

### Consideration of Department for Education Guidance

#### PROPOSAL TO EXPAND PROVISION AT ST MARY AND ST GILES CE SCHOOL BY ONE FORM OF ENTRY AT YEAR 3

<b>Related proposals</b>	There are no related proposals
<b>Education standards and diversity of provision</b>	This proposal builds on the success of an Outstanding school and larger facilities will enable a broader range of provision.
<b>A school-led system with every school an academy</b>	St Mary and St Giles CE School is not currently an academy however this proposal does not affect the school's decision to become an academy in the future. The council completed an early consultation providing stakeholders with the opportunity to put forward alternative solutions and express a preferred option. No alternative solutions were suggested.
<b>Demand v need</b>	In September 2015 Russell Street School, also in Stony Stratford, was expanded by 30 infant places due to projected increased demand in the local area. As anticipated, the number of pupils on roll at Russell Street School has increased and this means that up to 90 pupils will leave Russell Street School at the end of Year 2 in 2018. The typical transition route for these pupils is to move up to St Mary and St Giles CofE School; however the school currently has an intake at Year 3 of only 60 places. There are also a number of children that apply for a place at the school that live in the catchment area but attend other schools in Milton Keynes or attend schools just across the border in Northamptonshire.
<b>School size</b>	This proposal to expand would support future financial sustainability. The school's larger size would make it possible for the organisation to be even more efficient and effective. There would be greater opportunities for staff, making it more likely the existing high quality staff would be retained and high quality staff would be attracted to work at the school as it grows.
<b>Admission arrangements</b>	The expansion will ensure that local children attending Russell Street School will be able to transition to St Mary and St Giles CE School and continue to attend a school in their area. There is no adverse impact on pupil numbers at junior phase in nearby schools because population and housing growth is sufficient to fill the places.
<b>Equal opportunities</b>	There are no discrimination issues arising from this proposal.
<b>National curriculum</b>	The school follows the national curriculum.
<b>Community cohesion</b>	Stony Stratford is an historic market town in Milton Keynes with an established community. The expansion of this already successful and popular school will ensure that more families that live in the local area will be able to gain a place at St Mary and St Giles CE School and will minimise disruption at the end of Year 2. Local children will be able to attend their local school continuing their sense of community belonging and ensure a greater consistency of education for the local area.
<b>Travel and accessibility</b>	This proposal provides a significant benefit for families living in the local area as the additional places in Year 3 will mean that families will be able to access both Russell Street School and St Mary and St Giles CE School, both located in Stony Stratford.
<b>School premises and playing fields</b>	The expansion is compliant with DfE school premises regulations.