

THE FUTURE STRUCTURE OF SECONDARY AND POST-16 EDUCATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS July 2017

Contents

1. Why do we need to change anything? Our education system is fine as it is.	2
2. What are you actually proposing?	2
3. When will your new proposals come into force?	2
4. Which pupils will be affected?	3
5. I have a child going into Year 6 in September and need to decide my 11+ options before the States makes a decision. What should I do?	3
6. Which school will my child go to in future?	4
7. What options for post-16 studies will my child(ren) have?	4
8. What sort of qualifications will they be able to gain in your three-school model?	5
9. What about post-16 qualifications?	5
10. Will my child still be able to do an apprenticeship	5
11. Children currently in Year 4 seem to be the most affected. What is going to happen to them?	5
12. How much is this going to cost?	6
13. What about the Grant-Aided Colleges?	6
14. In your proposal document you seem to be saying only 20% of pupils in each school year go to the Grant-Aided Colleges. Isn't it much more than this?	6
15. Are you closing the Grammar School?	7
16. I am planning to move to the Island with my children. Will they be able to attend the Grammar School?	7
17. Are you closing any schools?	7
18. What does this mean for the rebuild of La Mare de Carteret Schools?	7
19. What about the other facilities you planned to build on La Mare de Carteret site?	7
20. Why are you still planning to build this new school on la Mare de Carteret site? Wouldn't another site be better?	7
21. What about our special schools?	8
22. What's going to happen in Alderney?	8
23. What will happen to pupils at the Grammar School once selection at 11 ends in 2018?	8
24. My child needs extra help with their learning, will they still get it under your new system?	9
25. My child is 'gifted and talented', won't they be held back by others who are not as quick to learn?	9
26. Will my child still be able to access 14-16 courses at the College of Further Education?	9
27. I am worried about the impact of disruptive children on my child's education.	9
28. Will children be set by ability in subjects at secondary school	9
29. Will my child still be able to get a place at one of the Colleges in the future?	9
30. What about brothers and sisters?	9
31. What about school uniforms – will they be changing?	10
32. What is the new school going to be called?	10
33. How are students going to be transported to their new schools?	10
34. I am concerned about the disruption and uncertainty the new proposals will cause for children currently in preschool or primary education.	10
35. What about the impact on staff?	11
36. What will happen if I move house at any time over the next few years?	11
37. Will you have enough space in your schools if the population increases?	11
38. I have looked at the population figures and there seems to be more spaces than we need. Why is this?	11
39. Why are you proposing to make these changes, why not leave everything as it is?	11
40. Where can I find out more?	12

1. Why do we need to change anything? Our education system is fine as it is.

The States have already made a decision to deliver secondary education in three rather than four schools. They have also decided that an all-ability system will replace selection at 11.

The Committee will not revisit these decisions and so we need to make changes to the current system.

We believe our proposals will allow us to:

- Develop a secondary and post-16 education system where every young person has access to a rich, engaging and challenging curriculum that enables them to reach their full potential
- Provide equality of opportunity
- Ensure that we operate efficiently and effectively

2. What are you actually proposing?

We are proposing:

From September 2019 and following the move to an all-ability system:

- Operational merger of La Mare de Carteret High and the Grammar School to form a new secondary school which will operate across both sites from Sep 2019
- This new school will eventually move into a new 8-form entry secondary school built on La Mare de Carteret playing fields and opening in Sept 2021
- No change to Les Beaucamps High and St Sampson's High although they may take more students in some year groups – we are looking at whether we need to provide additional accommodation at Les Beaucamps High
- Creation of a Post-16 College for all full-time post-16 courses – A levels, International Baccalaureate, BTEC and other applied and vocational courses on the Les Varendes site (former Grammar School site)
- Creation of a Training College for all apprenticeships, part-time courses, higher level courses and adult learning at Les Ozouets campus and releasing Delancey and Les Coutanche sites for alternative uses (e.g. possible housing development)

3. When will your new proposals come into force?

Transition to the new structure for learners will begin in September 2019 with the first all-ability intake into secondary education – these are children who are currently in Year 4 (academic year 2016/17)

Our new structure will be complete once the Post-16 College and Training College open in September 2024.

4. Which pupils will be affected?

The following applies to the year groups that learners are in as of the academic year 2016/17.

Students in **Years 11-13** at the Sixth Form Centre or the College of Further Education (CFE) will not be affected and will have left school/College before any changes take effect

Those currently in **Years 7 to 10** will complete their secondary education at their current sites and would either complete A levels/IB at the Sixth Form Centre or 2-3 year courses at the CFE

Pupils currently in **Years 5 and 6** will attend the secondary school they are allocated through the 11+ selection process. Current catchment areas will apply. Those selected for a place at the Grammar School will remain in their selective intake until they complete their GCSEs in Year 11.

Learners currently in **Year 4** will be the first non-selective, all-ability intake at Year 7 in September 2019. They will not sit the 11+. They will be allocated secondary schools in line with the new partner primary school system. Those in the catchment area of the new secondary school (i.e. transferring from La Houquette, Vauvert, La Mare de Carteret Primary and some from Hautes Capelles) will attend school at the Les Varendes site until the new secondary school opens.

If your child is currently in **Year 3** they will transfer to secondary school in line with the new partner primary school system. If you live in the new secondary school catchment then your child will move into the existing La Mare de Carteret buildings until the new school opens in September 2021. We will ensure the buildings are maintained as best we can during this time.

Children currently in **Year 2** will transfer to secondary school in line with the new partner primary school system. If you live in the new secondary school catchment then your child will move into the new school building.

If your child is currently in **Year 1** or below then by the time they reach Year 7 they will transfer to secondary school in line with the new partner primary school system. The new secondary school buildings will be fully operational.

