

Integrated Impact Assessment Form

Promoting Equality, Human Rights and Sustainability

Title of Policy/ Proposal	Proposal to discontinue primary education provision at St Margaret's RC Primary School with effect from 1 July 2022
Completion Date	19 January 2022
Completed by	Katy Johnstone
Lead officer	Katy Johnstone, Resource Officer, Education Service

Type of Initiative:

Policy/Strategy

Programme/Plan New or Proposed

Project Changing/Updated

Service Change to existing
service provision

Function Other

Statement of Intent

To discontinue primary education provision at St Margaret's RC Primary School with effect from 1 July 2022.

Subject to the outcome of the consultation:

- The provision of primary education at St Margaret's RC Primary School will be discontinued from 1 July 2022
- The catchment areas of St Mary's, St Matthew's and Sacred Heart RC Primary Schools will be extended to include the St Margaret's catchment area

- Remaining pupils will be allocated a place at St Mary's RC Primary School or they can choose to attend their non-denominational catchment primary school.
- School transport will be provided for all children affected, where there is no safe walking route to school and/or the distance from home to school is more than two miles
- Provision of Early Learning and Childcare will continue as per current arrangements

1. Briefly describe the policy/proposal you are assessing.

Set out a clear understanding of the purpose of the policy being developed or reviewed (e.g. objectives, aims) including the context within which it will operate.

Discontinuation of primary education provision at St Margaret's RC Primary School with effect from 1 July 2022.

What will change as a result of this policy?

Subject to the outcome of the consultation:

- The provision of primary education at St Margaret's RC Primary School will be discontinued from 1 July 2022
- The catchment areas of St Mary's, St Matthew's and Sacred Heart RC Primary Schools will be extended to include the St Margaret's catchment area
- Remaining pupils will be allocated a place at St Mary's RC Primary School or they can choose to attend their non-denominational catchment primary school.
- School transport will be provided for all children affected, where there is no safe walking route to school and/or the distance from home to school is more than two miles
- Provision of Early Learning and Childcare will continue as per current arrangements

2. Do I need to undertake a Combined Impact Assessment?

High Relevance		Yes/no
The policy/ proposal has consequences for or affects people		Yes
The policy/proposal has potential to make a significant impact on equality		No
The policy/ proposal has the potential to make a significant impact on the economy and the delivery of economic outcomes		No
The policy/proposal is likely to have a significant environmental impact		No
Low Relevance		
The policy/proposal has little relevance to equality		Yes
The policy/proposal has negligible impact on the economy		Yes
The policy/proposal has no/ minimal impact on the environment		Yes
<p>If you have identified low relevance please give a brief description of your reasoning here and send it to your Head of Service to record.</p> <p>If you have answered yes to high relevance above, please proceed to complete the Integrated Impact Assessment.</p>		

3. What information/data/ consultation have you used to inform the policy to date?

Evidence	Comments: what does the evidence tell you?
Data on populations in need	The school roll has declined in recent years from a high of 63 pupils in 2016 to 18 pupils by the time of the 2020 pupil census. At the start of the 2021/22 school year there were 2 pupils attending St Margaret's. Subsequently these pupils have moved to another school leaving 0 pupils on the school roll.
Data on service uptake/access	There are currently no pupils in the school and no children have registered for the school for the upcoming academic session.

Data on quality/outcomes	The published Denominational Review which provides evidence of the decrease in the school roll over time.
Research/literature evidence	N/A
Service user experience information	There are no pupils currently in the school.
Consultation and involvement findings	Refer to consultation report published 24 January 2022 including report from Education Scotland. https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/4409/st_margarets_consultation_report.pdf
Good practice guidelines	N/A
Other (please specify)	N/A
Is any further information required? How will you gather this?	No

4. How does the policy meet the different needs of and impact on groups in the community?

Equality Groups	Comments – positive/ negative impact
Older people, people in the middle years,	No positive or negative impact identified
Young people and children	There are no children currently at the school so there will be no positive or negative impact.

