# STATUTORY NOTICE

**Proposal to Discontinue Four Catholic Voluntary Aided Schools and Establish a New English-Medium Catholic Voluntary Aided 3–18 School in Flintshire**

**School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 – Sections 41 and 43**

**Flintshire County Council, Tŷ Dewi Sant, St. Davids Park, Ewloe, CH5 3FF**

Notice is hereby given in accordance with section 43 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code 2026 that Flintshire County Council, having undertaken the required statutory consultation proposed to discontinue the following voluntary aided schools:

- St Anthony's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School, High Street, Saltney CH4 8SG.
- St David's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School, St David's Lane, Mold CH7 1LH.
- St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School, Ffordd Llewelyn, Flint CH6 5JZ.
- St Richard Gwyn Catholic Voluntary Aided High School, Albert Avenue, Flint CH6 5JZ

All four schools are currently maintained by Flintshire County Council and deliver education through a Roman Catholic religious character, with the religious body being the Catholic Diocese of Wrexham.

Notice is also given, in accordance with section 41 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code 2026, that the Catholic Diocese of Wrexham and Flintshire County Council, having undertaken the required statutory consultation, propose to establish a new English medium Catholic Voluntary Aided school for girls and boys aged 3-18 years. (hereinafter referred to as "the new school").
'Voluntary Aided' schools are publicly funded schools in which the governing body is responsible for matters including staffing and admissions. The Diocese exercises significant influence over the school's governance and religious ethos, principally through the appointment of foundation governors. Responsibilities for school premises and capital expenditure are governed by the applicable statutory, funding and ownership arrangements.

The new school will be maintained by Flintshire County Council, and its governing body will be the admission authority, responsible for determining and administering the school's admission arrangements.

No provision will be made for selection by aptitude or pupil banding.

## Location and Capacity of the New School

The new school will initially operate across the existing sites of St David's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School in Mold, St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School in Flint and St Richard Gwyn Catholic Voluntary Aided High School in Flint.

Subject to the completion of the construction programme, all pupils will subsequently relocate to the proposed new school building at Ffordd Llewelyn / Albert Avenue, Flint, CH6 5JZ.

A map identifying the proposed new school site accompanies this notice.

The proposed overall capacity of the new school will be 1,185 pupil places, comprising:

- 315 full-time primary places.
- 750 full-time secondary places for pupils in Years 7–11.
- 120 Sixth-form accommodation
- Nursery accommodation for 45 part-time pupils, in addition to the overall stated capacity.

The proposed published admission numbers will be:

- **Reception:** 45 full-time pupils.
- **Year 7**: 150 full-time pupils.

The governing body will be responsible for the admission arrangements, which will operate in accordance with the applicable statutory requirements and admissions framework.

## Proposed Implementation Arrangements

Subject to statutory approval, the proposals will be implemented in stages as follows:

**31 August 2027**

- St Anthony's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School in Saltney will permanently close.
- St David's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School in Mold, St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School in Flint and St Richard Gwyn Catholic Voluntary Aided High School in Flint will close as separate schools.

**1 September 2027**

- A new English-medium Catholic Voluntary Aided school for pupils aged 3–18 will be established, with a new school name, school number and governing body.
- The new school will operate across the three existing school sites in Mold and Flint under a single leadership and governance structure.

**Anticipated 1 September 2030**

- Pupils will relocate to the new purpose-built school at Ffordd Llewelyn / Albert Avenue, Flint, CH6 5JZ.
- It is important to note that St Anthony's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School, High Street, Saltney, CH4 8SG, is proposed to close on 31st August 2027 and will not form part of the proposed new school arrangements.

The anticipated relocation date is subject to change depending on the construction programme and the completion of the necessary approvals.

The capital construction project will be delivered through Flintshire County Council's Capital Development Programme. Governance and operational arrangements for the new school will be developed by the temporary governing body in conjunction with Flintshire County Council and the Catholic Diocese of Wrexham.

## Closure of St Anthony's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School

It is important to note that St Anthony's Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School, High Street, Saltney, CH4 8SG, is proposed to close permanently on 31 August 2027 and will not form part of the proposed new school arrangements.

Unlike St David's, St Mary's and St Richard Gwyn, St Anthony's will not be amalgamated into the new school.

