



**Diocese of East Anglia – proposed new Catholic VA primary school  
at Hampton East, Peterborough**

**PRESCRIBED INFORMATION**

**PROPOSAL FOR A NEW ROMAN CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL IN HAMPTON  
EAST, PETERBOROUGH**

**FULL PROPOSAL**

This full published proposal for the new Catholic school (for which the eventual name is yet to be decided) has three elements:

- The **Public Notice** as published in the Peterborough Telegraph on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2019 (Annex 1)
- **Section 1** - A summary of the key points of the proposal (pages 1 -3))
- **Section 2** - The Prescribed Information - detailed responses the Diocese is required to submit to the Decision-maker, in this case Peterborough City Council. (Pages 4 onwards, plus annexes)

Any person or persons responding to the proposal may comment on any or all of these three elements by responding in any of the ways set out in the Public Notice.

**Section 1 - Summary of key points**

What are the basic facts of the proposal?

- The Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia is proposing to open a new primary school in new-build premises within the Hampton East housing development area of Peterborough which, when fully open, will cater for 630 children aged 5-11
- The new school will initially open in September 2022 for Reception and Years 1 and 2 and grow year by year until September 2026 when all year groups will be open.
- The school will incorporate a nursery class for 30 children aged 2-4 from the school's expected opening date in September 2022
- The new school building costs have been given provisional approval by the Department for Education (DfE).

What sort of a school are we proposing?

- It will be a maintained (state-funded) Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided primary school.
- It will be open to boys and girls
- The school will follow the National Curriculum, follow the National Curriculum assessment scheme ('SATS') and be inspected by OFSTED
- The new school will make a positive contribution to education and community life in Hampton East, in partnership with other schools and local bodies.

How will the school be run?

- It will have an autonomous Governing Body, drawn from a wide range of interests. Some governors, known as foundation governors, will be appointed



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by the Diocese with the responsibility to maintain the Catholic ethos of the school.

- The Governing Body will develop a strong partnership with the three existing Catholic schools in Peterborough. It will also have the support of other schools in the Catholic schools’ family across the Diocese as required.
- The Governing Body will seek to build strong educational and community partnerships with other local schools within the Hampton area

How have we consulted on the proposal?

- We held a six-week consultation period between 9th September and 20<sup>th</sup> October 2019, including three meetings open to all.
- The background to the proposal was set out in widely-distributed leaflets in English and Polish
- All the consultation material can be found at <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/vaschools/>

What did the consultation tell us?

- We had 1,146 responses to the consultation questionnaire. Respondents gave their views on the proposal as follows:

<b>Views on proposal</b>	<b>Online</b>	<b>Paper</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Percent</b>
Strongly disagree	95	1	96	8.4%
Disagree	14	2	16	1.4%
Don't know	1	2	3	0.3%
Neither agree or disagree	1	8	9	0.8%
Agree	9	72	81	7.1%
Strongly Agree	114	827	941	82.0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>912</b>	<b>1,146</b>	

A fuller analysis of the consultation results is at Annex 2

What did those who disagreed say?

Three main themes emerged from those respondents who disagreed with the proposal:

- opposition in principle to a Catholic school, and/or faith-based schools generally;
- concern that the school would take children from beyond the Hampton East area, and thus not be a school for local children meeting the local demand for places from new housing; and/or have an adverse impact on the existing schools in the Hampton development
- opposition to a Catholic and/or faith-based school in Hampton East; some respondents said that they would prefer another type of school (such as an academy under Hampton Academy Trust or a community school).



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In addition, there was reference, including at the open meetings, to the proposed location of the school and possible traffic issues. A response to these is included in the section on Sustainability in the Prescribed Information below.

What did we change as a result of the consultation?

The recommended admissions policy now being published as part of the statutory notice has been amended from that originally published in the consultation.

In response to concerns about places for local children, one fifth of the available places stated in the Published Admission Number will be offered based on proximity to the school and without reference to faith. These places will be known as 'Open Places'. The revised policy is at Annex 3.

**Our conclusion**

In view of the significant support for the proposal, but also mindful of the sensitivities which have emerged in the consultation process, the Diocesan Trustees have decided to go forward to the next stage in the statutory process, known as the Representation stage, by publishing this statutory Public Notice.

We wish to thank all those who took the time to respond and/or come to our meetings.



