



# Haverling

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# Parklands Infant and Junior Schools

## Proposed Amalgamation

# What is an amalgamation?

- ▶ Amalgamation is process of merging two (or more) existing schools to form a single school.
- ▶ In this case; the merging of both Parklands Infant School and Parklands Junior School to create one new single primary school.
- ▶ The process would mean that Parklands Infant School which presently caters for pupils aged between 2 and 7 with a capacity of 405pupils (including the 45FTE nursery provision) would close and a primary school would be established by altering the lower age range of Parklands Junior School which currently caters for pupils aged between 7 and 11 with a capacity of 480 pupils.
- ▶ The amalgamation of both schools would mean that the primary school would cater for children aged 2 to 11 with a capacity for 885 pupils.
- ▶ All the children currently in Parklands Infant and Parklands Junior schools will automatically become pupils in the primary school.

# Why is this amalgamation being proposed?

- ▶ The proposal is in line with our strategic objective of bringing separate Infant and Junior schools together where appropriate and where it is practical to do so if an opportunity arises to form a primary school.
- ▶ The retirement of the Headteacher of Parklands Infant School in December 2020 provides a natural opportunity to review the organisation of the school and consider the needs of current and future pupils.
- ▶ The two schools currently have different ethos. An amalgamation will enable a new collaborative ethos to be formed which would aid the development and running of education provision from nursery to Year 6 provided in a continuous and logically progressed curriculum which is proven to be educationally beneficial

# What are the benefits of amalgamation

Benefit to stakeholders include;

## Transition

- ✓ One single Primary School for families to apply to and children to attend
- ✓ Reduces application processes and creates far easier transition process as children move from Key Stage 1 [infants] to Key Stage 2 [juniors]
- ✓ Children and families get to know all staff much earlier in their schooling - seeing and interacting with staff who teach the older children
- ✓ All staff get to know children much quicker
- ✓ Less information sharing is required as staff, families and children all working together under one primary school and any issues, concerns etc, will be dealt with as a whole school.
- ✓ Further consistent approach to teaching, learning and the whole school curriculum approach

## Overall School Benefits - also benefitting children and families

- ✓ A single Head Teacher, as part of a restructured Senior Leadership Team, would be able to make changes and take a whole school approach
- ✓ A more efficient school leadership and management system enabling leaders to have the required overview to make the best decision for a school as a whole
- ✓ Sharing of best practice across Early years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2
- ✓ Efficiencies in school resource management including the overall school budget
- ✓ Staff development & deployment - often primary teachers prefer to work across the whole age range as it gives greater scope for improvement and development. All staff will have the opportunity to work across the whole primary age range.
- ✓ School inspectors and school leaders would be able to make judgements more accurately about the education children receive when they can see 'the whole picture' rather than in separate schools

## Impact of the amalgamation on staff

- ✓ There are no substantive changes as a result of amalgamation compared to remaining as you are.
  
- ✓ Instead of an Infant and Junior School Governing Body, there will be a Primary School Governing Body which will have the same role, responsibilities and authority as the current Governing Bodies and so nothing changes.
  
- ✓ As it is the Junior School that is being expanded to become a Primary school the Junior Head will become the Primary Head and so for those in the Junior school nothing changes. For the Infants, irrespective of amalgamation you will be having a new Head and so nothing changes.
  
- ✓ The Head of a Primary School has the same role, responsibilities and authority as the Head of an Infant and Junior School and so nothing changes
  
- ✓ As Parklands Primary will continue to be a community school you will all remain as employees of London Borough of Havering and all your terms and conditions of employment will stay the same and so nothing changes

# What happens next?

The Local authority will consider views & feedback from this consultation which ends on 18 January 2021 to decide whether to publish a notice proposing the closure of the infant school and altering the age range of the junior school to become a primary school.



If the decision is to proceed, the LA publishes a statutory notice on 26 February 2021 for a 4 week period, inviting people to make final representations or objections to the proposal.



LA considers any representations or objections received during the notice period and decides on the proposal

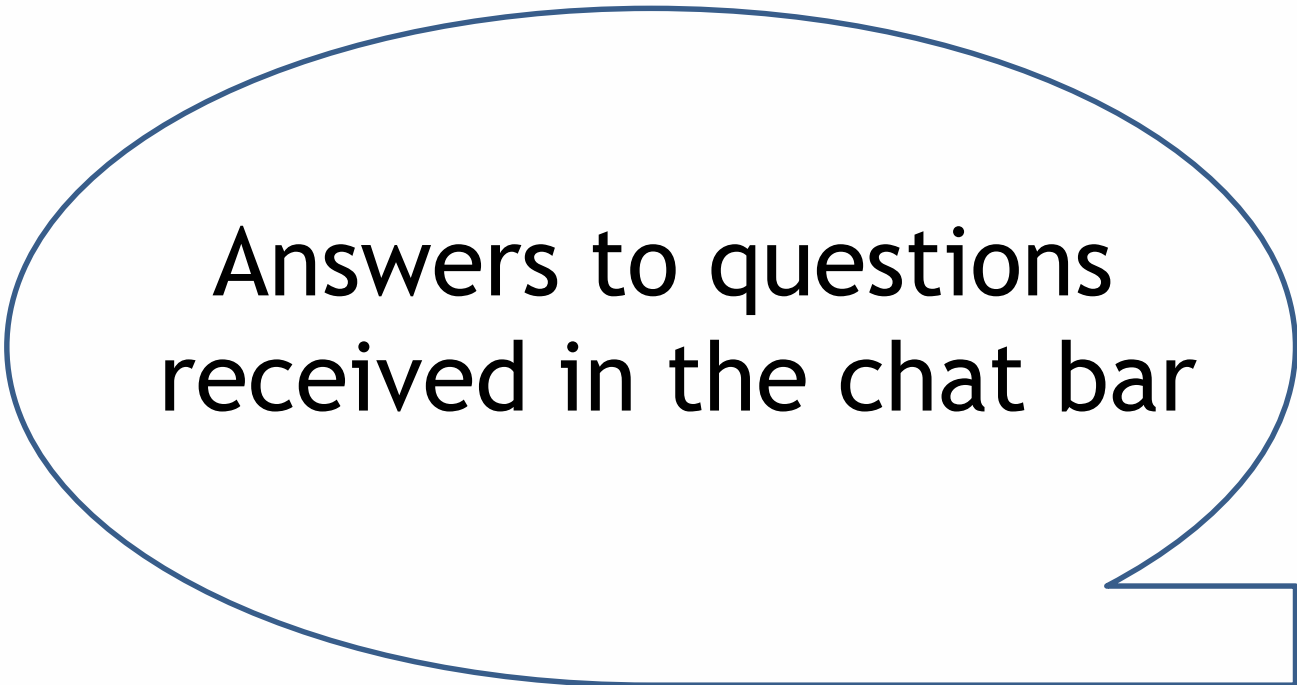


If approved, a Primary school will be legally established



The primary school opens September 2021





## Answers to questions received in the chat bar

**You can make your views known and respond to the consultation by completing the survey questionnaire online:**

**<https://consultation.havering.gov.uk/education/parklands-amalgamation>**