

Consultation Analysis

on the proposed extension of age range at
St Giles' C of E (Aided) Infant School

July 2026



Diocese of
Guildford



Consultation Analysis - Proposal to extend the age range at St Giles' C of E (Aided) Infant School

Introduction

This report is an analysis of responses gathered on the proposal to extend the age range at St Giles' C of E (Aided) Infant School.

Surrey County Council published a consultation from 8 June 2026 to 6 July 2026.

Consultation Summary

The aim of the consultation was to seek views on the proposal from all interested parties, particularly from pupils and their families who attend St Giles' C of E (Aided) Infant School, pupils and their families who may attend the school in the future, other local schools and the local community.

The consultation was open from 8 June 2026 to 6 July 2026. The associated documentation was published on the Surrey County Council 'Surrey Says' website and circulated to local stakeholders. Interested parties were invited to return responses to the consultation via an online form or alternatively using email or postal responses.

Public meetings took place at St Giles' C of E (Aided) Infant School on the 25 June 2026 at 09:00 and 19:00.

An Equality Impact Assessment is being completed throughout the informal consultation period and will continue during the statutory notices. Responses to the consultations will contribute to Equality Impact Assessment.

Key points from the consultation responses:

- There are 110 responses to the consultation
- 91% of responses supported the proposal to extend the age range of the school, with 6% not supportive and 3% were unsure.

Consultation Analysis

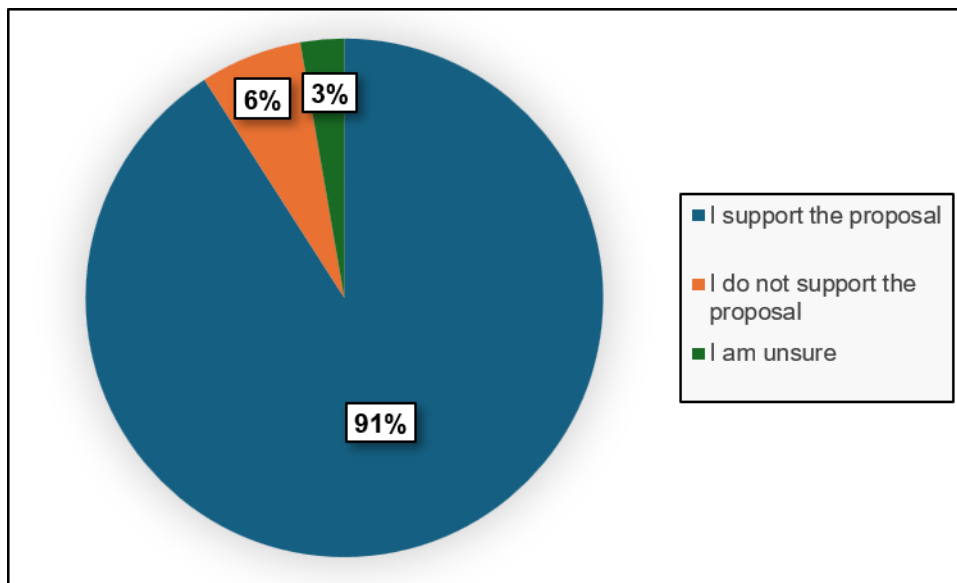
Quantitative Analysis

A total of 110 responses were received during the consultation period,

Respondents were asked "Do you agree with the proposal to extend the age range at St Giles' CE School" and were given the option to select Agree, Disagree or Don't Know.

Figure 1 below shows the distribution of online responses to the consultation. 91% respondents agreed with the proposal 6% respondent disagreed with the proposal and 3% were unsure.

