KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:
Roger Gough,
Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:
16/00001

For publication

Subject: Proposed amalgamation of Woodlands Infant School and Woodlands Junior School, Hunt Road, Tonbridge TN10 4BB

Decision: amalgamation of Woodlands Infant School and Woodlands Junior School, Hunt Road, Tonbridge TN10 4BB

As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I agree to:
Recommendation(s): To issue a public notice to:
(i) Discontinue Woodlands Infant School and Woodlands Junior School, Hunt Road, Tonbridge, TN10 4BB and establish a single, three form of entry community primary school by September 2016.

And, subject to no new objections to the public notice
(ii) Make recommendation to the Schools Adjudicator for determination for implementation by September 2016.

Reason(s) for decision:
In reaching this decision I have taken into account:
• the views expressed by those put in writing in response to the consultation;
• the views of the District and Parish Councils, the local County Councillor; Governing Bodies of the schools, the Staff and Pupils;
• the Equalities Impact Assessment and comments received regarding this; and
• the views of the Education Cabinet Committee which are set out below

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:
21 January 2016
At its meeting the Cabinet Committee for Education and Young People’s Services resolved to endorse the recommendation that the Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform takes decision (16/00001) to:
Issue a public notice to:
(i) Discontinue Woodlands Infant School and Woodlands Junior School, Hunt Road, Tonbridge, TN10 4BB and establish a single, three form of entry community primary school by September 2016.

And, subject to no new objections to the public notice
(ii) Make recommendation to the Schools Adjudicator for determination for implementation by September 2016.

15 December 2015
The Committee endorsed the Kent Commissioning Plan 2016-20, which recommends the consideration of the amalgamation of separate infant and junior schools to provide all age Primary schools, where appropriate, because of the benefits they offer including better continuity of learning.

Any alternatives considered:
This proposal is aligned to Kent County Council’s commitment to maximising the educational opportunities for children as set out in the Kent Education Commissioning Plan 2015-2019, which recommends the consideration of the amalgamation of separate infant and junior schools to provide all age Primary schools, where appropriate, because of the benefits they offer including better continuity of learning.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer: N/A

Signed

Date: 27/01/2016