



**Glasgow City Council**

**City Administration Committee**

**Report by Councillor Chris Cunningham, City Convenor for  
Education, Skills and Early Years**

**Contact: Jim Wilson Ext 74086**

**ENTRANCE CRITERIA FOR NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL**

**Purpose of Report:**

To seek approval to consult on the entry criteria and catchment area for Notre Dame High School.

**Recommendations:**

The Committee is asked:

- to note the contents of this report;
- to approve a consultation with parents, children, young people and the wider community, under The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 on proposed options, in relation to the entrance criteria for Note Dame High School; and
- to note that potentially, as a consequence of this, alterations may be made to catchment areas of affected schools within the Notre Dame, John Paul, St Roch's and St Thomas Aquinas Learning Communities.

A copy of the full consultation document is available in the members' library and at <https://www.glasgow.gov.uk/index.aspx?articleid=17886>

Ward No(s): 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 22 Citywide:  
and 23

Local member(s) advised: Yes  No  consulted: Yes  No

## 1. BACKGROUND

- 1.1 Notre Dame High School is a denominational, comprehensive secondary school for girls located in the West End of Glasgow. The school celebrated its Centenary in 1997. The present Notre Dame High building, designed in 1939 and completed in 1953. It is a grade A listed building.
- 1.2 Notre Dame High School is a successful and popular school. It has two associated primary schools from which girls are entitled to transfer to the High School; Notre Dame Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School. Some girls attending Corpus Christi Primary School are also entitled to transfer due to a shared catchment area.
- 1.3 The school has a capacity of 800, with a roll of circa 700. The current school roll includes a significant number of placing requests from over 50 primary schools across the city.
- 1.4 The entry criteria for schools are determined by the local authority. Local authorities throughout Scotland adopt a range of differing entry criteria. For schools in Glasgow, as of January 2019, the key entrance criteria for any mainstream secondary school is based upon a defined geographical catchment area (a 'delineated' area). Every address within Glasgow has a catchment area (or shared catchment area) for both a denominational school and a non-denominational school.
- 1.5 Notre Dame High School shares its delineated catchment area with part of the St Thomas Aquinas Secondary School delineated catchment area. This is due to Notre Dame's status as a single-gender (girls) school and the consequent necessary sharing of school catchment areas with the secondary school that the boys attend. Girls who reside within this shared area and who are educated within the denominational sector, are entitled to transfer to either St Thomas Aquinas or Notre Dame High School<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.6 In line with the City Administration's commitment to undertake a public consultation under the Schools (Consultation) Scotland Act 2010 to consider the entry criteria for Notre Dame High School, officers engaged with Parent Councils and campaign groups between October and December 2018.

## 2. PROPOSED OPTIONS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 Given the range of views being expressed about the entry criteria for Notre Dame High School, officers are proposing **three options**:
  1. Leave the Notre Dame High entry criteria as is, that is, no change.
  2. Retain the all-girl status, but change the associated primary school configuration; and thereby alter the catchment area.

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<sup>1</sup> This is as a result of the consultation held during 2018/19 ensuring that all secondary schools are delineated.

3. Change to be a co-educational denominational secondary school and alter the catchment area.
- 2.2 Options 2 and 3 detailed in section 2.1 above would also have an impact on other secondary school catchment areas.
- 2.3 There are four denominational Learning Communities that would be directly affected by changes to the entry criteria at Notre Dame High School. These are the John Paul, Notre Dame, St Roch's and St Thomas Aquinas Learning Communities.

### 3 KEY OPTIONS ANALYSIS

3.1 The following three options detail the secondary schools and their proposed association with primary schools for each option. These three options should be read in conjunction with their corresponding roll projections and catchment-areas which are detailed in the appendices. The full roll projections methodology is included in Appendix 4.

#### 3.2 OPTION 1:

3.2.1 Notre Dame High School remains girls only with two associated primary schools: Notre Dame Primary School and St Ninian's Primary School

3.2.2 This is the situation as it stands at present. However, it should be noted that as a result of the recently approved committee paper (January 2019) on delineated catchment areas both St Thomas Aquinas Secondary School and Notre Dame High School are delineated. This means that girls living in the catchment areas St Ninian's and Notre Dame Primary Schools now have the right to transfer to either Notre Dame High or St Thomas Aquinas Secondary. Families that live in the shared catchment of Notre Dame Primary and Corpus Christi Primary would retain the right to go to Notre Dame High School.

3.2.3 This table shows the secondary schools and, directly below each, their proposed associated primary schools under Option 1.

