



## **A Public Consultation**

**Proposal to Amalgamate  
Malorees Infant School and  
Malorees Junior School  
Christchurch Ave, London NW6 7PB**

**Consultation period:  
Monday 6 January 2025 to  
Sunday 16 February 2025**

## **Introduction**

Brent Council and the federated governing body of Malorees Infant School and Malorees Junior School are proposing to undertake a consultation on the future organisation of the Malorees schools as a combined primary school. To start this process the local authority and the governing body of the two schools are carrying out an informal consultation to gather views from staff, pupils' families, local residents living near the school and relevant stakeholders.

## **What is the proposal?**

Brent Council, working with the governing body of the two schools, is seeking your views on the proposal to amalgamate Malorees Infant and Junior Schools. This is a unique opportunity to bring two good schools, which are already federated under one governing body, together as a single educational institution. The combined school would build on the existing strengths and good practice within both schools, and over time there would be opportunities to further enhance whole school approaches to improve teaching and learning across all key stages.

The proposal is that Malorees Infant and Junior Schools are joined together to form one combined primary school from an agreed date (which could be 1 September 2025). The amalgamated school would continue to use the existing buildings and site of the current schools, based at Christchurch Ave, London NW6 7PB. The amalgamated school would continue to provide 420 places in Reception to Year 6 (60 per year group).

## **What would be the name of the school?**

It is proposed the school is called Malorees Primary School.

## **What are the benefits of amalgamation?**

Malorees Infant and Junior Schools are already federated under one Governing Body. There are additional benefits for amalgamation at this point in time:

- Amalgamating the schools removes the need to reapply for Year 3 entry when moving from Year 2 to year 3. All through primary schools make transition between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 easier. There is no need for parents to apply for a place in a junior school, which can bring uncertainties depending on demand.
- Critically, decisions around the use of buildings and any future capital investment in buildings would apply to the school as a whole rather than only one school. The junior school was approved for investment as part of the Department of Education (DfE) school rebuilding programme in 2022. It has been indicated that this approval could be extended to an amalgamated school.
- A potential reduction in administration and statutory reporting with less duplication of work to produce key documents. For example: one budget, one Ofsted, one sports grant application and one set of contracts.

## **Costs of Amalgamation**

- Whilst most income depends on the total number of pupils, Malorees Infants and Malorees Junior schools currently also receive individual "lump sums" and sports premium grants. These would reduce on amalgamation with an estimated net cost of c.£135,000 per annum by 2028/9 (depending on when amalgamation is to take place). The full impact would only be felt two full years after amalgamation and could be at least partially mitigated by cost saving from any new building and through the generation of additional income.

- Ownership of all land would transfer to Brent (currently Junior school land belongs to the governing body); any change of use is safeguarded by the need to obtain DfE approval for alternative use.

### **How would an amalgamation be implemented?**

In order to amalgamate the two Malorees Schools it is proposed to close one school and expand the age range of the other school. The governing body has indicated a preference for the combined school to be a community school, which is a local authority maintained school. This choice aligns with government policy, promotes community engagement, and allows for greater autonomy in curriculum development and decision-making. As a community school, the combined school would be able to prioritise social inclusion and offer tailored support for disadvantaged students. As a community school the local authority would continue to support the combined school, which may also have access to additional funding streams and resources, potentially leading to improved facilities and educational opportunities for students. Therefore, it is proposed Malorees Infant School will be expanded and Malorees Junior School would close. The new school would then be one Primary School.

As a community school, the combined school would retain the same DfE number as the current Malorees Infant School.

### **What would an amalgamated school look like?**

Malorees Infant School would increase the age range of children it accepts up to 11 years old (Year 6) and would then change its name to *Malorees Primary School* to reflect that it educates a wider age range. At the same time Malorees Junior School would formally close. Malorees Primary School would provide 60 place per year group and a total of 420 places.

All children on roll at the junior school at the point of amalgamation would continue as pupils of Malorees Primary School. There would no longer be the requirement for parents/carers to apply for a place for a place at the junior school at the end of Year 2.

There would be one school occupying the existing buildings on the site until any such time they are replaced. The 'new' Malorees Primary School would continue to be led by one headteacher with one senior leadership team as is currently the case with the federated schools.

All staff would be employed by the 'new' Malorees with any transfer governed by relevant Human Resource (HR) policies and subject to consultation with all staff and their professional associations/unions if this was identified as required and applicable. As the schools are already federated and under the leadership of one headteacher and one senior leadership team we do not anticipate a change in staffing structure.

