



The Federation of Holy Trinity C of E Schools  
Church Lane  
Ripon  
North Yorkshire, HG4 2ES

[www.htceschools.co.uk](http://www.htceschools.co.uk)  
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Friday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Stakeholders,

## **Proposal to Amalgamate Holy Trinity Church of England Infant School and Holy Trinity Church of England Junior School**

On behalf of the Local Academy Council, I am excited to inform you about a significant proposal which aims to enhance the educational experience for pupils at the Federation of Holy Trinity Church of England Schools.

Leeds Diocese Learning Trust are proposing to merge Holy Trinity Church of England Infant School and Holy Trinity Church of England Junior School creating a new Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School. Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School will be based within a single premises on the current junior site. The new school will include pupils from Reception through to Year 6 (ages 4 -11) whilst continuing to provide nursery class provision for children aged 3-4, as the Infant School currently does. The new school would continue to admit up to 60 pupils a year, giving it the same Published Admissions Number (PAN). From September 2026 the school Published Admissions Number (PAN) will reduce to 30 pupils on admission to Reception. To clarify this will not affect current pupils in school.

### **Why propose an Amalgamation?**

Amalgamating Holy Trinity CE Infant and Junior Schools into a single primary school will bring a wide range of educational, operational, and community benefits including:

**Stronger Community:** bringing together pupils, staff, and families from both schools will foster a stronger, more vibrant community. A single school will provide clarity and continuity, with one set of procedures, communications, and leadership.

**Increased Enrolment Stability:** a unified school can offer more stability in enrolment numbers, ensuring a consistent and robust educational environment. There would no longer be a need for families of children in Year 2 to have to apply for a place in the Junior school from Year 3, thereby removing any uncertainty about transfer to a “new” school at the end of Key Stage 1.

**Improved Teaching and Learning Environment:** the current infant site is 189 years old therefore we are experiencing considerable budget challenges in maintaining a Victorian school building. Current essential repairs to the infant site are estimated as £48 600. The junior site does not present these challenges and offers significantly more outdoor space, including enhanced play areas and opportunities for outdoor learning.

**Increased Teaching and Learning collaboration:** amalgamation will enable deeper curriculum coherence, more flexible use of resources supporting smoother progression and stronger outcomes for pupils. Staff will be able to collaborate more readily, share expertise, and deliver consistent approaches to learning, behaviour, and support for children with additional needs.

**Strengthened Leadership Capacity:** currently the Federation operates with one Executive Headteacher, one Deputy Headteacher and one SENDCo across two sites. A consolidated leadership team on one site will enhance autonomy, provide greater flexibility whilst fostering a strong sense of place and community within the school, as all leaders will more actively involved in the daily life of the school and its community.

**Increased Staff Development:** Teachers and staff can benefit from shared professional development opportunities, leading to improved teaching practices and pupil outcomes.



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**Enhanced Resources:** combining our resources will allow us to offer a wider range of educational programmes and extracurricular activities. An amalgamation will create efficiencies in site management, administration, and resource allocation, enabling more funding to be directed toward improving educational provision.

**Economies of scale:** amalgamation will lead to more efficient use of funds, reducing overhead costs and allowing more investment in pupil-focused initiatives. Whilst we are a federation, we are two separate schools in terms of Department of Education registration, government funding, licensing, SIAMS and Ofsted inspections. Federation also incurs additional costs i.e. we are required to have two separate licences for digital platforms such as Arbor.

### **What This Means for Pupils at Holy Trinity?**

If the proposal is approved by the Department for Education, the amalgamation will take place from 1st September 2025. We are committed to ensuring a smooth transition for everyone involved and are committed to ensuring that pupils will not be adversely affected as a result of this proposal.

### **Please read the Consultation on the Proposal to Amalgamate (25.04.2025)**

This consultation will run for a period of three weeks. During this time, we welcome views and feedback from parents, staff and the wider community. Once the consultation closes, the responses will be reviewed and summarised as part of the submission alongside the Trust's application for a significant change to the Department for Education.

If the application is approved, transition planning will begin in earnest, with regular updates provided to all stakeholders.

**A copy of the Consultation document is available on our website, should you require a paper copy these are available from the school office on either site.**

### **We welcome your Input**

Your feedback is crucial to this process. You can respond to this consultation in the following ways:

- By completing the online consultation form on the Federation website under Our School
- By attending our public consultation meeting

If you have any questions or would like to speak to someone about the proposal, please contact the school office at [admin@htceschools.co.uk](mailto:admin@htceschools.co.uk)

**Consultation Start date 25<sup>th</sup> April 2025**  
**Public Meeting 8<sup>th</sup> May 6pm Junior Hall**  
**Consultation end date 16<sup>th</sup> May 2025**