inspection Act 1996, in February 1997. A summary is attached (Appendix 6). All main recommendations have been addressed. In particular:

- i. the raising of the then sound standards on Maths, IT and DT, has been achieved with the school receiving school achievement awards in 2001 and 2002;
- ii. the introduction of a common approach to assessment which was implemented across the school in 2001;
- iii. the purchase of additional resources in specific areas; and
- iv. improvement of the school accommodation.

The last two issues for action have been addressed by the addition of a new library/IT room (which houses 9 computers and a large stock of both fiction and non fiction books) and the recently completed classroom extension which means that we now have permanent accommodation for all children on the school roll.

Inspection under section 23:

The school was inspected under S23 of the Schools Inspection Act 1996 in February 1997.

Intervention by the LEA or Secretary of State:

There have been no outside interventions in the running and management of the school.

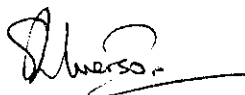
Land tenure:

According to records, the site is yet to be fully conveyed to the Trustees by the LEA.

The Trust Deed:

There appears to be no copy of the original trust deed available.

Signed:



Date: 8th July 2002

Ms Susan Everson
Chair of Governors, Curzon Church of England School

Appendix 1

Attached (reserved area)

Appendix 2

Attached - Consultation leaflet and covering letter

Appendix 3

Attached – local school

Appendix 4

Attached – capacity and projected numbers on roll

Appendix 5

Attached - Condition Survey

Appendix 6

Attached - Ofsted summary
