

Application for consent to propose a Catholic primary school in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames

Section 10 Application Form

APPLICATION FORM FOR Proposers (other than Local Authorities) TO APPLY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE, FOR AGREEMENT TO PUBLISH PROPOSALS FOR A NEW FOUNDATION, STATUTORY TRUST (foundation school with a statutory foundation), FOUNDATION SPECIAL (with or without a Trust) OR VOLUNTARY TRUST SCHOOL UNDER SECTION 10 OF THE EDUCATION AND INSPECTIONS ACT 2006

Please complete all sections and submit to School Organisation & Operations Team mailbox at school.organisationproposals@education.gsi.gov.uk (or by post: School Organisation & Operations Team, DfE, 2F Area D, Mowden Hall, Darlington, DL3 9BG).

1. Details of proposer and proposed school including:
Title of Proposing Body: The Diocese of Westminster
Local Authority area: London Borough of Richmond upon Thames
Site details (e.g. single/split site, freehold/leasehold tenure): The Council has agreed to purchase this four-acre site. Negotiations are underway for a sufficient part of the site to be leased to the Diocese of Westminster at a peppercorn rate for a period of 125 years for the purpose of conducting a maintained primary school. The whole site consists of large buildings originally built as a girls' grammar school, and currently owned and occupied by Richmond Adult and Community College; together with playing fields and parking spaces.
Postal address: Richmond Adult and Community College, Clifden Road, Twickenham TW1 4LT
Age range: 3 – 11 years: primary school with one form of entry and a nursery.
Category (Foundation/Foundation Special/Voluntary Aided/Voluntary Controlled): Voluntary Aided.

Proposed opening date:

1st September 2012 or 1st September 2013.

Religious category (if any):

The proposed school will be a Catholic school within the trusteeship of the Diocese of Westminster.

Ethos:

As a Catholic school the proposed school will be established to support parents in their responsibility for their children's education. The goal of Catholic education is to draw out the potential in each person to the full, in a community which recognizes Christ as our guide and inspiration. Catholic schools provide the context within which teaching and learning are planned and take place. This is done in a structured way and in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. The further expression of its engagement in the mission of the Church is the school's contribution to the good of society and its culture. Community cohesion is a core value of this expression, as are ethnic and cultural diversity. These have always been a rich feature of the identity of a Catholic school.

Secondary Schools only - Proposed specialism (if any):

n/a

2. If the proposed school is to be a foundation school with a foundation (i.e. "Statutory Trust School"), information on the proposed foundation and current plans for membership:

n/a

3. Brief details of main reason for the proposed new school e.g. amalgamation/reorganisation, falling roles/surplus places, BSF/PCF, headteacher(s) retiring, new housing development or population growth:

The main reason for the proposed new school is a steady increase in parental demand for more Catholic primary places in the area. This is a combination of increases in population and the popularity of the existing Catholic primary schools. The new school will both reduce the pressure on community school places in Twickenham and enable local children, who currently have to travel further to access a Catholic school, to be educated nearer to home. Pupil numbers have risen considerably in this area of London over the past few years and this school will also cater for these children. The Council acknowledges the need for additional primary places in this part of the Borough.

4. Will the school replace an existing school or schools? If so, provide details of the closing school(s), (e.g. Postal address; Number of Pupils; Age range; Category) and proposed date for closure:

n/a

5. Statement on how the school will contribute to raising standards, including how it is proposed it will network with other schools in the area:

The proposed school will be part of a network of 216 schools in the Diocese of Westminster. 23% of Catholic maintained primary schools in the Diocese are judged outstanding by OFSTED and 86% are good or outstanding (corresponding national figures for all schools are 14% & 66%). There are no Catholic maintained schools in the Diocese judged inadequate. The six Catholic primary schools in the Borough are all good or outstanding. This background of academic excellence will be built on and replicated in the proposed school. The Diocese has an established track record of partnership with local authorities, as do the Catholic schools with other local schools. The proposed school will therefore be well placed to deliver high quality education for children of primary school age in the area. It will work with parents, governors and the wider community to serve the local area, engaging actively with other schools and the communities from which pupils are drawn.

6. Evidence of levels of parental demand for this school:

This can be seen clearly by the level of oversubscription in the existing Catholic primary schools in the Borough 2011 entry data:

School	Admission Number	Total applications
Sacred Heart	30	139
St James's	90	307
St Edmund's	60	166
St Elizabeth's	30	141
St Mary Magdalen's	30	119
St Osmund's	30	123
Total	270	995

7. Views of local community: evidence of informal or statutory consultation, copies of consultation documents, notes of meetings and feedback received (please list any documents attached):

There have been numerous consultations in Richmond upon Thames about the proposal for a new Catholic secondary school in the Borough. The feedback from all these consultations has also included representations about a shortage of primary school places, notwithstanding the expansion of St James in 2002. This is reflected in the number of parents whose applications for places in the existing primary schools are unsuccessful. The continuing pressure on places was also part of the consultation process which produced

the current Diocesan School Organisation Plan.

Full informal and statutory consultations will be held as part of the process of publishing proposals for the new school.

8. Contact details:

Name: Paul Barber **Tel No:** 020 7798 9005

E-mail: paulbarber@rodow.org.uk

Address: Diocese of Westminster Education Service,
Vaughan House,
46 Francis St,
SW1P 1QN

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