STATUTORY NOTICE

Amalgamation of Springhead Infant and Nursery School and Knowsley Junior School

Part 1: Closure of Springhead Infant and Nursery School and Closure of Knowsley Junior School

Notice is given in accordance with S15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Oldham Council, Civic Centre West Street, Oldham OL1 1UT intends to discontinue the following community schools with effect from 31 August 2014:

Springhead Infant and Nursery School, Cooper St, Springhead, Oldham OL4 4QT
Knowsley Junior School, Stoneleigh Road, Springhead, Oldham, OL4 4BH

This proposal is linked to the proposal in Part 2 to establish a new Community Primary School. It is proposed that all pupils attending Springhead Infant and Nursery School and Knowsley Junior School would automatically transfer to the new community primary school proposed in Part 2 below.

Part 2: Establishment of a new Community Primary School

Notice is given that Oldham Council, Civic Centre; West Street, Oldham OL1 1UT intends to establish a new Community Primary School under section 11, subsection A3, of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, as amended by the Education Act 2011. It is proposed that the school will open on 1 September 2014. The school will operate on two sites, situated at the existing Springhead Infant and Nursery School, Cooper Street, Springhead, Oldham, OL4 4QT and Knowsley Junior School, Stoneleigh Road, Springhead, Oldham, OL4 4BH. The new school will serve the wards of Saddleworth West and Lees and Saddleworth North.

The new school will draw upon the very best of practice in the two predecessor schools to create an outstanding primary school for the local community. The school will seek to provide an inclusive and rounded education enabling all children to achieve their very best whilst at the school and in applying their primary learning in later phases of education and life.

There is a Children’s Centre located in the grounds of the school. It is occupied by Action for Children under a commissioning arrangement with the council. The Centre provides a core offer of services to children under 5 years and their families. A District Advisory Board provides governance and stewardship of the children’s centre function which is a statutory duty.

A before and after school club and holiday club operates on the school site run by Squirrels Childcare Ltd servicing both Springhead Infant and Nursery School and Knowsley Junior School. The before and after school club is registered for 78 places and operates from 7.30am-9.00am and 3.00pm – 6.00pm during term time. The holiday club is registered for 78 places and operates 9.00am - 3.00pm, 8.30am - 12.30pm and 12.00pm - 6.00pm during school holidays.

The new school will cater for pupils between the ages of 3 and 11 years and provide places for 630 boys and girls. In addition, a further 39 full time equivalent places will be provided for nursery pupils. The admission number for the school on the opening date will be 90.

All applicants will be offered a place providing there are enough places in the school for everyone who applies. If the number of applications exceeds the admission number the following oversubscription criteria will be applied in priority order once places have been allocated to any pupil with a Statement of Special Educational Needs naming the school:

1. Children in care or children who have previously been looked after but immediately after being looked after became subject to an adoption, residence, or special guardianship order will be given the highest priority for admission.
2. Those children who are considered to have exceptional medical or social reasons as to why they should attend a particular school. Parents will be required to submit evidence to support their application under this criterion
3. Those children who already have a sibling at the school and who will still be attending when their brother/sister starts in reception.
4. Geographical proximity to school, with those families living next nearest to the school having higher priority. Distance is measured in a straight line between the home postcode and the schools postcode, measured electronically by GIS software within the admission database using Post Office data and Ordnance Survey data.

Oldham Council’s current Home to School transport policy will apply at the new school. The existing travel plans for the predecessor schools will continue to apply. This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: website address, or by writing to Oldham Council, Access Service, Civic Centre, Level 12, PO Box 40, West Street, Oldham OL1 1XJ

Within six weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposals by sending them to Oldham Council, Access Service, Civic Centre, Level 12, PO Box 40, West Street, Oldham OL1 1XJ

Michael Jameson
Director for Commissioning