

Wellfield Infant and Junior Schools – Proposal to Amalgamate

Representation Period Comments and Responses

On 2 September 2021, the Council published statutory notices of its intention to discontinue (close) Wellfield Junior School and to extend the age range of Wellfield Infant School to offer provision for pupils aged 3 years to 11 years. The Council announced a 4 week statutory representation period that lasted until 29 September 2021.

The Council received two responses to its consultation, both consultees objected to the proposal. It appears that one consultee may have misunderstood the proposal and one consultee did not express any reasons for objecting.

We responded directly to both consultees and the responses provided are detailed below.

Comment 1

From my point of view, it's not good to amalgamating Wellfield Infant and Junior School.

As per your figure, the M33 area is not having less students, but much more than before, therefore, we should keep both schools in order to expend and absorb new students.

Furthermore, it's not easy for small kids to get use of the new environment, this may bother them for both the mental health and academic aspects, especially the time is coming for high school selection and grammar school examinations. This merge could ruin their path to achieve their goal.

Please kindly re-consider, and I object the action of amalgamation.

Response 1

Thank you for your comments regarding the proposal to amalgamate Wellfield Infant and Junior School.

However, I think you have misunderstood the proposal which simply aims to bring together the two separate schools under one Headteacher and one Board of Governors.

The number of available places in each year group will remain the same. Infant aged children will be taught in the same classrooms as they are now and Junior aged children will continue in the junior building.

The amalgamation will enable better continuity and progression of children's work, particularly between Key Stage 1 (5-7) and Key Stage 2 (7-11,) and so create additional opportunities for improved educational standards and achievement.

The amalgamation will provide opportunities to increase the range of expertise and experience of teaching staff and provide opportunities for improvements in the deployment and development of teachers. It will offer increased opportunities for staff to develop their professional interests and skills. This will assist in the recruitment and retention of staff by providing greater professional opportunities.

It will enable the School to develop a single vision for the future. The amalgamation will provide opportunities for development of the curriculum and in particular enhance the delivery.

Your comments and my response will be included in the final report to the decision maker for consideration.

Comment 2

Regarding the proposal of amalgamation of Wellfield Infant and Junior Schools. I would like to vote for objection. I'm not agree with the proposal.

Response 2

Thanks you for your comments.

Your comments will be included in the final report to the decision maker for consideration. The decision maker must follow statutory guidance provided.