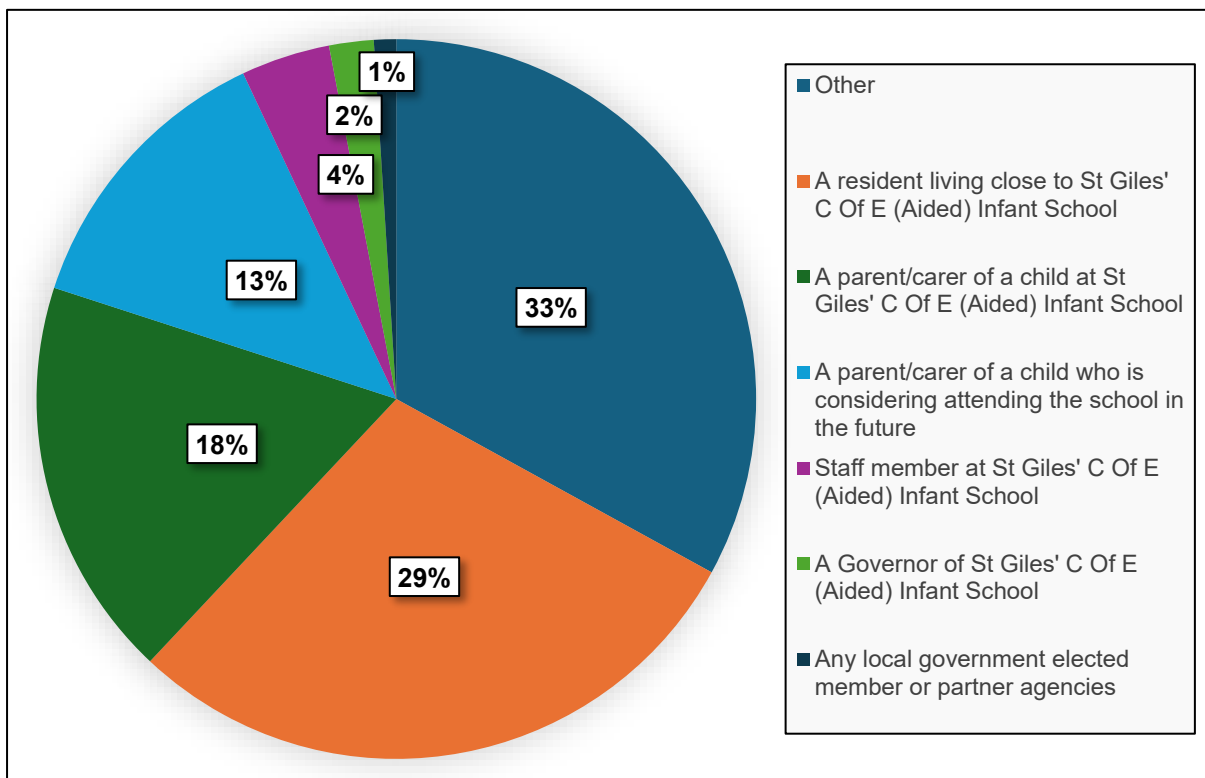
Figure 1



Who responded to the survey?

To understand who responded to the survey, respondents were asked what their relationship to the school is.

Figure 2



Percentage who supported/did not support/were unsure by individual groups

Relationship to School	Unsure	Do not support	Support	% of Respondents
A resident living close to St Giles' C Of E (Aided) Infant School	0	6	26	29%
Other	0	0	36	33%
A parent/carer of a child at St Giles' C Of E (Aided) Infant School	3	0	17	18%
A parent/carer of a child who is considering attending the school in the future	0	1	14	13%
Staff member at St Giles' C Of E (Aided) Infant School	0	0	4	4%
A Governor of St Giles' C Of E (Aided) Infant School	0	0	2	2%
Any local government elected member or partner agencies	0	0	1	1%
Total	3	7	100	100%

Qualitative Analysis

Respondents had the opportunity to add comments at the end of the survey. Out of the 110 responses received, 72 comments were made on the proposal. These comments were broadly themed and separated into 10 Positive tags, 5 negative tags plus 1 'other' tags. Each response could have more than one tag attached. The overall frequency of each of the tags provides an indicator of respondent's main thoughts regarding the proposal.

