



Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Yarmouth

West Wight School Places Consultation

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **To expand there will have to be more teachers, so I cannot guarantee that my child will have a Yarmouth teacher. We would go from four classes to seven so we will need more teachers.**
 - Our teachers are employed to the Federation. Several teachers and support staff work on both sites (Shalfleet and Yarmouth) or have in the past worked at Shalfleet and now at Yarmouth and vice versa. If there is to be an increase in pupils we will require further teachers. Yarmouth is a Voluntary Aided school and as such the governing body are the employers of the staff.
- **Are you changing the staffing?**
 - The Headteacher looks at staff deployment annually to ensure the children are best served and keeping in mind professional development for teachers. Changes are discussed with staff and confirmed in the summer term.
- **Do Yarmouth have to employ All Saint's teachers?**
 - The governors are the employers of staff at Yarmouth CE Primary School and as such will make the final decision on who is employed at the school.
- **Will part time teachers be made to work full time?**
 - All staff have individual contracts with the Federation. As an employer we can't 'make' people work certain hours, nor would we want to. Contractual arrangements are confidential and discussed as and when appropriate with relevant staff members.
- **Do you have to take on any All Saints Governors?**
 - As we understand it All Saints School is proposed to be closed. This, we believe, would mean the governing body will no longer be required.
- **Would it be possible to clarify the position of the Governors at this point?**
 - At this point the governing body are consulting with parents, staff, pupils and the community to listen to their views. Governors meet and continue to discuss the views put forward to us. It is important that everyone has a voice and so we will be putting forward a questionnaire for people to complete.
- **Are you going to help us save the school?**
 - The governors don't consider the school to be under threat at the moment. This is a consultation process.
- **Geographically Shalfleet children come from all areas, what will stop them being next on the list?**
 - This process is driven by the reduction in the number of children being born in the area when compared to the school places available. Each school is responsible to manage its admission numbers. As governors we look at both schools carefully and are aware that a significant proportion of children currently travel from Freshwater to Yarmouth and Shalfleet.
 - The governors' response to the first consultation stated our preferred outcome of no changes made to Planned Admission Numbers (PAN) following the proposed closure of All Saints School. This in our view would support all schools best.
- **Clarity over the consultation period and timelines needed:**
 - First informal consultation period – 4 March – 15 April 2019
 - LA officers report published – 3 May 2019

- Cllr Brading decision – 13 May 2019
- Second informal consultation period – 14 May – 11 June 2019
- LA officers report published – 28 June 2019
- Cllr Brading decision – 8 July 2019
- Cabinet decision – 12 July 2019
- If approved – Statutory consultation period: 12 July – 9 August 2019 – this is the FORMAL consultation.
- LA officers report published – 30 August 2019
- Final decision by Cllr Brading – 9 September 2019
- If agreed – All Saints closure - 31 December 2019
- **What would be the effect on parents and children that have to go back to All Saints?**
 - Parents and children would not be going back to All Saints as the school would be closed, it would be a school move with staff they have been with for an extended time period.
- **We have already federated with Shalfleet to make Yarmouth stronger, it feels like we are again being separated.**
 - The Federation is strong and this is a personal view but not one held by the governors.
- **What would be the expected Planned Admission Number for Yarmouth?**
 - The Local Authority are suggesting a PAN of 30 for Yarmouth School.
- **Why can't Brighstone drop their PAN to 20 and Freshwater to 15? This would save spaces.**
 - Planned Admission Numbers are for the governing body to manage. This is therefore not something the LA can influence. Governors are responsible for managing their admission numbers effectively.
- **If all schools reduced their PAN then no schools would need to shut.**
 - Whilst there is some truth in the fact that if admission numbers were better managed it would help the spare places situation. At the same time the viability of a school is also under threat when it becomes smaller given that funding levels for schools are at an all-time low.
- **Can Yarmouth pull this off?**
 - The governors are formulating the questions they have for the Local Authority, because if this is to happen we want to ensure it is a success.
- **Has a survey been done about future numbers, what are these?**
 - The information below has been provided by the LA:

	YrR places	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21	21/22	22/23
West Wight	119	94	107	85	85	93	96	89	63	63
TOTAL	1566	1454	1390	1408	1381	1387	1368	1160	1201	1201

- **What about the future planning proposed for the area?**
 - It takes a long time for planned housing to be built. In the past we have been told that 100 houses deliver approx. 35 children across the age range statistically. However in the current consultation documentation it has been noted that the LA have now stated that for over 100 houses approx. 50 school places are needed in Primary School. No planning developments have been approved yet which makes this a difficult item to factor into any current school place planning.
- **How will we all fit in at Yarmouth until Freshwater site is ready?**
 - There would have to be some temporary accommodation on the field. How much will depend on how many parents choose to send their children to our school.
- **Can the Governors send out a survey?**
 - Yes we will. Details circulated today, 22 May 2019

- **What is the Governor's plan to move forward?**
 - The governors are formulating their questions for the LA and are gathering feedback from all stakeholders before we can give further information on this.
- **Could it be that Yarmouth expand permanently?**
 - This would be difficult on the current school site as there is not sufficient space to build a 1 Form Entry (30 pupils per year group) school on this site.
- **What about the local area, are they being consulted?**
 - Yes they can feedback directly to the LA during this consultation period and we will include them in our questionnaire too.
- **Clarification over options needed:**

The following options have been published by the Local Authority:

 1. Closure of All Saints' CE Primary School and expand and relocate Yarmouth CE Primary School on to the Freshwater site at a future date.
 2. The closure of All Saints' CE Primary School and expansion of St Saviour's Catholic Primary School to 1 form of entry.
 3. The closure of St Saviour's Catholic Primary School and expansion of All Saints' CE Primary School to 1 form of entry.
 4. Closure of both All Saints' CE Primary School and St Saviour's Catholic Primary School and seek to open a new one form of entry free / academy school on one of the existing sites.
 5. The closure of All Saints' CE Primary School and allow the admissions process to manage the impact of reduced places in the area.
 6. That no change is pursued and the current situation is allowed to continue.
- **If they close All Saints are they closing Freshwater Early Years, what will happen to Sadie and team?**
 - As we understand it Freshwater Early Years is independent from the school and is not included in the consultation.
 - Sadie and team are employed by the governors at the Federation. We consider them valuable employees and will look after them within our Federation.
- **What should parents do to make an impact?**
 - Parents/carers are encouraged to take part in the consultation by responding to the school questionnaire and the Local Authority consultation.
- **Will Yarmouth Governors be able to dictate what happens to the Yarmouth School site or the terms? Whom do we write to about this?**
 - The building is owned by the Diocese of Portsmouth. The land is held in trust by the Diocese on behalf of the family who gave the land the school is on. The playing field is owned by the Local Authority. What will happen next to the building the LA have stated will be part of another consultation, however governors would urge people to state what they think could be a good use of the site in their response to the LA.
- **If we are coming up with an alternative, is it better to all have the same alternative?**
 - It is best to have an alternative or alternatives that have been carefully thought through, take in the facts and respond with that knowledge.
- **Is there any possibility to have the opportunity for parents to get together to discuss and form a plan?**
 - Yes there is and we can either provide space and/or you can meet with governors again. We will propose a date for after half term before the end of the week.

22/5/2019