

WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

RECORD OF OFFICER EXECUTIVE DECISION

Date Of Decision	06/02/2014
Decision Maker	Gail Quinton in consultation with the Cabinet Member <i>Gail Quinton</i>
Brief Description Of Decision	<p>The Local Authority has recently received a request from the Governing Body of the Federated schools of Evesham High and Simon de Montfort Middle to formally change the structure from two schools to one school with one DfE number.</p> <p>To achieve this easily and with minimum disruption one school has to close, ideally the smaller school of Simon de Montfort and the age range of Evesham High extended.</p> <p>Only the Local Authority can close a maintained school. The process requires a consultation, which the school is happy to lead followed by a Cabinet report with permission to publish a statutory proposal.</p> <p>A consultation can be authorised by the Director in consultation with the Cabinet Member with Responsibility.</p>
Reason(s) For Decision	<p>In many respects this is formalising the situation operating at the moment. This is a hard federation with one headteacher, one governing body and staff employed by the federation. The Governing Body and Leadership Team plan the curriculum and use of staff maximising the resources across both schools to the benefit of the children and the school argues that administratively it will be easier to manage one school avoiding a lot of cross billing between the two school budgets.</p> <p>They do not intend to change the staffing structure so will be offering posts to all the staff.</p> <p>An advantage for the children and families would be that the students will not have to apply for a place at the high school when they finish the 'middle school years' as it will be one school but the PAN at the high school will allow for more children to join in Year 9 from the other feeder school of Blackminster Middle.</p>
Alternative Options Considered	<p>An amalgamation which would involve the closure of both schools and the opening of a new school. This involves a presumption that the new school will be an academy. The Governing Body has considered academy status and does not wish to convert.</p> <p>The Governing Body wish to build on the 5 years of joint working and building relationships to move to a single school with the least amount uncertainty and disruption.</p>

And Rejected	
Any Conflict of Interest declared by a consulted Cabinet Member/ any dispensation granted	NA