Pupils currently attending St Anthony's will be able to apply for places at alternative schools, subject to parental preference, the relevant admission arrangements and the availability of places.

## Alternative School Provision

The following schools have been identified as potential alternative English-medium Catholic provision for pupils affected by the proposed discontinuance:

- **Venerable Edward Morgan English-Medium Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School,** Caernarfon Close, Shotton CH5 1AR
- **St Winefride's English-Medium Catholic Voluntary Aided Primary School**, Whitford St., Holywell CH8 7NJ
- **The New English-Medium Catholic Voluntary Aided 3-18 School,** Ffordd Llewelyn/Albert Avenue, Flint CH6 5JZ

Parents and carers may express a preference for any of these schools or another school of their choice. Applications will be considered by the relevant admission authority in accordance with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, including section 86(3), and the applicable admission arrangements.

The Council considers that sufficient places are available within existing or proposed alternative provision and does not propose additional measures to increase the number of school places specifically as a consequence of the proposed discontinuance.

No temporary replacement school facilities are proposed for St Anthony's. The transitional arrangements for the new school will involve its operation across the three existing sites until the new building is available.

## Home to School Transport Arrangements

Home to school transport arrangements for pupils attending the new school or transferring to an alternative school, even if that school is not listed above, will be determined in accordance with Flintshire County Council's Home to School Transport Policy and its statutory obligations under the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008.

Eligibility will be assessed having regard to the applicable distance criteria, the availability and safety of walking routes, individual learner circumstances and any relevant denominational transport provisions.

Pupils attending an alternative school not specifically listed in this notice may also be considered for transport assistance in accordance with the applicable policy and statutory requirements.

Further information, including eligibility criteria and application arrangements, is available at: https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Transport-Application.aspx

## Consultation and Supporting Documents

Flintshire County Council and the Catholic Diocese of Wrexham Council undertook statutory consultation on the proposals 16th June 2026 – 29 July 2026.

A summary of the issues raised by consultees, the proposer's responses and Estyn's full response is detailed in the Consultation Report published on 26th October 2026.

The Consultation Report and supporting documentation are available on the Council's website*:*
https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Modernisation-Related/Catholic-Education-Proposal.aspx

Hard copies of the Consultation Report and supporting documentation may be requested from the School Modernisation Team using the contact details below.

**Statutory Objection Period**

Any person may object to the proposals within the statutory objection period of 28 days beginning with the date of publication of this notice.

The deadline for receipt of statutory objections is **11:59pm on Tuesday 8th December 2026.**

To be considered as statutory objections, objections must be made in writing, whether in Welsh or English, including by email, and received before the expiry of the statutory objection period.

Objections should be submitted to:

School Modernisation Team
Flintshire County Council
Ty Dewi Sant
St David's Park
Ewloe
Flintshire CH5 3XT

Email: CatholicEducationConsultation@flintshire.gov.uk

All objections should include the full name and postal address of the person submitting the objection and clearly identify the proposal or proposals to which the objection relates.

Following the objection period, statutory objections will be considered in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code 2026 before any final determination is made.

Signed …….....  **10 November 2026**

**Claire Homard**
Chief Officer, Education & Youth, For Flintshire County Council.

# EXPLANATORY NOTE

- Flintshire County Council has a responsibility to review and modernise school provision to ensure that learners have access to high-quality educational opportunities and are supported to achieve their full potential.
- The Council must ensure that there are sufficient school places of the appropriate type, in suitable locations, to meet current and future demand.
- The ongoing maintenance of a large number of ageing school buildings and associated infrastructure presents significant financial and operational challenges and is not considered sustainable in the longer term.
- The rationale for the proposal was set out in the Consultation Document published on 16th June 2026.
- The issues raised during the consultation period, together with the Council's responses, are detailed in the Consultation Report, which is available on the Council's website: https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Schools/School-Modernisation-Related/Catholic-Education-Proposal.aspx
- A hard copy of the Consultation Report may be requested from the School Modernisation Team using the contact details provided above, or by telephoning 01352 704014, 01352 704018 or 01352 702188.
- It is anticipated that pupils will relocate to the new school building on 1st September 2030. This date is indicative and may be subject to change depending on the progress of the construction programme.

# PROPOSED SITE MAP

