



Swaffham CE VC Infant School

## School Organisation in Swaffham

### **Proposal to change the age range of Swaffham CofE VC Infant School to admit pupils from 2 up to the age of 11 years, from 1 September 2020.**

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the Governing Body of Swaffham CofE VC Infant School, White Cross Road, Swaffham, Norfolk PR37 7RF, intends to make a prescribed alteration to change the age range of the school from 3 – 7 years to 2 – 11 years from 1 September 2020.

Swaffham CofE VC Infant School will change its name to Heartwood CofE Primary School.

The current capacity of the school is 180 and the proposed capacity will be 210. The Nursery will have 30 full time places for 2, 3 and 4 year olds. The current admission number for the school is 60 pupils and the proposed admission number will be 30 pupils. The current number on roll at the school is approximately 177.

The Governing Body of the school will implement this proposal.

This proposal could help reduce the volume of traffic in Swaffham as parents with more than one child would need only to drop their children off at one site instead of the current two schools; Infant and Junior.

All statutory consultation requirements relating to this proposal have been complied with.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/swaffham-1> or by contacting the School Organisation Team (Bay 34), Floor 8, FREEPOST IH2076, Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DH.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to the School Organisation Team (Bay 34), Floor 8, FREEPOST IH2076, Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DH or by email to [schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk)

Signed: Clare Hedges, Chair of Governors, Swaffham CofE VC Infant School

Publication Date: 27 February 2019



**Swaffham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant School  
Statutory Proposal to change the Age Range to admit pupils  
from the age of 2 – 11 years from 1 September 2020.**

**1. School details**

<b>Name</b>	Swaffham CofE VC Infant School
<b>Type</b>	Community
<b>Address</b>	White Cross Road, Swaffham, Norfolk PR37 7RF
<b>Age Range</b>	3 – 7 years
<b>Capacity</b>	180 pupils; Numbers on roll January 2019 = 177
<b>Ofsted</b>	Last Ofsted; 28 February 2017      Rating; Good

The school currently has an admission number of 60 places offered at Year Reception (YR). Pupils transfer to a Junior School at the end of Year 2.

**2. Local Authority details**

Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DL

**3. What changes are proposed?**

The Governors, the Diocese of Norwich and Norfolk County Council are proposing the following changes to Swaffham CofE VC Infant School;

- Change the age range of from 3-7 years to 2 – 11 years, from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020. The school will be for pupils from Year Reception through to Year 6.
- Swaffham CofE VC Infant School to become a primary school, called Heartwood CofE Primary School.
- The Nursery will have 30 full time places for 2, 3, and 4 year olds.
- The admission number at the school will be 30, with a capacity of 210 pupils.

Norfolk County Council has a duty to ensure a sufficient supply of school places to respond to housing growth and other demographic changes. This proposal is responding to the major housing allocation of at least 1000 new homes in Swaffham by proposing a significant change to the way the primary phase of schooling is organised in the area to provide the extra places from the new homes. Currently across the Infant and Junior School, there are 60 places per year group (2 classes of 30 children). The planned growth in Swaffham shows that in the future, we will need 90 primary phase places in Swaffham (3 classes of 30 children).

- Greater opportunity for relationships between pupils, parents and the school to build over a longer period of time, allowing the school to understand better the needs of each pupil.
- Greater scope to create a single and continuous approach to the curriculum, with as single policies for handwriting, reading, maths and behaviour etc.
- Greater capacity to track pupil progress between key stages
- More development opportunities for the staff, such as shared training and the chance to work more closely across the curriculum and gain experience and understanding of all key stages.

This proposal, along with the linked proposal for Swaffham CofE Junior Academy, offers parents the choice of two primary schools in the Swaffham area.

**5. When will the changes happen?**

If the proposal is agreed by the local authority decision maker; the Executive Director of Children's Services, Norfolk County Council (following full consultation), it is intended that the change in age range will be implemented on 1 September 2020.

**6. Will there be any effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area?**

Yes. Swaffham CofE Junior Academy currently takes children from Swaffham CofE VC Infant School at Year 3. This proposal is linked to a similar proposal by the Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust (DNEAT) to change the age range to 2 – 11 years and become a primary school called Swaffham CofE Primary Academy. There will be places for pupils from Reception through to Year 6. The admission number will be 60, with capacity for 420 pupils. If their proposal is approved, the school will also grow gradually into a primary school and the intake year will be Year Reception (YR). During the transition period upto September 2021, children at Year 3 will have the opportunity to apply to remain at the Infant School until Year 6, or transfer to Swaffham CofE Primary Academy.

Governors are aware of the Catholic Diocese of East Anglia proposal for a new non-fee paying Catholic Primary School in Swaffham, for 210 pupils, based on the Sacred Heart Convent School site, from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019. This proposal is currently out for consultation and a decision has not been made.

**7. How will this affect pupils at the school?**

Pupils will notice some changes as the building will need to be adapted for Key Stage 2 children. Any building work will be managed with the school, so that it does not affect the education of pupils.

Swaffham Infant School and Swaffham Junior Academy support the proposals to become primary schools, as it will reduce the number of transitions for children. Whilst there has been a good partnership between the schools to

As the school already have the number of classrooms required for a 210 pupil primary school, there will be sufficient space to accommodate the new Year 3 pupils in September 2020.

#### 10. Will this definitely happen?

No, there is a statutory process we must follow to make this type of change to schools. We completed the pre-statutory consultation on the draft proposal, which took place from 1 November to 13 December 2018. The consultation report is available on <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/swaffham-1>

We are publishing this final proposal for parents, pupil, staff, governors and any other interested people to object to, comment on, or make representations, as part of the statutory process.

#### 11. How can I make my views known?

Any person may object to, express support for, or make comments on the proposal;

- Online at <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/swaffham-1>
- Email us at [schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk)
- Write to us at: Swaffham Consultation, FREEPOST 1H 2076, Floor 8, Bay 34, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DH. You don't need a stamp.

All comments must be received by 27 March 2019.

#### 12. What happens next?

The following table sets out the key dates for the consultation and decision making. The Executive Director of Children's Services, Norfolk County Council is the decision maker.

At any point, the proposal may be withdrawn. The dates set out below meet the Department for Education requirements for consultation on school organisation proposals.

School organisation process	Date
Public Notice published	27 February 2019
Statutory consultation (representation stage)	27 February – 27 March 2019
Decision required no later than	27 May 2019
If approved, Swaffham Infant changes to primary school	1 <sup>st</sup> September 2020