

## STATUTORY NOTICE

### **PROPOSAL TO CLOSE ST GREGORY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL, BOLLINGTON, MACCLESFIELD**

Notice is given in accordance with section 15 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Cheshire East Council intends to close St Gregory's Catholic Primary School, Albert Road, Bollington, Macclesfield, SK10 5HS, on 31 December 2023.

St Gregory's Catholic Primary School has the lowest pupil numbers of any school in Cheshire East. There are currently 6 children on roll in Reception, Years 1, 4 and 5 and to date nobody has expressed a 1st preference for their child to start in Reception for September 2024. Numbers of pupils in the school are now so low with no predicted demand for an increase in pupils in the short, medium, or long term.

The most recent Ofsted inspection (date 09/02/2022) judged the school to be "Inadequate". The Ofsted report identified many weaknesses and consequently a decision was made to seek an academy sponsor for the school which has been unsuccessful.

Children can be more effectively educated in a larger, more viable establishment that can offer a broader curriculum. There are schools within a reasonable travelling distance judged 'Good' by Ofsted that are capable of delivering such a curriculum. Consequently, the preferred option of the Council is to close St Gregory's Catholic Primary School on 31 December 2023 with the pupils currently on roll being enrolled and educated at alternative schools.

This Notice is an extract from the full proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from the Council's website: [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk) or via an email request to: [SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

The representation period runs from Wednesday 25 October 2023 until 11.59 p.m. on Sunday 26 November 2023. Any person may submit representations, which can be objections as well as expressions of support on the proposal. Please submit your comments by completing the online survey at [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk), or email to [SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk).

Signed: Deborah Woodcock

Executive Director of Children's Services

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