



**Christ Church**  
**Primary SW9**  
*A school for everyone*

Cancell Road,  
London, SW9 6HN  
Tel : 020 7735 1343  
Fax : 020 77355262  
Email: [admin@christchurchschool.cc](mailto:admin@christchurchschool.cc)

10<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Parents,

**UPDATE ON LAMBETH'S PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE  
CHRIST CHURCH SW9 PRIMARY SCHOOL AND ST JOHN THE DIVINE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Summary**

In May this year we wrote to you to inform you about Lambeth Council's proposal to amalgamate Christ Church Primary School SW9 with St John the Divine Primary School. After an informal consultation the Council have decided to continue with this proposal and have confirmed that amalgamation will take place **on the site of Christ Church Primary school**. The proposal states that from September 2026 St John the Divine school will discontinue.

**Rationale**

This proposal formed part of Lambeth Council's broader strategy to address the increasing number of empty places in the borough's primary schools. Several factors including Brexit, the cost-of-living crisis and a drop in birth rates, have resulted in a 20% reduction in the numbers of school-age children living in Lambeth. Schools are funded on a per-pupil basis so having fewer children means less funding for the school which directly impacts its ability to resource the school effectively and deliver high quality teaching and learning.

**Consultation phase**

18 weeks ago, Lambeth Council hosted an informal online consultation and invited staff, parents, governors and other stakeholders to engage and share thoughts and suggestions about the proposal. Thank you to everybody in our community who participated in this. The Council have now analysed the data, reviewed all submissions and decided to **continue** with the proposal to amalgamate the two schools. They have confirmed that this will take place **on the Christ Church Primary school site**. From September 2026 there will be no school operating from the current St John the Divine Primary school and all children at St John the Divine will be automatically offered a place here. The number of children in each year group at Christ Church will remain at 30.

**Next Steps**

Yesterday, Lambeth opened a further 'formal' consultation that will run until 7th October. You are again invited to share your thoughts and have a final say. The website hosts a document which outlines the reasons that Lambeth want to continue with this proposal to amalgamate the schools on the **Christ Church school site**. We encourage you to share your thoughts on this final proposal to help ensure that we retain this outcome.

<https://www.lambeth.gov.uk/consultations/have-your-say-lambeths-statutory-proposals-primary-school-places>

**Final Decision**

The results of the initial and this four-week consultation will inform a final report which will be considered for adoption by Lambeth Council. The final decision will be communicated to the school after the 4<sup>th</sup> November. If the Council decides to go ahead with the amalgamation, these changes will take effect in September 2026.

**Meeting**

We would like to invite you to a meeting in the school hall on **Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm**. There will be two representatives from Lambeth Council who will answer further questions about the proposal.

With Best Wishes,  
Jayne Mitchell  
Executive Headteacher

**Governors of Christ Church Primary SW9**

Zoe Smith (Chair of Governors)  
Luke Bateman  
Amanda Glean-Mbuyi  
Revd Stephen Jullien

Chris Upfold (Vice Chair of Governors)  
Natalie Cole  
Perry Krug  
Steff Wright