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SECTION 2 – THE PRESCRIBED INFORMATION

PRESCRIBED INFORMATION REQUIRED TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE  
DECISION-MAKER

Required information	Proposer's submitted information
Proposer's contact details	The Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia, The White House, 21 Ugate, Poringland, Norwich, Norfolk, NR14 7SH <a href="mailto:office@rcdea.org.uk">office@rcdea.org.uk</a>  <b>Correspondence fao Helen Bates</b>
Implementation date	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2022
Who will implement the proposal?	The Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia will implement the proposal, although it will be the statutory duty of Peterborough City Council to provide the playing field for the school.  The ability to implement the proposal will be dependent on the DfE's current provisional funding approval for the capital building costs being confirmed in full.



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<p>Reason for the new school</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. The new school will provide additional school places in the housing development area of Hampton East, Peterborough. This will support the City Council in meeting its statutory duty of providing sufficient school places for its growing population.</li><li>2. The new school will provide new faith school places for the Hampton area, which is not currently served by a faith school.</li><li>3. A new Catholic primary school will enhance choice and diversity of education provision for parents within the Hampton area.</li></ol> <p>Further evidence on meeting need from housing growth</p> <p>Peterborough City Council's Local Plan to 2036 (published July 2019) identifies both Peterborough itself and Hampton East in particular, as areas of continuing housing growth. According to the City Council's most recent housing report in 2018, there were 19,212 outstanding housing allocations or approved planning permissions across Peterborough, just under half of which are within 2½ miles of the new school site. This report also states that there were 1,149 completed new dwellings from 2009 to 2017 in the Hampton area and a further 3,458 with planning permission yet to be built. When built, these dwellings alone could generate around 1,210 new primary pupils.</p> <p>Hampton Lakes, a new primary school which will ultimately serve Hampton Gardens and Hampton Beach, opened with 30 Reception places in September 2019 on the site of Hampton College. It will move to its permanent accommodation from September 2020.</p> <p>The City Council's School Organisation Plan 2018/19 identifies the need for a new primary school in the Hampton East area known as Hampton Waters, and it is this need which we are seeking to fulfil, as noted in the recently published 2019/20 version of the Plan.</p> <p>Thus, the proposed Catholic VA primary school will be the next in the planned sequence of primary schools opening in the Hampton area.</p>
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	<p>Further evidence on the need for new faith places</p> <p>The Diocese of East Anglia has identified a need for more Catholic school places in Peterborough. It has records of 347 baptisms of children due to start school between 2021-23 in the south of Peterborough. There is a notable need within the parish of St Luke’s, of which the Hampton area is part. The nearest Catholic school, Sacred Heart Primary, is 5 miles away from the proposed new school’s site and is full in all year groups.</p> <p>Further evidence on diversity of school provision in the Hampton area:</p> <p>None of the existing schools is a faith school. All but one of the local schools are academies, four of which are run by the locally-based Hampton Academies Trust.</p> <p>Diversity of educational provision that enables parents to express preferences for a wide range of schools for their children, has been part of national education policy for some years, with faith schools recognised in law and historical practice as playing a full part in a diverse range of provision.</p> <p>There is a need for greater diversity of provision in the Hampton area as its next phase of new school development begins.</p> <p>As Peterborough is one of the fastest growing cities in the country, the number of faith places needs expanding to maintain a reasonably proportionate level of places, so that as many parents as wish to can opt for a faith school.</p>
Category	Voluntary Aided
Ethos and religious character	<p>The school’s religious designation will be Roman Catholic.</p> <p>The vision for the school is based on the vision of the wider Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia Schools’ Service, as expressed by the existing VA schools across the Diocese and within the autonomous multi-academy trusts of the Diocese. This vision is rooted in the Catholic ethos, and is underpinned by a commitment to providing excellent outcomes for all pupils, to providing an inclusive and</p>



