

Amalgamating Nevill Road Infant School and Nevill Road Junior School into a single primary school

Stockport Council Consultation

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INTRODUCTION

Stockport is immensely proud of its children and young people and recognise that they are our future. We all must acknowledge the great responsibility we have to ensure our children and young people have the best start to life, they are happy and safe, and they have the opportunity, skills and passion to thrive.

Our schools and colleges give them the foundations they need to prepare them for adulthood and achieve their aspirations. The importance of education and schools as key anchors in neighbourhoods is vital. We want our families to feel supported, empowered and connected to their community.

We want to move forward with that spirit of togetherness and inclusion, and work with schools and communities to plan our priorities to:

- Align and underpin the offer of our Schools so that it meets the needs of its community
- Enhance our early offer, ensuring all children, young people and families receive the help they need, when they need it and before things escalate
- Deliver our SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disability) Strategy to ensure children and young adults with SEND have the best start in life and the opportunity to improve the emotional wellbeing for all children
- Equip children in care and care leavers with the skills needed to live a fulfilling, successful and rewarding life through delivery of our Corporate Parenting Strategy

We believe the fundamentals to delivering our vision for Children and Young People in Stockport is:

- Strong leadership
- Clear and consistent ethos about learning and life
- Fostering a sense of belonging and significance within schools and colleges
- Quality teaching and learning opportunities
- Learning environments suited to providing quality learning and to the needs of its pupils

About this consultation

Each time an infant or junior school Headteacher announces their intention to leave their school, consideration is given to whether the schools should become a single primary school. Ms Judi Cliff, Headteacher at Nevill Road Junior School will leave the school at the end of the 2025/26 academic year. As such, we are seeking views about whether Infant and Junior schools should become a single primary school. If the proposal was to go ahead, the amalgamated primary school would come into effect on the 1st September 2026.

Who is this for

This is for anyone with a role or interest in Nevill Road Infant School or Nevill Road Junior School or their local community. It may include:

- Parent/Carers
- Staff
- Governing Bodies and academy trusts
- Other local authorities
- Schools, including free schools and academies
- Other interested parties

Key dates

This consultation was published on **21 January 2026** and will close at 11:59pm on **24 February 2026**.

How to have your say

RESPOND ONLINE

To help us analyse the responses please use the online system wherever possible.

Visit www.stockport.gov.uk/haveyoursay to submit your response.

OTHER WAYS TO RESPOND

If for exceptional reasons, you are unable to use the online system, for example because you use specialist accessibility software that is not compatible with the system, you may download a PDF version of the consultation document and respond either via email or post.

If you are not responding via the online survey, please can you ensure you provide:

- your name
- relevant contact details
- whether you are responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation, along with your role
- whether you would like your responses to be kept confidential within your response.

By email

Admissions.consult@stockport.gov.uk

CONSULTATION

Following the resignation of Ms Judi Cliff, Headteacher at Nevill Road Junior School, we have taken this opportunity to embrace our commitment to engage with schools and local communities about how we achieve our vision for our children and young people.

We believe that amalgamating Nevill Road Infant School and Nevill Road Junior School into a single primary school will enhance the offer provided by both schools.

The Governing Boards of Nevill Road Infant and Junior Schools strongly support the proposed amalgamation. Bringing the two schools together supports the provision of clearer, more consistent leadership and governance, supports improved use of resources, and creates a seamless educational experience for pupils across all phases.

Key benefits we expect:

- *Unified leadership and staffing that improves curriculum continuity and professional development.*
- *More efficient use of site facilities and budgets, allowing investment in teaching, learning and pupil wellbeing.*
- *Stronger, joined-up pastoral support and smoother transitions for children and families.*
- *Greater opportunities for shared extracurricular provision and community engagement.*

We believe amalgamation will strengthen educational outcomes and safeguard local provision for the long term, and we therefore welcome the proposal.

Rationale

Leadership and vision

- A single governing body and one agreed vision and set of values to continue to drive up standards and promote continuity and progression
- Parents and carers of children who attend the primary school would benefit from knowing one school and one staff. They would know and understand how the school works and will not have to adjust to the demands of a different school as their child gets older

Transition and supporting pupils' progress

- One school would allow for high levels of consistency to be achieved throughout a pupil's time at the school and will provide better capacity for sustained improvement
- Removal of the need to go through the school admission process to transfer from the Infant school to the Junior school

- Removal of the need to change a school at the transition point between Key Stages 1 and 2 would eliminate the achievement 'dip' that can often be experienced at this time and any anxiety felt by pupils.
- Tracking of pupil progress and early intervention would significantly be enhanced for those pupils moving between early years, Key Stages 1 and 2 and SEND children.
- Expectations for behaviour and learning would be more consistent than if the schools were operating in two separate ways
- Pupils would have greater opportunities to access aspects of the curriculum which might otherwise be denied to them because of the phase in which they are working. Some pupils in Key Stage 1 might be ready to access aspects of the curriculum and staff in Key Stage 2 but this is difficult to achieve outside of an all through primary school
- The amalgamated primary school will have a Published Admission Number of 60 to keep the smaller school ethos

Sharing of resources / expertise and efficiency gains

- A better opportunity to build on the sharing of resources and expertise across early years, Key Stages 1 and 2 which in turn will support an enriched curriculum.
- Enable the single governing body to make efficiencies in the running of the primary school (particularly in respect of leadership, finance, administration and caretaking but also in other areas such as pastoral care, IT, etc.).

