

Diversity impact assessment

Appendix 2

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Name/description of the issue being assessed

Proposals to amalgamate Luton Infant and Junor Schools

DATE

Date the DIA is completed

1 April 2019

LEAD OFFICER

Name of person responsible for carrying out the DIA.

Paul Clarke – Programme Lead School Organisation and Capital Services

1 Summary description of the proposed change

- What is the change to policy/service/new project that is being proposed?
- How does it compare with the current situation?

Luton Infant School is a maintained community school, which currently provides education for pupils aged 3 to 7. At the last full Ofsted inspection in October 2018 the school was rated as 'Requires Improvement'. This is the third 'Requires Improvement' rating in a row since March 2014.

Luton Junior School is a maintained community school, which currently provides Key Stage 2 education for pupils aged 7-11. At its most recent Ofsted inspection in September 2017 the school was rated as 'Outstanding'.

The proposals will result in the schools amalgamating to become one primary school.

2 Summary of evidence used to support this assessment

- Eg: Feedback from consultation, performance information, service user records etc.
- Eg: Comparison of service user profile with Medway Community Profile

A period of informal consultation was undertaken between 4 February and 24 March 2019. During this time 35 responses were received, 31 approving the proposals and 4 either neutral (2) or objecting (2).

Whist the majority of all responses understood the educational benefits the proposals will provide the following were the objecting reasons.

The comments of those objecting was the impact of the proposals on local roads for traffic and parking, concerns about the building being demolished, concern about changes to the school, and one stating that transition isn't an issue between the schools.

Each of these is addressed within the Outcomes of consultation report. However it is believed that the benefits the proposals will deliver on the outcomes of the pupils who attend, outweighs the negative impacts that may arise from implementation.



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3 What is the likely impact of the proposed change?

Is it likely to:

- Adversely impact on one or more of the protected characteristic groups?
- Advance equality of opportunity for one or more of the protected characteristic groups?
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who don't?

(insert ✓ in one or more boxes)

Protected characteristic groups	Adverse impact	Advance equality	Foster good relations
Age		YES	
Disabilty	NA	NA	NA
Gender reassignment	NA	NA	NA
Marriage/civil partnership	NA	NA	NA
Pregnancy/maternity	NA	NA	NA
Race	NA	NA	NA
Religion/belief	NA	NA	NA
Sex	NA	NA	NA
Sexual orientation	NA	NA	NA
Other (eg low income groups)		YES	

4 Summary of the likely impacts

- Who will be affected?
- How will they be affected?

It is expected that any impacts will be positive e.g. primary aged pupils will be able to complete their primary education in one school, which is expected to improve outcomes and community cohesion, providing a seamless transition.

5 What actions can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impacts, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations?

- Are there alternative providers?
- What alternative ways can the Council provide the service?
- Can demand for services be managed differently?



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No impacts are expected to be negative, but all responses to the subsequent statutory representation period will be considered within the criteria set out above to assess any potential negative impacts.

6 Action plan

 Actions to mitigate adverse impact, improve equality of opportunity or foster good relations and/or obtain new evidence

Action	Lead	Deadline or review date
Monitor responses to statutory representation period	PC	June 2019

7 Recommendation

The recommendation by the lead officer should be stated below. This may be:

- to proceed with the change implementing action plan if appropriate
- consider alternatives
- gather further evidence

If the recommendation is to proceed with the change and there are no actions that can be taken to mitigate likely adverse impact, it is important to state why.

Proceed with the change and implement proposals.

8 Authorisation

The authorising officer is consenting that:

- the recommendation can be implemented
- sufficient evidence has been obtained and appropriate mitigation is planned
- the Action Plan will be incorporated into service plan and monitored

Assistant Director

Date

Contact your Performance and Intelligence hub for advice on completing this assessment

RCC: phone 2443 email annamarie.lawrence@medway.gov.uk
C&A: phone 1031 email paul.clarke@medway.gov.uk

BSD: phone 2472 or 1490 email: corppi@medway.gov.uk
PH: phone 2636 email: david.whiting@medway.gov.uk

Send completed assessment to the Corporate Performance & Intelligence Hub (CPI) for web publication