

Part Two - Alternative Proposal

We welcome the proposal put forward by the Heads and Governors of Oxted, Lingfield, Dormansland and Godstone schools (Annex 1) as a much better alternative to option 3 in the Officer Report to the Executive.

We are pleased with the proposal to keep the fixed catchment area as it is in 2008 for all the reasons set out in the Officer report, namely

- A defined catchment area was established to address specific geographical issues for this school. To remove a catchment area will cause changes in intake patterns to the detriment of Surrey pupils.
- without a catchment area, Kent pupils will gain places at Oxted school, resulting in Surrey pupils being left without a place
- Potential problems in fulfilling duty to offer a school place to every Surrey child if children from neighbouring counties take the places.

This proposal would preserve the links and traditional family of schools with Oxted and would protect Oxted School's traditional admissions priority area. The inclusion of partner schools would reduce numbers by excluding those children who live in those areas but do not attend the partner schools. It will reduce the numbers eligible for Oxted School which is SCC's objective.

The proposal to limit siblings to within the criteria from September 2009 will also have the effect of providing more places for children in the catchment area.

Our Proposal is one which we have considered carefully so that the traditional community of schools and families that attend Oxted School can be preserved whilst at the same time making it fair and equitable for rural communities who have less choice than other areas.

We need to ensure that all children within the catchment area have equal opportunity of a place at Oxted in the event of oversubscription.

Therefore it is **imperative** that the tie break is distance from nearest alternative school as in the proposal and as per the adjudicator ruling of 2007 for 2008.