

**BUCKINGHAMSHIRE LOCAL EDUCATION AUTHORITY
VERNEY AVENUE SCHOOL**

Notice is hereby given in accordance with section 31 (1) (c) of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998 (the Act) that Buckinghamshire Local Education Authority intend to discontinue Verney Avenue School, Verney Avenue, High Wycombe with effect from 31st December 2003.

The School currently has a roll of 67 pupils, (57 boys and 10 girls) aged 11-18 years with moderate learning difficulties. The number of pupils on roll at the school in September 2002 was 79 and although it was originally predicted that the roll in January 2004 would be 50, it is now likely that there will not be any pupils at the school as parents have already decided to move their children.

Buckinghamshire County Council has a number of appropriate Special Schools where pupils will be placed. Those schools are Pebble Brook School in Aylesbury, Furze Down School in Winslow, Alfriston School in Beaconsfield and Stony Dean School in Amersham. There are no plans to increase accommodation at any of these schools for the additional pupils, as there is already adequate capacity. Suitable educational provision will be provided for those pupils who, having reached the end of statutory school age, decide to remain at school.

The proposed arrangements for the transport of pupils currently attending Verney Avenue School will be in line with the County Council's current transport policy. Where there is an entitlement to transport, the most appropriate travel arrangements will be made to ensure the well being of pupils.

Further details about these proposals can be obtained from either Rebecca Cooper (01296 382192) or Andrew Tusting (01296 382462), County Hall, Aylesbury, HP20 1UZ.

In accordance with paragraph 2 of Schedule 6 of the 1998 Act and regulation 8 of The Education (Maintained Special Schools) (England) Regulations 1999 any person may object to these proposals, within the period of two months after publication of this notice.

Objections may be submitted in writing to the Chief Education Officer, Buckinghamshire County Council, School Organisation, 4th Floor, County Hall, Aylesbury HP20 1UZ, quoting reference PH/VA.

Within one month, after the end of the period for making objections, the Local Education Authority will send to the School Organisation Committee for the area, copies of any objections made (and not withdrawn in writing) together with its comments on those objections.

Dated 26th June 2003

SUE IMBRIANO
Strategic Manager –Schools
and Chief Education Officer

EXPLANATORY NOTES

1. These proposals will give effect to the wishes of the Local Education Authority and the Governing Body of Verney Avenue School to close the school.
2. With the agreement of the School Organisation Committee, it may be possible for objectors to make representations in person.
3. Details of Buckinghamshire County Council's policy on transport to schools are contained in the Admissions to Primary and Secondary Schools guide published by the LEA every year. Advice on transport to schools is also obtainable from the School Organisation Team, Schools Portfolio, County Hall, Aylesbury HP20 1UZ.