



PUBLIC NOTICE

Proposal to change the age range of Ox close Primary School from 4-11 to 3-11 from 1 September 2024 to create a Primary School and to close Oxclose Nursery School as a Registered School on 31 August 2024.

Notice is given in accordance with Section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Durham County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to Ox Close Primary School (Community), Oxclose Crescent, Spennymoor DL16 6RU and to close Oxclose Nursery School (Community), Oxclose Crescent, Spennymoor DL16 6RU.

It is proposed to amalgamate Ox Close Primary and Oxclose Nursery Schools into a single primary school in a replacement new build on the Durham Road site of the former Tudhoe Grange Comprehensive School from 1 September 2024. This will be achieved by changing the age range of Ox Close Primary School from 4-11 to 3-11 from 1 September 2024 to create a primary school from that date and by closing Oxclose Nursery School as a registered school on 31 August 2024.

Ox Close Primary School and Oxclose Nursery School became part of the Ox Close Federation in November 2018 and this arrangement is working well. Amalgamating the two schools into a single primary school is a logical progression from the federation arrangement. Amalgamating the two schools into a single primary school so that it operates from a larger new build will also address the pressure on school places in Spennymoor.

The current capacity of Ox Close Primary School is for 315 pupils. Oxclose Nursery School has 39 full time equivalent (FTE) places. The capacity of the proposed primary school will be for 630 pupils with a 52 place (FTE) nursery unit. The proposed admission number for the proposed primary school will be 90.

Ox Close Primary School is judged as 'Good' by Ofsted and Oxclose Nursery School judged as 'Outstanding'. The council believes that amalgamating the two schools will lead to a model of education that benefits children and their families and the proposal will therefore not have any negative impact on the standard of education provided to children in these schools.

All services from the existing schools for the local community will continue to be provided if the schools become a primary school.

This Notice is an extract from the full proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained via an email request to: schoolorganisation@durham.gov.uk

It is also available on the County Council's website at: www.durham.gov.uk/consultations.

Within four weeks from the date of this publication any person may object or make comments on the proposal by emailing them to schoolorganisation@durham.gov.uk

Signed:

John Pearce
Corporate Director
Children and Young People's Services

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