Women, men and transgender people (includes issues relating to pregnancy and maternity)	No positive or negative impact identified
Disabled people (included physical disability; learning disability; sensory Impairment; long term medical conditions; mental health problem)	No positive or negative impact identified
Minority ethnic people (includes Gypsy/Travellers migrant workers non-English)	No positive or negative impact identified
Refugees and asylum seekers	No positive or negative impact identified
People with different religions or beliefs (included people with no religion or belief.	Children in the catchment area who wish to attend a denominational school will still have this option. There are currently no pupils at the school.
Lesbian; gay bisexual and heterosexual people	No positive or negative impact identified
People who are unmarried; married or in a civil partnership	No positive or negative impact identified
Those vulnerable to falling into poverty	
Unemployed	Free school transport will be provided for any future child affected, where there is no safe walking route to school and/or the distance from home to school is more than two miles.
People on Benefits	Free school transport will be provided for any future child affected, where there is no safe walking route to school and/or the distance from home to school is more than two miles.

Single Parents and vulnerable families	No positive or negative impact identified
Pensioners	No positive or negative impact identified
Looked after Children	No positive or negative impact identified
Those leaving care settings ((including children and young people and those with illness)	No positive or negative impact identified
Homeless People	No positive or negative impact identified
Carers (including young carers)	No positive or negative impact identified
Those involved in the criminal justice system	No positive or negative impact identified
Those living in the most deprived communities (bottom 20% SIMD areas)	Free school transport will be provided for any future child affected, where there is no safe walking route to school and/or the distance from home to school is more than two miles.
People misusing services	No positive or negative impact identified
People with low literacy/numeracy	No positive or negative impact identified
Others e.g. veterans, students	No positive or negative impact identified
Geographical Communities	
Rural/ semi rural Communities	No positive or negative impact identified
Urban Communities	No positive or negative impact identified
Costal Communities	No positive or negative impact identified

5. Are there any other factors which will affect the way this policy impacts on the community or staff groups?

No. There are no community groups which use the building.

6. Is any part of this policy/ service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors?

If yes, how have you included equality and human rights considerations into the contract?

No

7. Have you considered how you will communicate information about this policy or policy change to those affected e.g. to those with hearing loss, speech impairment or English as a second language?

We informed consultees that we would provide copies of the proposal in alternative formats or translated for readers whose first language is not English. We published the consultation documents and reports on our website in formats where they should be accessible by screen-readers.

8. Please consider how your policy will impact on each of the following?

Objectives Equality and Human Rights	Comments
Promotes / advances equality of opportunity e.g. improves access to and quality of services, status	N/A There are currently no pupils in the school.
Promotes good relations within and between people with protected characteristics and tackles harassment	N/A There are currently no pupils in the school.
Promotes participation, inclusion, dignity and self- control over decisions	N/A
Builds family support networks, resilience and community capacity	N/A
Reduces crime and fear of crime	N/A
Promotes healthier lifestyles including Diet and nutrition Sexual Health	N/A There are currently no pupils in the school.

Substance Misuse Exercise and physical activity Life Skills	
Environmental	
Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in Midlothian (including carbon management)	Minimal impact although there may be a beneficial impact depending on what happens with the school building once it is no longer delivering primary education. However it is intended that the building will be retained by the Education Service.
Plan for future climate change	See above
Pollution: air/ water/ soil/ noise	See above
Protect coastal and inland waters	N/A
Enhance biodiversity	No differential impact
Public Safety: Minimise waste generation/ infection control/ accidental injury /fire risk	N/A
Reduce need to travel / promote sustainable forms of transport	N/A
Improves the physical environment e.g. housing quality, public and green space	No impact
Economic	
Maximises income and /or reduces income inequality	N/A
Helps young people into positive destinations	N/A There are currently no pupils in the school.
Supports local business	N/A
Helps people to access jobs (both paid and unpaid)	N/A
Improving literacy and numeracy	N/A There are currently no pupils in the school.
Improves working conditions, including equal pay	N/A
Improves local employment opportunities	N/A

9. Is the policy a qualifying Policy, Programme or Strategy as defined by The Environmental Impact Assessment (Scotland) Act 2005?

No

10. Action Plan

Identified negative impact	Mitigating circumstances	Mitigating actions	Timeline	Responsible person
Children in the current catchment area may have to travel further for denominational provision in the future.	Children will benefit from a wider range and breadth of learning experiences available to them within other learning environments and within a wider peer group at their age and stage.	School transport will be provided for affected pupils where there is no safe walking route to school and/or the distance from home to school is more than two miles.	July 2022 (there are currently no pupils in the school so this would not affect children immediately)	Executive Business Manager Manager, Education Service

11. Sign off by Head of Service/ NHS Project Lead

Name:

Fiona Robertson

Fiona Robertson, Executive Director Children Young People & Partnerships

Date:

19/01/2022