

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	8 June 2022
<b>Title:</b>	The Future of Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School, Andover – End of Public Notice Report
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

**Contact name:** Brian Pope, Assistant Director, Education and Inclusion

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#### 1. The decision:

1.1. That approval is given under the Education & Inclusion Act 2006, Schedule 2, part 2 paragraph 8 for the closure of Hatherden Church of England (Aided) Primary School with effect from 31 August 2022.

#### 2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1. Hatherden Church of England (Aided) School received an "Inadequate" Ofsted judgement in July 2019 and an academy order was served on the school by the Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) on 25 September 2019. Despite the RSC trying to find an academy sponsor since that time no sponsor has been able to be found.

2.2. Despite these efforts and in a continuing climate of low pupil numbers and, no desire from an academy sponsor to take the school on, the continuing challenges the school face cannot be allowed to continue beyond this academic year.

#### 3. Other options considered and rejected:

3.1. Specific discussions have taken place with the RSC about the potential of federation with another local school, however, the RSC has determined that this is not an option acceptable to them as it is not in line with the policy of the Department for Education and the academy order must remain in place.

#### 4. Conflicts of interest:

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None

**5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel:** Not applicable.

**6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent:** Not applicable.

**7. Statement from the decision maker:**

7.1. Can I take this opportunity to thank all of those who have contributed to this consultation and the commitment they have shown to the school throughout. Given the situation we face in relation to on-going pupil numbers, the RSC /DfE inability to secure an academy sponsor or allow the option of federation to be taken forward this difficult decision to close the school has had to be taken in the best interests of education.

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

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**Councillor Roz Chadd**

**8 June 2022**

**Executive Lead Member for Children's Services**