Sub theme	Tag	Number of responses	Prevalence (% out of 110 responses)
Positive	Reputation of the school	20	18%
	Continuity of education	30	27%
	Community feel of the school	12	10%
	Long term sustainability of the school	15	13%
	Faith-based education & links to the local church	4	3%
	Enthusiasm for vertical streaming	9	8%
	More options for Key Stage 2 in the local area	4	3%
	Importance of smaller settings	6	5%
	Potential increase of demand in the future(?)	6	5%
Negative	Concerns regarding vertical streaming	5	4%
	Impact on other schools	2	1%
	Lack of demand for school places	3	2%
	Concerns of transition from Primary to Secondary setting	2	1%
Questions, Ideas & Innovations		3	2%

Public Meetings

A public meeting took place on the 25 June 2026 at 09:00 and 19:00. There were 18 attendees in the morning session and 8 in the evening.

Key themes from the consultation

Positive:

Respondents identified several positive impacts of the proposals, the largest at 27% cited **continuity of education** as the most important factor. Two respondents wrote:

“St Giles is a wonderful infant school. My concern has always been where my son will go next after he finishes in year 2. I have yet to find a primary school that offers the same community feel and I do believe if the school became a through primary, it would attract more families. Many conversations I’ve had, it’s the only thing that puts off parents from sending their children to St Giles”

“Yes!!!! Absolutely yes, the anxiety of having to find a new school for my child once St Giles finishes has put me off looking and applying for what I know to be a fantastic school!”

The **reputation of the school** also rated high – at 20% - Two respondents wrote:

“I wholeheartedly support this proposal as St Giles is a wonderful school and I’ve always said that it should be a primary school. It supports all of its children, the staff are amazing and it has the most incredible support network in the parents”

“This school is much loved and an asset to the local community which will go from strength to strength when more families are able to benefit from their impressive, caring and successful education setting”

Negative

A few respondents identified some negative impacts of the proposal. 2% of the responses raised a potential negative impact on other local schools:

“Surrey has a falling birthrate and most/all primary schools are under subscribed. There is not the need locally for more Y3-Y6 places and the extension of St Giles may adversely impact other local schools. St Giles do not have the numbers in KS1 to support an extension. They are not full in YR- Y2 so they are not in demand”

4% of the responses raised concern about vertical streaming:

“ I do have reservations about the mixed classes. My initial thoughts are I wouldn’t send my child to a vertical learning school. Having said that, I am open to hearing how this would be done as it’s not something I’ve come across before”

“a significant concern for me is the combined year group classes and my child’s educational needs not being met by having lessons which are too advanced/ too simple for their age. Could admissions be increased to have individual classes per year albeit small ones?”

Questions, Ideas & Innovations

2% of respondents raised a few questions in this category

QUESTION	ANSWER
"How the school will deliver extra-curricular offerings suitable for years 3 - 6, on par with other local state schools, whether it be through direct provision or partnerships with other schools?"	A broader range of extra-curricular and enrichment activities will be developed for Key Stage 2 pupils, including music opportunities, enrichment activities and partnerships with local schools such as swimming. This will be planned and included in our school improvement plan moving forward.
"How the current year 1s (who will be the first year 3 class) will have role models in the form of older children within the school setting, given they will be the oldest in the school through their time in 'juniors'."	The school will build on their already close relationship with other local schools to provide role models in the form of older children. We must also remember that the children will have an abundance of adult role models in staff, visiting professionals and community leaders. To enhance enrichment for these pupils, the school will also create opportunities for leadership, mentoring and peer-support roles, enabling pupils to both learn from positive role models and develop their own leadership skills and gain confidence. Being the oldest pupils in the school can itself be a valuable opportunity, encouraging responsibility, independence and aspiration as they act as role models for younger children.
"Reassurance that red banana will continue to have the space and facilities it needs to operate effectively as it is brilliant and a big draw to the school."	The wraparound care provision will continue but thought will need to be given to its location within the school site to facilitate the use of its current room as a classroom. This classroom won't be needed however, until the first primary cohort reach Year 5 in September 2029 so there is some time to plan for this.

What happens next?

The Council will consider all the views put forward during this consultation period before deciding on whether to publish proposals as required by law. These formal proposals may be altered, amended or different from this consultation. If proposals are published, there will be a further period for comments, called the representation period. This would last for 28 days, and a final decision would then be taken by Surrey County Council's Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Lifelong Learning as to whether to extend the age range at St Giles C of E (Aided) Infant School.