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	<p>nurturing environment to students of all faiths and none, and to being drivers of excellent standards in our schools and the wider communities in which the schools are located.</p> <p>The Catholic ethos will permeate all areas of the curriculum and underpin the school’s work and objectives. Pupils’ spiritual, moral, social, cultural and academic development will be at the heart of the school’s work, ensuring that pupils are well prepared for life in modern Britain. In order to prepare the pupils for secondary school and an ever increasingly fluid and dynamic workplace, the curriculum will also ensure that the children develop skills in communication, effective learning, creative thinking, team-work, problem solving and self-management.</p> <p>Ethnic, racial and cultural diversity is and always has been part of the identity of Catholic schools. Data for the two existing Catholic primary schools in Peterborough show that 72% of pupils across the two schools are Catholic, with children from Muslim families the second largest stated faith group.</p> <p>The new school will welcome children of all faiths and none, who respect the values of a Catholic education. There will be a strong sense of community that welcomes co-operation with geographically local schools as well as other Catholic schools within the Diocese.</p>
<p>Pupil numbers and admissions</p>	<p>In its first year of operation the new school will provide for three statutory-aged year groups as follows:</p> <p>Year R - a Published Admission Number of 30  Year 1 – a Published Admission Number of 15  Year 2 – a Published Admission Number of 15</p> <p>Thereafter, the Governing Body will consult on its proposed first admissions year (Year R) PAN when changes are proposed.</p> <p>The Nursery class will open with 30 full-time equivalent places.</p>
<p>Admission arrangements</p>	<p>The Governing Body will be the admissions authority and will have responsibility for admissions to the school. The local authority undertakes the co-ordination of admission arrangements during the normal admission round.</p> <p>The full admissions policy being recommended to Governors, is at Annex 3.</p>



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<p>Early years provision:</p> <p>Where the proposals are to include provision for pupils aged two to five—</p> <p>(a) details of how the early years provision will be organised, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number of places, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;</p> <p>(b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services, and how the proposals for the establishment of the school are consistent with the integration of early years provision with childcare;</p> <p>(c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;</p> <p>(d) assessment of capacity, quality</p>	<p>(a) We are proposing a nursery class for children who have reached their second birthday.</p> <p>The number of pupils and the sessional breakdown for individual pupils will vary term by term, but the number of full time equivalent places will be 30, subject to the floorspace required being made available through the Government’s capital funding provision for the school building.</p> <p>The Governing Body will determine the specification of the service provided, depending on financial viability at any one time, but the Diocese anticipates that there will be 10 half-day sessions, Monday to Friday term-time only.</p> <p>Services for disabled children will be determined on the basis of individual need, based on the school’s SEN-D policies.</p> <p>The school will offer both 15 and 30 hour funding entitlement places.</p> <p>(b) Subject to financial viability, the school will also provide wraparound care through breakfast, after-school and holiday clubs. This will not only alleviate the current pressure on existing childcare providers, but also provide flexibility for parents, particularly for those families with children in more than one age group at the school. Information available from the City Council (shown in Annex 4) indicates that there is very limited holiday care for school-aged children in the immediate surrounding area. There is an existing network of providers with which the provision can link, and across which parents can identify the setting most appropriate to their needs.</p> <p>(c) The housing trajectory within the Peterborough Local Plan shows that demand will rise over the next 10 years as further houses are built, and that there will be a need for additional early years provision to meet parental demand. Details are in Annex 4.</p> <p>(d) Childcare sufficiency information from Peterborough City Council shows that average occupancy rates of EYFS</p>
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<p>and sustainability of provision in schools, and in settings outside of the maintained school sector which deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) within three miles of the school;</p> <p>(e) the reasons why schools and settings outside the maintained school sector which deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within three miles of the school and which have spare capacity, cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the numbers of such children.</p>	<p>provision within the Hargate, Hempsted and Hampton Vale wards are higher (83.4%) than for all settings within 3 miles (80.7%) and the City average (73.8%)</p> <p>In summer 2019, 11 Peterborough providers within three miles of the proposed new nursery class had reached the occupancy rate which is regarded as significantly restricting parents being able to access a full time place at the setting. (This level is 89% for day nurseries and 91% for pre-schools.) The detail is shown in a table at Annex 4.</p> <p>There are six day-care providers within 3 miles in the Cambridgeshire area but occupancy data is not available for these, other than for funded places. In July 2019 three of the six had more funded place claimants than number of places.</p> <p>Overall, whilst there is some capacity within the three-mile radius, expected levels of growth mean that demand will outweigh supply and available provision will not provide the desirable flexibility for parents, without the addition of further provision, such as we are proposing.</p> <p>Annex 4 provides a table showing the quality of provision within the three-mile radius.</p> <p>(e) There are no settings within three miles of the new school which will be able to meet the demand from the continuing housing growth.</p> <p>The new early years provision at the new Hampton Lakes Primary School (due to open September 2020) will not alleviate all the demand for early years provision in this area with the level of growth anticipated, particularly considering the additional demand from the extended entitlement for eligible three and four-year-olds (30 hours free childcare for working families), which is still increasing term on term.</p> <p>Peterborough’s existing early years providers have successfully expanded (both in terms of creating additional floorspace/increasing numbers and expansion of operational hours) in previous years to accommodate changes to the two-year-old free early education entitlement and more recently the extended entitlement for three and four-year-olds.</p> <p>It is extremely unlikely that existing providers within this area will be able to accommodate any further expansions due to site restrictions.</p>
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	<p>The Diocese believes that its proposed nursery class and its proposed wrap-around care, will help mitigate the pressures in the local area.</p>
<p>Special educational needs provision</p>	<p>The school will not have provision that is recognised by the local authority as reserved solely for children with special educational needs.</p> <p>Although it will not have such designated places, the school will ensure that all pupils on roll with special needs are fully included in the opportunities the school offers. Like all Catholic schools in the Diocese of East Anglia, it will meet the needs of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEN-D) through a range of strategies that are rooted in the rights and dignity of every child. These include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a clearly understood line of communication between parents/carers and staff that enables issues about a child’s development, in all senses, to be identified promptly;</li> <li>• involvement of the SEN-D Coordinator at an early stage to develop strategies that meet identified needs. These might include working with the class teacher to plan provision for an individual child and providing advice and support to that child’s parents/carers;</li> <li>• supporting an application for an Education, Health and Care Plan where this is appropriate;</li> <li>• referral to a range of external professionals, including educational psychologists, speech and language therapists and behavioural support services.</li> </ul>
<p>Curriculum</p>	<p>The proposer confirms that the school will meet the general requirements in relation to the curriculum contained in section 78 (National Curriculum) and section 80 (Basic Curriculum) of the Education Act 2002</p>
<p>Relevant experience of proposers</p>	<p>The Diocese sets high standards and expectations for all its schools and has an uncompromising commitment to maintaining excellent outcomes and assuring excellent progress for all pupils. The new school, as are all existing Diocesan schools, will be strongly focused on pupils receiving the very best education and having a solid foundation to begin a lifelong learning experience. We nurture happy, confident pupils with enquiring minds who learn to succeed and contribute to the wider community. The Schools’ Service can demonstrate a Diocese-wide strong track record.</p>