There would be one governing body responsible for the combined school based on the current governing board of the federated schools.

From the time of the amalgamation, there would be a new budget for the school calculated in accordance with the Brent schools funding formula, which is essentially based on an amount per pupil.

### **When would an amalgamation happen?**

The amalgamated school could be established from 1 September 2025, subject to the statutory consultation process and to the implementation of relevant HR processes.

## **What would be the impact of the amalgamation?**

The amalgamation will cause little disruption to staff, pupils or the wider community. The two schools are already federated meaning they already share resources to benefit from economies of scale, there is one headteacher and a single senior leadership team, staff are working across the schools and there is one governing body.

Families of pupils attending Year 2 at the Malorees Primary School would no longer be required to submit an application to the local authority to secure a place in Year 3 as all pupils will automatically transition between these two year groups. While the proposals are underway, and until the amalgamation takes place on the agreed date, the local authority will continue to co-ordinate applications to Malorees Junior School for September 2025. Any offers made will be transferred so children can start or continue at Malorees Primary School if the amalgamation is completed by this time.

After the school is amalgamated, the admissions arrangements currently agreed for Malorees Infant School would apply to all year groups up to Year 6.

The Malorees Primary School will remain on the same site as the existing infant and junior schools. There are no proposals to change the physical size of the school as part of the amalgamation.

## **The consultation process**

The informal consultation will start on Monday **6 January 2025**, will run for six weeks and will end on Sunday **16 February 2025**.

The closing date for online responses is Sunday 16 February 2025 and any hard copies returned by hand or post must be submitted to the Malorees school office by Friday 14 February 2025.

## **How can I make comments about the proposals?**

Parents, carers, staff, governors and members of the public are invited to send their comments by replying using the online feedback form available at [www.brent.gov.uk/neighbourhoods-and-communities/have-your-say](http://www.brent.gov.uk/neighbourhoods-and-communities/have-your-say)

Public meetings have been arranged for any stakeholders or interested parties to attend.

Public meeting: 27<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
Venue: Malorees Infant School Hall (NW6 7PB)  
Time: 9.30 – 10.30am

Public meeting: 28<sup>th</sup> January 2025  
Venue: Malorees Junior School Hall (NW6 7PB)  
Time: 5.30 – 6.30pm

A consultation meeting has been arranged specifically for the staff and governors of both schools – the public cannot attend this meeting.

Staff meeting: 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025  
Venue: Malorees Junior School Hall (NW6 7PB)  
Time: 3.45 – 4.45pm

Comments made at the meetings will be recorded in written format and will contribute to the consultation outcomes.

### **How will the decision about the proposed amalgamation and expansion of the schools be made?**

After the informal consultation is complete, all the responses regardless of whether they are comments in support of the proposal, objections, or other suggestions will be collated and considered by the Local Authority and the governing body of both schools.

If there is agreement from consultees for the proposal to amalgamate the two schools, a recommendation will be taken to Brent Council's Cabinet to request permission to progress to a formal (statutory) consultation. This process will commence with the issuing of a statutory notice which outlines exactly what the proposals are and lasts for four weeks. Following any formal consultation, Brent Council will make a final decision on whether the schools should amalgamate and the date of when this should happen.

If any of the consultation processes indicate there is not agreement to the proposal to amalgamate or Brent Cabinet decides not to accept a recommendation to amalgamate, the schools continue as separate infant and junior schools.

### **Where can I get further information or assistance?**

Should you require assistance with this consultation, please contact either of the school offices.



## INFORMAL CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

### Proposal to Amalgamate Malorees Infant School and Malorees Junior School

The proposal is to bring Malorees Infant School and Malorees Junior School together as one merged primary school from an agreed date (which could be 1 September 2025). The newly formed primary School would use the existing buildings and site as the current schools, based at Christchurch Ave, London NW6 7PB.

We welcome your views on this proposal. Please fill in this form and return it to either school office no later than Friday 14th February 2025. You can also complete the form online at [www.brent.gov.uk/neighbourhoods-and-communities/have-your-say](http://www.brent.gov.uk/neighbourhoods-and-communities/have-your-say) where responses must be received by 11.59pm on Sunday 16 February 2025.

1. Do you agree with the proposal to amalgamate our two schools to become one school?

Please circle/ delete as appropriate:

YES / NO

2. If you like the proposal, please say why you think it is a good idea:
3. If you disagree the proposal, please tell us why you are concerned:
4. If you have any other comments, issues or questions, or have any alternative suggestions, please state them here (you can continue on the back of this form if necessary).