

West Sussex County Council

Proposed Executive Decision for **25 April 2024** call-in deadline **5 p.m. on 7 May 2024**

The following proposed decision has been endorsed by the Cabinet Member and will come into effect at the end of the call-in period unless the call-in procedure is activated.

Decision Title & Ref No:	Consultation on proposal to change the status of Millais School, Horsham from an all girls' school to a co-educational school - CYPLS03 (24/25)
Cabinet Member responsible for decision	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Learning and Skills (Cllr Jacquie Russell)
Electoral Divisions	Horsham Riverside
Key Decision	Yes
Purpose	<p>Millais is a Local Authority maintained single sex girls' secondary school in Horsham for pupils aged 11-16. Demand for places at the school has been declining in recent years, evidenced by a reduction in the overall number of families applying for a place at the school as first preference. Reduced pupil numbers impact upon the finances available to schools and thereby on how the school can deliver opportunities for both staff and pupils.</p> <p>In addition, there has been a shortage of secondary pupil places for boys in the Horsham area and consequently some boys have had to be allocated places in schools outside the District. It is the responsibility of the Local Authority to provide sufficient places for all children in the area.</p> <p>To address these issues it is proposed that an initial consultation takes place to seek views on changing the status of Millais School from a single sex girls' school to a co-educational school with the first co-educational cohort admitted from September 2026. Approval is now sought to proceed with launching the initial consultation process.</p>
Decision	<p>The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Learning and Skills has:-</p> <p>(1) Approved the launch of a public consultation, in accordance with the Department for Education's Making significant changes ('prescribed alterations') to maintained schools, to seek views on the proposals to: change the status of Millais School from a single sex girls' school to a co-educational boys' and girls' school from September 2026.</p>
Interest and nature of interest declared	The Cabinet Member has declared a personal interest as a family member attends Millais School.
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contact	
Background papers	See report for details