

Curzon Church of England Combined School

5. Conclusion

The Governing Body in proposing a change of category welcomes the fact that it will continue to work in partnership with the LEA and the Diocesan Board of Education as part of the family of Church Schools in the Diocese of Oxford.

6. Consultation

Staff, parents, local residents, neighbouring schools, the PCC, the Diocese of Oxford and the Local Education Authority are invited to comment on this proposal. Comments should be addressed to:

Responses to Mrs Sue Everson, Chair of Governors, Curzon CE Combined School, Penn Street Village, Near Amersham, Bucks, HP7 0QL by 22nd February 2002.

CONSULTATION PAPER

on

CHANGE OF CATEGORY FROM CONTROLLED TO AIDED

This consultative paper is being published following the decision of the Governing Body of Curzon Church of England Combined School to seek a change of category from a Controlled School to an Aided School. The opportunity to propose such a change has arisen from THE EDUCATION (CHANGE OF CATEGORY OF MAINTAINED SCHOOLS) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2000 which came into force on 1st September 2000.

Appendix 2

1. Background

Following the 1944 Education Act, Church of England Schools became either Aided or Controlled. Governing bodies of Aided Schools had and have precise legal responsibilities in the areas of Employment, Admissions, Finance – especially in relation to buildings, Religious Education and Collective Worship.

2. Oxford Diocesan Board of Education has 280 schools, which are a mix of Controlled and Aided. The Board recognises and welcomes all its schools as part of the Diocesan family and welcomes each Controlled School Governing Body having the opportunity under the new regulations to make its own decision as to whether to propose a change of category.

3. What would a change of category from Controlled to Aided mean?

- ❖ A majority of the Governing Body would be foundation Governors. The Governing Body would become the employer of all staff at the school.
- ❖ The Governing Body would become the Admissions Authority for the school.
- ❖ The Governing Body would have specific financial responsibilities in relation to buildings e.g. repairs and capital development.
- ❖ The Governing Body would be responsible for deciding the school's policy on Religious Education and Collective Worship in relation to its Christian foundation and Trust Deed.

Explanatory Notes:

- (i) Foundation Governors are appointed through the Diocesan Board of Education and the local PCC. (It is envisaged that the existing Governing Body will become the Governing Body of the Aided School).
- (ii) Governing bodies of Aided Schools have clear guidance and procedures to follow in relation to all employment issues and are offered guidance and support from both the Diocesan Board and the LEA.
- (iii) In drawing up its Admission Policy the Governing Body of an Aided School must consult annually with all the other Admission Authorities in its area.
- (iv) Governing bodies of Aided Schools receive support, guidance and expertise from the Diocesan Board's two Premises Officers.
- (v) The Diocesan Board of Education recommends to Aided School governing bodies that their schools' work with the Locally Agreed Syllabus for Religious Education with advisory material on Christianity provided by the Board. This reflects the Diocesan Board's positive partnership with its LEAs in the field of Religious Education and its representation on Standing Advisory Conferences for Religious Education (SACREs).

4. Timing

The Governing Body intends that a change of category can be achieved within the time schedule. There are no time restraints.



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Appendix 2

Wednesday 9th January 2001

Dear Parents and other interested parties

Curzon School was founded in 1874 and has always been a church school. We believe that the strong links that we have with the Diocese are a significant strength of the school and have been instrumental in the formation of the unique character that the school has.

The Governors of the school have unanimously decided to explore the possibility of changing the category of the school from Controlled to Aided in order to strengthen the bonds that we already have with the Diocese.

There will be a public meeting on Wednesday February 20th at 7.00 p.m. to discuss this proposal, which will be attended by the Diocesan Director of Education. If you have any comments on the attached consultation paper, please address them to the Chair of Governors (or come and voice them at that meeting).

Yours sincerely

C M Kay (Miss)
Headteacher

S Everson (Mrs)
Chair of Governors



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