<b>John Paul Academy</b>	<b>Notre Dame High</b>	<b>St Roch's Sec</b>	<b>St Thomas Aquinas Sec</b>
St Blane's	Notre Dame Primary ( <i>F Only</i> )	St Cuthbert's	Corpus Christi
St Charles'	St Ninian's ( <i>F Only</i> )	St Joseph's ( <i>Shared with John Paul Academy</i> )	St Ninian's
St Joseph's ( <i>Shared with St Roch's Sec</i> )		St Mungos	Notre Dame
St Mary's		St Rochs Prim	St Brendan's

		St Stephen's	St Paul's Whiteinch
		St Teresa's	St Patrick's

3.2.3 This option offers no change to the current model. It is likely that there would continue to be sufficient places for girls from a range of primary schools across the city and out-with the city to be able to attend via the council's placing request criteria.

### 3.3 **OPTION 2:**

3.3.1 Notre Dame High School remains girls only but the catchment area changes to include Notre Dame Primary School, St Patrick's Primary School, St Joseph's Primary School and St Charles Primary School.

3.3.2 In the associated table for this option, in section 3.3.6, it states 'M only' or 'F only' for the purposes of calculating transfer rates to the appropriate secondary schools. Some primary schools in Glasgow 'share' parts of their catchment area with other schools. Where this is the case it will state this in the table and the areas can be viewed in the relevant catchment area maps that are in Appendix 1, 2 and 3.

3.3.3 The four primary schools (Notre Dame Primary, St Patrick's, St Joseph's, and St Charles) are proposed to be associated with Notre Dame High for female pupils only. Note that the girls living in these catchment areas would retain the right to transfer to their current associated denominational secondary school as illustrated in the table in section 3.3.6.

3.3.4 The delineated catchment area for an associated secondary school is made up of the delineated catchment areas of the primary schools. This selection has been chosen because of their proximity to the secondary school and the consequent formation of a 'local catchment area'.

3.3.5 This option does not include St Ninian's Primary School which has had an association with Notre Dame High School for many years. The catchment area map in Appendix 2 highlights that including the extended St Ninian's primary catchment area would not align with the notion of 'local catchment areas' for communities.

3.3.6 Officers recognise that some families, who have girls attending St Ninian's Primary School, may already have siblings in attendance at the High School or will have chosen St Ninian's for the specific purpose of their daughter transferring to Notre Dame High School. Therefore, should this option be agreed following consultation; then girls who are attending St Ninian's Primary School when the decision was made would continue to have a right to attend Notre Dame High School (i.e. any girl in P1 to P7 from August 2019).

<b>John Paul Academy</b>	<b>Notre Dame High</b>	<b>St Roch's Sec</b>	<b>St Thomas Aquinas Sec</b>
St Blane's	Notre Dame Primary (F Only)	St Cuthbert's	Corpus Christi
St Charles'	St Patrick's (F Only)	St Joseph's (Shared with John Paul Academy)	St Ninian's
St Joseph's (Shared with St Roch's Sec)	St Charles' (F Only)	St Mungos	Notre Dame
St Mary's	St Joseph's (F Only)	St Rochs Prim	St Brendan's
		St Stephen's	St Paul's (Whiteinch)
		St Teresa's	St Patrick's

3.3.7 This option results in more girls having a right to attend Notre Dame High School. The roll projections assume that all girls in the named school will take up that right. The families will remain in the delineated catchment areas of their previous secondary schools, that is, St Thomas Aquinas for St Patrick's and John Paul Academy/St Roch's Secondary for St Joseph's. This means that the girls would also retain the right to attend those schools due to being in the delineated catchment areas as highlighted in section 3.3.3.

3.3.8 It is unlikely that all girls would transfer as the families may already have connections with their existing co-educational denominational catchment secondary school through siblings or other family connections. However, for the purposes of the roll projections, officers have made the assumption that all would transfer.

3.3.9 It should be noted that if fewer transfer then there would be more spaces for placing requests from other parts of the city.

3.3.10 Primary school catchment areas have developed over a significant period of time. Therefore, there may be some small areas, where a particular residence has eligibility to attend one or more schools (primary and/or secondary) due to the nature of the catchment area they reside within. These areas can be viewed in the maps in the appendices. Larger versions (i.e. detailed to street level) will be available at the public meetings and can also be viewed at 'street level' online. They are also available at Education Headquarters, 40 John Street, Glasgow, G1 1JL, or by request via the consultation link [schoolsconsultation@glasgow.gov.uk](mailto:schoolsconsultation@glasgow.gov.uk)

### 3.4 **OPTION 3:**

3.4.1 Change the entry criteria for Notre Dame High School to be co-educational and change the catchment areas for Notre Dame High School to include Notre Dame Primary School, St Patrick's Primary School and St Joseph's Primary School. In this option, the catchment areas for St Thomas Aquinas Secondary School, St Roch's Secondary School and John Paul Academy would also change. The proposed catchment area is detailed in Appendix 3

3.4.2 This option considers a co-educational option with the associated primaries as shown in the following table, section 3.4.3. Note that, as with option 2, St Ninian's Primary School would no longer be associated with Notre Dame High School in order to support the formation of a 'local catchment area'.

