

Consultation information:

Statutory Notice on the Proposal to
Amalgamate (combine) Cubitt Town
Infants and Cubitt Town Junior
Schools

XX Month XXXX



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Introduction

Notice is given in accordance with The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013 that Tower Hamlets Local Authority intends to discontinue Cubitt Town Infants School with effect from 31 August 2021. This notice includes the Local Authority's proposal to make a prescribed alteration to Cubitt Town Junior School to alter the lower age limit to create an all-through primary school, in accordance with The School Organisation (Prescribed Alternations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

Contact details

Name and address of Local Authority publishing the proposal:

Tower Hamlets Council, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, London, E14 2BG

Name, address and category of schools proposed to be amalgamated:

Cubitt Town Infants and Junior Schools, Manchester Rd, Isle of Dogs, London E14 3NE

Implementation

Date on which it is proposed to amalgamate the schools:

1 September 2021

It is proposed to implement the amalgamation as follows:

Cubitt Town Infants School will close from 31st August 2021.

Cubitt Town Junior School will alter its age range and convert to a 3 Forms of Entry Primary School from 1 Sep 2021.

All children attending Cubitt Town Infants School will transfer to the new Cubitt Town Primary School from 1st September 2021. Children currently attending Cubitt Town Junior School will continue in the new primary school.

Reason for Amalgamation

The Local Authority, in partnership with the governing bodies of Cubitt Town Infants and Junior Schools, is proposing that the two schools amalgamate to become one primary school in September 2021, admitting pupils from 3 to 11 years of age. This will include the current nursery provision at Cubitt Town Infants.

Tower Hamlets Education Policy is to move towards integrated 3-11 primary school provision, rather than maintain separate Infant and Junior Schools. This is beneficial to children's education because it reduces the stress caused by transition and optimises the expertise of the staff across the primary age range.

Both Cubitt Town schools already work closely together and engage in joint planning. Following the recent retirement of the Infant Headteacher the governing bodies and the Local Authority have reviewed the future for both schools and consider that now is the right time for both schools to combine to become a single 3-11 Primary School.

Pupil Numbers and Admissions

The numbers for whom provision is currently made at the school:

Cubitt Town Infants is a co-educational mainstream Primary School for pupils aged 4 to 7 with a Nursery provision for children from 3 years old. The school has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 90 for each year group. As at October 2020 the school had xx pupils on roll.

Cubitt Town Junior School is a co-educational mainstream Primary School for pupils aged 7-11. The school currently has a PAN of 90 for each year group. As at October 2020 the school had xx pupils on roll.

The Planned Admission Number for the new 3 – 11 primary school will be 90.

Displaced Pupils

This proposal forms part of an amalgamation, and therefore no pupils will be displaced. From 1st September 2021, pupils currently at Cubitt Town Infants School will have places at Cubitt Town Primary School. From September 2021 the current year 3 PAN at Cubitt Town Junior School will be removed and pupils in year 2 will automatically transition to year 3 in the primary school.

Impact on the Community

Cubitt Town Infants and Junior schools serve the same geographic area and are adjacent to each other. The proposal will provide certainty of progression to the junior phase and offer an all through primary education. Therefore, it is not anticipated that there will be any adverse impact on the community.

Rural Primary Schools

Not applicable

Balance of Denominational Provision

Not applicable

Nursery Provision

It is intended that the current nursery at Cubitt Town Infants will continue to operate under Cubitt Town Junior School through the proposal to alter its lower age limit.

There will be no change for children in the current setting – the location and staff will remain the same. Therefore, the provision will continue to be accessible and convenient for local families.

Sixth Form Provision

Not applicable

Special Educational Needs Provision

The schools do not provide educational provision recognised by the Local Authority as being reserved for children with special educational needs. There are 38 pupils on roll at Cubitt Town Infants School who have been identified as having special educational needs, of whom there are 6 pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan. There are 32 pupils on roll at Cubitt Town Junior who have been identified as having special educational needs, of which there are 13 pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan. Both schools have fully accessible buildings and currently share the same site.

Travel

There will be no change to the travel distance for the children currently attending Cubitt Town Infants School as they will continue to attend the same site at Manchester Rd, Isle of Dogs, London E14 3NE.

Finances

The Cubitt Town Infants financial balances will be transferred on the School's last business day (31st August 2020) to the new Cubitt Town Primary School, as part of the school's budget from 1st September 2021.

Procedure for Making Representations (objections and comments)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this statutory notice, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by:

Email: school.organisation@towerhamlets.gov.uk

Post: School Organisation and Place Planning Manager
Pupil Services and School Sufficiency
Tower Hamlets Children's Services
Town Hall
Mulberry Place
5 Clove Crescent
E14 5BG

Closing date for responses is 30th November 2020

We will not be able to consider any responses received after this date. All responses received during the representation period will be published on the Council's website in mid-December 2020. The website address is:

<https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Home.aspx>