

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)

www.sta.islington.sch.uk

Address of School: Hornsey Lane, Highgate, N6 5LY

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 2025, subject to formal approval from the Archbishop of the RC Diocese of Westminster and Islington Local Authority.

This will complement the mixed provision we currently have in the Sixth Form.

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).

Objectives(including how the proposal would increase educational standards and parental choice)

STA going co-ed will provide enhanced educational opportunities for the community.

St Aloysius College has a strong tradition as a caring, highly effective Catholic School. The College received a solidly Good Ofsted section 5 inspection report in June 2022 and the 2023 GCSE P8 score of +0.16 placed it in the top three secondary schools in Islington.

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.
- Offer parents the opportunity to send their son's and daughters to the same Catholic school of their choice.

The effect on other educational institutions within the area

The impact on other educational institutions within the area should be minimal as we are seeking to provide Catholic secondary education for girls who are currently in Islington Catholic primary schools who are generally leaving the borough to find this elsewhere.

Project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved

Project costs e.g conversion of some current facilities will be funded by the school.

Long term value for money will be achieved as pupil numbers increase as a school of choice and all pupils are provided with outstanding educational opportunities and with strong academic outcomes.

Implementation plan

The plan is to accept girls for the first time into Year 7 in September 2025 (in addition to Year 12 as usual) and to continue to do so year on year until the school becomes fully co-educational by Sept 2029.

Procedure for responses: support; objections and comments.

We would like to hear your views on these proposals. Anybody can object to, or comment on, the proposal.

The statutory consultation opens on Friday, March 1st and will close at midnight on Friday, March 29th 2024.

Please email your comments to enquiries@sta.islington.sch.uk

Alternatively, you can complete the form below:

<https://forms.gle/i876v6op4PeqXqi1A>

Unfortunately, it will not be possible to acknowledge receipt.

All responses must be received by midnight on Friday, March 29th 2024.

A drop-in session to discuss our statutory consultation will take place at the school (Hornsey Lane, N5 6LY) on the following date: Tuesday, March 26th 17.00-18.00