

SHEFFIELD CITY COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE LEADER DECISION RECORD

The following decision was taken on 07 December 2017 by the Leader of the Council.

Date notified to all members: Thursday 7 December 2017

The end of the call-in period is 4:00 pm on Wednesday 13 December 2017

Unless called-in, the decision can be implemented from Thursday 14 December 2017

1. **TITLE**

Primary School Reorganisation: Clifford CE Infant School and Ecclesall CE Junior School

2. **DECISION TAKEN**

That the Leader approves the proposal to bring together Clifford Infant and Ecclesall Junior as a through primary school by:

(i) increasing the upper and lower age-range at Clifford CE Infant School as described in the statutory proposal from 1st September 2018; and

(ii) the closure of Ecclesall CE Junior School as described in the statutory proposal on 31st August 2018.

3. **Reasons For Decision**

These proposals represent the statutory approach required to bring Clifford Infant School and Ecclesall Junior School together under one leadership structure and ensuring the bulk transfer of pupils to Ecclesall Primary School in September 2018. Extensive discussions with parents have indicated that this approach is the one supported by most parents and has the full support of all three schools' governing bodies.

4. **Alternatives Considered And Rejected**

The proposals within this report emerged from discussions with parents in Autumn 2016 about the preferred approach to transition for pupils into Year 3 across all three schools. The alternative option considered within these discussions was a 'phased approach'. This would have meant Ecclesall Infant School growing over a four-year period to become a 'through' primary school and the junior school reducing its size over the same period. This approach did have some support from parents however the current proposals had a higher level of support from both parents and governors. Reasons for this included, having siblings in the same school, taking advantage of the new buildings and playspace, and some from Clifford felt this gave an earlier opportunity for Clifford to develop the junior school under the Clifford leadership.

5. **Any Interest Declared or Dispensation Granted**

None

6. **Respective Director Responsible for Implementation**

Executive Director, People Services

7. **Relevant Scrutiny Committee If Decision Called In**

Children, Young People and Family Support Scrutiny Committee