

# <sup>1</sup> Questions and Answers

on the options for the future of  
Merrow C of E Controlled Infant School  
and Merrow Junior School

**June 2026**



## Overview

The following document records direct questions submitted during the consultation period between Monday 15 June and Friday 10 July, and seeks to provide factual answers without offering opinion.\ This questions and answers document will be updated weekly during the consultation period, with a finalised version published once the consultation period has ended.

Please note, questions and answers from the public meetings during the initial period of consultation in March 2026, can be found [here](#). Please note, these relate to the specific proposal to amalgamate the two schools to form a Church of England primary school.

## Questions and answers

For ease of review, where any questions have been repeated, we will provide one definitive answer.

Question	Answer
<b>What is the difference between the Governing Body of a Foundation school and in a Voluntary Controlled C of E school?</b>	<p>The governing body at a Voluntary Controlled C of E school typically consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Headteacher</li><li>- Parent governors</li><li>- LA governor</li><li>- Staff governor</li><li>- Co-opted governors</li><li>- Foundation governors (no more than 25% of the GB and usually appointed by the diocese or church, and including the local rector/vicar/minister)</li></ul> <p>The governing body of a Foundation school consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Headteacher</li><li>- Parent governors</li><li>- LA governor</li><li>- Co-opted governors</li><li>- Partnership governors</li><li>- Staff governor</li></ul> <p>The current Merrow Schools Federation governing body consists of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Headteacher</li><li>- Partnership governors</li><li>- Foundation governors (including the local rector/minister/vicar)</li><li>- Co-opted governors</li><li>- Local Authority governor</li><li>- Parent governors</li><li>- Staff governor</li></ul> <p>(details of the current governing body can be found <a href="#">here</a>)</p>

<p><b>How will the land ownership work in both proposals?</b></p>	<p>The infant school site (Kingfisher Court site) is currently owned jointly by the Local Authority and trustees on behalf of the Diocese of Guildford.</p> <p>The junior school site (Sheeplands Avenue site) is currently owned by the 'Foundation', that being the governing body of the school.</p> <p>In Option 1,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Sheeplands Avenue site would revert to Local Authority ownership upon closure of the junior school</li> <li>- the infant school age range would be extended to primary and it would move to the Sheeplands Avenue site.</li> <li>- the LA would own majority of the Sheeplands Avenue site, with a proportionate amount being transferred to the ownership of the diocesan trustees to mirror the current proportions of ownership at the Kingfisher Court site</li> <li>- in return, the Kingfisher Court site would become entirely owned by the Local Authority and the LA would endeavour to retain the site for educational purposes.</li> </ul> <p>In Option 2:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Sheeplands Avenue site would remain in the ownership of the governing body</li> <li>- the junior school age range would be extended, and it would become a primary school</li> <li>- land ownership at Kingfisher Court site would not change with the LA owning majority of the site and the diocesan trustees owning a proportion.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What if I don't want the schools to amalgamate at all?</b></p>	<p>The schools being separate infant and junior schools is the current status quo and as it already exists, is not something that is being consulted on in this period.</p> <p>However, if you would still like to respond to the consultation without picking either option, you can do so by emailing directly to <a href="mailto:schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk">schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk</a> with the subject "Merrow Consultation Response" and your name, relationship to the school (parent, governor, local resident, staff member etc) and your response to the consultation. We will then group any replies received which do not choose either option and consider them as a separate group in our consultation analysis.</p>