

FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION

Appendix C

FACTORS	CLOSING SCHOOL/OPENING NEW SCHOOL
<p>Complies with requirements</p> <p>Prior consultation</p> <p>Related to other proposals</p>	<p>Published linked statutory notice put together in line with advice and support from DCSF School Organisation Unit and the Catholic Diocese of Shrewsbury and Church of England Diocese of Chester</p> <p>Copies sent to School Governors and School, all Schools, LSC Diocesan Authorities, Trade Unions, Alliance Representatives, Health Authority Representatives and Neighbouring Authorities and Schools Organisation Unit. Published in local papers, schools and other public buildings.</p> <p>Two rounds of consultation held as part of the consultation on secondary re-organisation in Halton. First round in June and July 2007 and second round in November and December 2007. Full details of who was consulted, minutes of dates of public meetings and notes, Executive Board reports, a summary of the views of those consulted, copies of consultation documents are all included on the bsf pages on the local authority website.</p> <p>It is proposed to close St Chad's as a Catholic High School and establish a new joint faith Catholic/Church of England High School on the same site.</p>
<p>School Competition</p>	<p>There were no alternative proposals submitted during the consultation.</p>

<p>System shaped by Parents – best schools are able to expand and spread this ethos and success</p>	<p>There were 245 applications from parents identified St Chad's as first choice for September 2008 against an admission number of 170.</p>
<p>Boosts standards and opportunities for young people and matches school place supply as closely as possible to pupils and parents wishes</p>	<p>2006 Ofsted report described St Chad's as "good with many outstanding features.</p> <p>Standards at the school have continued to rise with 61% of pupils gaining 5 A* - C in 2008, - C including English and Maths and 100% of pupils achieved one or more A* - G pass.</p> <p>There is currently no Church of England Secondary provision within the borough and in 2006 there were only four pupils from Church of England primary schools. In 2008 there were 27 first preferences, 8 second preferences and 10 third preferences.</p>
<p>Assists in delivering principles of Every Child Matters</p>	<p>2006 Ofsted described St Chad's as a school "where every child really matters". The school aim to continue self evaluation and school improvement processes focused on delivering the five outcomes.</p>

<p>Ensures sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils – including future demand for places</p>	<p>There will be no displaced pupils as a result of this proposal. The current pupils will transfer to the new established joint faith school.</p>
<p>Diversity</p>	<p>This proposal enhances diversity within the borough as there is currently no Church of England secondary provision. A working party made up of Church of England and Catholic representatives, Chaired by the Headteacher has met regularly to foster a deeper understanding of each other. St Chad's is also an English as a second language centre.</p>
<p>Curriculum</p>	<p>The new school will continue to meet the general requirements in relation to the curriculum legislation. An SRE programme will be approved by both Dioceses. The joint faith working party has already agreed an RE curriculum that will meet the needs of both faiths. St Chad's already delivers vocational education 14-19 and is part of Halton's 14-19 Partnership which is delivering the new diplomas in collaboration with other schools and the local college.</p>
<p>Specialisms</p>	<p>St Chad's was designated a Specialist Language College in 2001 and re-designated in 2006. This specialism will continue in the new school.</p>
<p>Impact on Community Cohesion and Race Equality</p>	<p>This proposal should enhance community cohesion as it will bring together Catholic and Church of England pupils.</p>

Considers travel and accessibility for all	<p>The new school will be established on the existing site. The school is accessible from two vehicle and three pedestrian entrances. There are four lifts internally in the school to access all areas and levels.</p> <p>The provision of a joint faith Catholic/Church of England secondary school may lead to less pupils travelling to other boroughs.</p>
Equal Opportunity Issues	<p>St Chad's is a comprehensive with intakes from a broad socio economic backgrounds across Runcorn. There are no sex, race or disability issues arising from the proposal.</p>
Rural School	<p>St Chad's is not a rural school.</p>
Pupil Numbers and Admissions	<p>On 1st September 2008 it is proposed that all pupils at St Chad's Catholic High (estimate 950 11-19 years old) will transfer to St Chad's Catholic and Church of England Joint Faith Voluntary Aided School. The Published Admission Number will be 190 from 1st September 2009 and that will increase to 240 from 1st September 2013. In addition the school will continue to provide a sixth form PAN of 100.</p> <p>The proposed admission arrangements and over subscription criteria will be the ones published in the Halton Borough Council Admissions booklet. Future admission arrangements and over subscription criteria will be to give priority places on a 70% Catholic basis and 30% Church of England basis. All Halton Looked After Children will be given first priority. If the school is not oversubscribed on the above proportions, children will be admitted based upon the published admission criteria .</p>
14-19 Curriculum and Collaboration – opportunities for students are not	<p>In Halton 14-19 provision is being developed borough-wide. This ensures that the contribution of a range of partners is maximised. Partners include the schools, college, City Learning Centres and work based providers. Through the development of collaborative arrangements the 14-19 Partnership is seeking to extend the range of 14-19</p>

being reduced	provision offered.
Voluntary Aided Schools	The current ownership is freehold by the trustees of the Diocese of Shrewsbury. The Diocese will continue with freehold ownership of the buildings and the school footprint. Halton Borough Council own the school field. The governing body will be able to carry out their obligations and a new governing body will be formed before the school becomes joint faith in September 2009.
Capital	The second phase of a major Targeted Capital project is currently being undertaken at the school. Further capital investment will be possible through BSF.
Views of interested parties	Extensive consultation has been undertaken. No alternative proposals were submitted during the statutory consultation.