



# *St. John's Walworth CE Primary School*

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Friday 21st May 2021

## **Re: Proposed Closure of St John's Walworth Church of England Primary School**

In January 2021, the Governing Body of St John's Walworth, Church of England Primary School (SJW school) began a process of consultation on a proposal to close the school in the light of reducing school rolls and the financial position at the school.

I am writing to you today to provide you with an update in this matter and to take the opportunity to explain what the next steps in the process will be.

A Statutory consultation with a wide range of stakeholders took place between 15<sup>th</sup> March and 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021 in order to gather views and comments regarding the proposal to close SJW school. The consultation was available to access on-line via the school's website and also, included a series of open meetings to which, families and local residents directly affected by the proposal as well as a comprehensive range of stakeholders in the wider community were invited to attend. Consultees including all of Southwark's Councillors, local MPs, Southwark primary schools across the borough were able to provide their views over the entire, eight-week period of consultation.

The school's Governing Body met on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to consider all views and comments that had been submitted during the consultation period. There were no substantive objections from stakeholders, nor were any viable alternative proposals submitted to prevent the need to proceed with the closure of the school. In the light of this, the SJW school's Governing Body have taken the decision to proceed to the next stage of the process which is to publish a statutory proposal to close the school.

Full details of the statutory proposal will be sent to a prescribed list of consultees as set out in the regulations covering this process, and will also be available on the school's website - this second consultation period will last from 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021 to the 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2021.

The Governing Body would also like to share their gratitude with you, our dedicated and faithful community for the efforts you have made, under the tireless leadership of Mr Billson, to address the formidable challenges our school has faced.

Yours sincerely

Usha Singh  
Chair of Governors