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Currently 93% of Diocesan schools have an inspection rating of 'Good' or better. Eight out of the 28 schools have shown improvement between their last two inspections, confirming the Diocese's commitment to school improvement.

There are rigorous, comprehensive procedures for monitoring all schools within the Diocese. For example, where a school is placed in an Ofsted "category", the Diocese will work with schools and trusts to identify those areas of provision where there is a need for improvement. The Diocese also identify those individuals from across its schools who will be able to provide the requisite support and challenge to the school and individuals within the school. Similarly, for those schools where pupil performance data indicates that pupils in the school are underperforming, the Diocese will ensure that this becomes a focus within the School Improvement Plan and will provide the requisite support and challenge. For example, where pupil performance in English/literacy indicate a cause for concern, the Diocese will deploy colleagues who will be able to work with teachers and other staff to provide direct support to individual pupils and groups of pupils as well as support/professional development to the relevant staff.

Targets will be linked to the School Improvement Plan, pupil progress and the Catholic ethos of the school. Senior Leaders will have an additional leadership target linked to their role. Designated governors alongside an Independent Advisor will lead the Performance Management of the headteacher. Termly reviews will support teachers to stay on track to achieve their targets, offer challenge and advice.

The Diocese of East Anglia Schools' Service currently oversees 28 schools. The Diocesan Schools' Service is highly experienced and has a well-established infrastructure to provide strong and effective governance.

The Diocesan Schools' Service will keep strategic oversight of the school, ensuring the strong vision for Catholic education is adhered to. The Diocese expects a commitment within its schools to providing outstanding services in the school, value for money and a culture of collaboration in order to drive continuous school improvement.

The Diocese understands the importance of excellent governance in running an outstanding school. The governance structure for all our schools has been devised to not only comply to DfE regulations, but also to ensure





































