

Pre-Statutory consultation on the proposal to change St Aloysius College from a single sex boys' school to a co-educational school.

Name of School: St Aloysius College (STA)

Local Authority: Islington

Description of alteration and evidence of demand:

The Governing Body of St Aloysius Catholic College, after due consideration of the options for future admissions to the school intends to admit the first co-educational cohort to Year 7 in September 2024, subject to formal approval from the Archbishop of the RC Diocese of Westminster, Islington Local Authority and the Schools' Adjudicator. This will complement the mixed provision we currently have in the Sixth Form. This change is proposed alongside plans to move STA into a Catholic Academy Trust (CAT) by Easter 2024 and to reduce the PAN (Published Admission Number) from 180 to 120 in Years 7-11 for September 2024.

There is evidence of the need for a new co-educational Catholic secondary school in Islington as this option doesn't currently exist. STA going co-ed will ensure a more effective provision of Catholic education at secondary level in Islington (since the closure of Mount Carmel, there has been no Catholic secondary provision for girls in Islington). Co-educational schools are more sought after than single sex schools (due to a preference to send siblings to the same school and a view that single-sex schools are outmoded).

Enhanced educational opportunities for the community

St Aloysius College has a strong tradition as a caring, effective Catholic School. The College received a solidly Good Ofsted inspection report in June 2022 and the 2022 GCSE P8 score of +0.37 placed it in the top 10% of boys' state secondary schools nationally. Outcomes at A-Level are also very strong. Governors believe that admitting girls will offer additional opportunities to ensure boys and girls are better supported to prepare them for today's world, and will help the school to maintain and maximise expertise and resources across the staff group.

We know there is insufficient opportunity for girls in Islington to access quality Catholic secondary education, including the sisters of some of our existing students.

We believe the proposed changes will:

- Broaden the scope of the school's rich diversity, underpinned by our Catholic values;
- Build on the legacy of this school so that it continues to provide high quality education to the local community into the future;
- Respond to changes in the local and national schools' environment and to ensure our provision matches the local need;
- Sustain the school's improvement journey towards Outstanding.

Our school level consultation begins on Wednesday, June 21st 2023 and will end on Tuesday, July 17th 2023.

How to make comments:

We would like to hear your views on these proposals.

Email your comments to enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk

Alternatively, you can complete the form below:

<https://forms.gle/reCmhbHzdFMiyxB97>

Unfortunately, it will not be possible to acknowledge receipt.

All responses must be received by 6pm, Tuesday 17th July 2023

Drop-in sessions to discuss our pre-statutory consultation will take place at the school (Hornsey Lane, N5 6LY) on the following date: **Tuesday 11th July from 4.30-5.30pm.**

Yours Sincerely,



Paula Whyte
Headteacher