Recruitment and retention of staff

- Amalgamating both schools would be likely to lead to a more effective policy of recruitment and retention of staff. Nationally, there are significantly more primary schools than infant and junior schools, and teaching staff and non-teaching staff find that posts in primary schools are more attractive than posts in infant and junior schools as they offer better career development opportunities.
- A larger school, covering the full primary age range, offers improved opportunities to develop staff which in turn aids the retention of staff.
- Expertise can be targeted across the primary age range enabling senior leaders to more effectively deploy staff

Role models / social development of pupils

- Opportunities for children to work across early years, Key Stages 1 and 2 and support each other. 4 year olds will not be educated alongside 11 year olds, but pupils will have the opportunity to interact with different aged children. This can include older pupils having some appropriate pastoral responsibilities for younger children or supporting them with reading e.g., reading buddies

Consultation Questions

- 1. Do you support the proposal to amalgamate Nevill Road Infant School and Nevill Road Junior School in a single primary school?**

Yes

No

Don't know

If you disagree or don't know, can you suggest alternative proposal or provide further feedback?

- 2. Do you agree that a single leadership team can provide greater continuity and consistency to education and learning, as opposed to two separate leadership teams?**

Yes

No

Don't know

If you disagree or don't know, can you suggest alternative proposal or provide further feedback?

- 3. Do you agree that by providing more development opportunities to staff across all Key Stages that they may be able to provide better learning experience/opportunities to children?**

Yes

No

Don't know

If you disagree or don't know, can you suggest alternative proposal or provide further feedback?

- 4. Do you think Nevill Road Infant and Nevill Road Junior Schools currently meet the needs of their local community? In what ways do they / do they not meet local needs?**

Yes (Please provide additional comments)

No (Please provide additional comments)

Don't know

If you disagree or don't know, can you suggest alternative proposal or provide further feedback?

NEXT STEPS

Stage 1 - Publication

After consultation, the views expressed will be taken into account before a decision is made about whether to formalise the proposal.

If statutory proposals are published, they will be to expand the age range of Nevill Road Infant School to include Key Stage 2 provision and change its name to Nevill Road Primary School and to close Nevill Road Junior School. The amalgamated primary school will work in the same school buildings. The proposed Published Admission Number of the amalgamated primary school will be 60.

The statutory proposals must be published within 12 months of the end of the initial consultation period.

Stage 2 – Representation

If statutory notices are published, there will be at least a four week period during term time when people can make comments or objections about the proposal.

Stage 3 – Decision

After the representation period, all responses received will be considered and a final decision will be made on whether to implement the proposal.

Stage 4 – Implementation

The Governing Boards will work together with the Council to ensure a smooth transition for staff, parents and pupils.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

When would the amalgamated primary school be established?

If the proposal is agreed, it is hoped that a single primary school would be established by 1st September 2026.

Why change? How would the amalgamated school benefit my child?

A single school education has the benefit of providing continuity for your child.

The combined knowledge and skills of the staff means greater opportunities for individual teachers to improve their expertise, which in turn will benefit the learning opportunities for your child.

A single school education can bring consistency to teaching and learning throughout their primary school life.

Won't the amalgamated school be too big? - I'm worried my child will be lost or overwhelmed

It may sound big but it is only the same size as the current Infant and Junior Schools combined. The Published Admission Number for the school will be 60. Current year groups that are bigger than that will move through the school and no child will be asked to leave the school.

Would there be any disruption to my child's education?

The Council will work together with the staff, governors and parents/carers to ensure that this is kept to an absolute minimum. Careful planning with the full co-operation of all parties can avoid most disruption and many children are likely to see it as an adventure and something exciting to look forward to.

Would the staff be the same?

There is bound to be some staff movement at any time during a school year, however, staff at the infant and junior schools will be transferred to the amalgamated primary school. The

governing body will decide the staffing structure for the primary school and will ring-fence posts to staff in the existing infant and junior schools.

Who would be on the governing body of the amalgamated school?

The Governing Body of the amalgamated school will be made up from members of both the current Governing Bodies of the Infant and Junior schools. The amalgamated school will remain a community school

Would I have to buy a new school uniform?

This will be decided by the governing body however they will be mindful of the costs of any immediate change.

Would we get a new school building?

No. There are no plans for a new building, but the school may need to make small changes to the space that is currently used to make sure it is used to its best potential.