3.4.3 Alterations would be required to ensure that appropriate toilet and changing facilities were available within Notre Dame High School. The proposed layout to support this is detailed in Appendix 8.

<u>John Paul Academy</u>	<u>Notre Dame High</u>	<u>St Roch's Sec</u>	<u>St Thomas Aquinas Sec</u>
St Charles'	Notre Dame Primary <i>(Now allocated to Notre Dame High Only)</i>	St Cuthbert's	Corpus Christi
St Blane's	St Patrick's	St Mungo's	St Brendan's
St Mary's	St Joseph's	St Roch's Prim	St Ninian's <i>(Now allocated to St Thomas Aq. only)</i>
		St Stephen's	St Paul's (Whiteinch)
		St Teresa's	
<i>St Joseph's (shared area) moved to Notre Dame</i>		<i>St Joseph's (shared area) moved to Notre Dame</i>	<i>St Patrick's moved to Notre Dame</i>

3.4.5 Should this option be taken forward then officers would ensure that boys would start to enrol from S1 only which would enable a five year period of transition before the school became fully co-educational. This proposal does not include the option of boys transitioning from other schools into other year groups, either by right due to being in the delineated catchment or by placing request.

3.4.6 Not all families would want their son/s to transfer to Notre Dame High School. Families with siblings already in secondary school would retain the right to transfer to that secondary school (where they resided within the previous delineated catchment area). For example, a boy attending St Patrick's Primary School who has an older sibling at St Thomas Aquinas Secondary School, and his parents wish him to attend the same school, would be entitled to a place in St Thomas Aquinas as if he lived in the catchment area.

## 4 THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

4.1 A council has to consult with parents, children, young people and the wider community when it proposes changes such as to change a school's entry criteria or catchment area.

4.2 The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 sets out the process that councils must follow when they do this. The Act also gives HM Inspectors a role in the process.

4.3 The consultation will include contacting:

- Parent Councils
- Parents/carers/
- Children and Young People
- Staff
- Trade Unions
- Community Councils
- Area Partnerships
- Groups formed under Part 2 of the Local Government in Scotland Act (2003)
- Archdiocese of Glasgow
- Other adjacent local authorities
- Other users of the school premises

4.4 Notices to advise of the consultation arrangements will be placed in the press and a dedicated page set up on the Council website for both information and to enable interested parties to respond to the proposals

4.5 The indicative timetable for the consultation is:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Location</b>
7 March 2019	City Administration Committee	
18 March 2019	Start of Public Consultation Period	
	Public meetings 7pm	16 April Notre Dame High School 25 April St Thomas Aquinas Secondary School 7 May St Roch's Secondary School
26 May 2019	End of Public Consultation Period	
31 May 2019	Education Scotland involvement	
To be confirmed	Consultation response report published at least 3 weeks prior to City Administration Committee	
To be confirmed	Report to City Administration Committee	

## 5. POLICY AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

### Resource Implications:

<i>Financial:</i>	Within existing resources
<i>Legal:</i>	Consultation will be undertaken in accordance with the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 (as amended)
<i>Personnel:</i>	N/A
<i>Procurement:</i>	N/A

**Council Strategic Plan:** Excellent and Inclusive Education - 35

### Equality and Socio-Economic Impacts:

<i>Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2017-22</i>	Yes
<i>What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report?</i>	<i>An equalities assessment will be undertaken during the consultation and included in the response document</i>
<i>Please highlight if the policy/proposal will help address socio economic disadvantage.</i>	<i>The proposal is not linked to disadvantage.</i>

### Sustainability Impacts:

<i>Environmental:</i>	The proposal would have very limited environmental impact.
<i>Social:</i>	The proposal would assist parents as there would be greater clarity.

### Privacy and Data Protection impacts:

Responders will be asked to provide name, age, email address and reason(s) for responding. The data will only be used/held by Glasgow City Council for the purposes of consultation under the Schools Consultation (Scotland) Act 2010.



## **6 RECOMMENDATIONS**

6.1 The Committee is asked:

- to note the contents of this report;
- to approve a consultation with parents, children, young people and the wider community, under The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 on proposed options, in relation to the entrance criteria for Note Dame High School; and
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