5. I have a child going into Year 6 in September and need to decide my 11+ options before the States makes a decision. What should I do?

If you wish your child to take part in the 11+ process then we recommend you complete the necessary forms which will be given to you by your school in September. You will be able to change your preferred school until the 9th February 2018, which will be after the States debate.

6. Which school will my child go to in future?

Primary schools will partner with the three secondary schools with learners from four to six primary schools transferring into each secondary school as follows:

Primary School	Secondary School
Castel	Les Beaucamps High
St Martin's	Les Beaucamps High
Forest Primary	Les Beaucamps High
Notre Dame du Rosaire	Les Beaucamps High or New secondary school (current La Mare de Carteret site)
La Houquette	New secondary school (current La Mare de Carteret site)
La Mare de Carteret	New secondary school (current La Mare de Carteret site)
Vauvert	New secondary school (current La Mare de Carteret site)
Hautes Capelles	New secondary school (current La Mare de Carteret site) or St Sampson's High
St Mary and St Michael	New secondary school (current La Mare de Carteret site) or St Sampson's High
Vale	St Sampson's High
Amherst	St Sampson's High

Children who attend a primary school which is not their catchment primary school (i.e. those out of catchment) will have their secondary school places confirmed early in Year 6.

7. What options for post-16 studies will my child(ren) have?

If your child is currently in **Year 6** or above they will access post-16 education as now - either at the Sixth Form Centre or the College of Further Education (CFE) - and complete their courses at these two institutions.

If your child is currently in **Year 5** they will choose between the Sixth Form Centre and CFE courses for Year 12, as now, but will be part of the new Post-16 College for Year 13. They will maintain their programmes of study at the Post-16 College.

If your child is currently in **Year 4** or below they may either study post-16 courses at the new Post-16 College when they move into Year 12 or they may access part-time courses including apprenticeships at the new Training College.

8. What sort of qualifications will they be able to gain in your three-school model?

All learners will be able to access a range of courses and qualifications regardless of which secondary school they attend. These will include a full range of GCSE and equivalent Level 2 qualifications plus other enrichment opportunities such as the Duke of Edinburgh's Award and other similar activities.

Our aim is to provide equality of opportunity for all our learners, regardless of which secondary school they attend.

9. What about post-16 qualifications?

The Post-16 College will bring together a larger number of students in one organisation with the potential to expand the range of subjects available.

The Post-16 College will provide all **full-time** courses and qualifications including A Levels, International Baccalaureate, BTEC and other applied and vocational qualifications.

Students will be able to mix and match vocational qualifications with academic study. They will be able to choose a range of courses that play to their strengths and interests.

This new structure for post-16 education will also allow students to retake GCSEs in Year 12 or 13 and continue to study maths at a higher level if they wish.

All full-time post-16 students will have access to the same enrichment and PSHE (Personal, Social, Health and Citizenship Education) opportunities.

10. Will my child still be able to do an apprenticeship

Yes. Apprenticeships will be offered in the same way as now but delivered by the new Training College in partnership with employers.

There will be no change until 2024.

11. Children currently in Year 4 seem to be the most affected. What is going to happen to them?

We will ensure that our children's education is not adversely affected as we move to this new structure.

We believe our proposal has the best interests of our children, young people and out staff at its core.

Those children currently in Year 4 will be the first all-ability intake moving into secondary education under this new structure.

We will work with parents, staff and children to make sure you have all the information you need to plan for your child's move into secondary education. We will endeavour to answer any questions you may have and address any concerns about how transition to this new system will work.

12. How much is this going to cost?

Moving from four to three secondary schools and taking the opportunity to deliver post-16 education differently will bring a range of benefits as well as a long-term reduction in both building and operating costs.

We must look at the total project costs to transform education in this way but we are also planning on prioritising and phasing any building works to ensure they remain as affordable as possible.

The total building costs for our option will be around £108m with £52.2m needed to complete the first phase which runs from 2018-2021.

Our new model will also cost around £1.5-2m per year less than operating a four school system by 2024.

13. What about the Grant-Aided Colleges?

We cannot look at the future structure of secondary and post-16 education without considering the grant-aided Colleges – The Ladies' College, Elizabeth College and Blanchelande College.

We believe it is important that the three grant-aided Colleges continue to thrive in the Island.

The current funding agreement with the Colleges finishes in July 2019.

The current system of awarding special places at the Colleges stops for new students from September 2019 following the removal of the 11+.

All those granted a special place at one of the three Grant-Aided College up to and including those starting in September 2018 will continue to be fully funded by the States until the holder ceases their education there – either when they complete GCSEs in Year 11 or their sixth form studies in Year 13.

We are considering a phased reduction in States funding over the coming years. We will be publishing out proposals in a Policy Letter for debate in the Autumn.

14. In your proposal document you seem to be saying only 20% of pupils in each school year go to the Grant-Aided Colleges. Isn't it much more than this?

Yes. Around 30% of the total cohort of secondary pupils attend the Grant-Aided Colleges. 13.5% have previously attended the Colleges' junior schools and move up to the senior schools as fee payers plus an additional 20% of those in the States primary

sector (representing around 86.5% of the total Island cohort) who move into the Grant-Aided Colleges either as special place holders or fee payers.
15. Are you closing the Grammar School?
<p>The States have already decided to move to an all-ability system delivered in three secondary schools. Those children already at the Grammar School or selected for a place there between now and August 2018 will continue in their selective intake (on Les Varendes site) until they complete their GCSEs in Year 11.</p> <p>The Grammar School and La Mare de Carteret High School will operationally merge to form a new secondary school. This new school will operate from both existing sites until July 2023.</p>
16. I am planning to move to the Island with my children. Will they be able to attend the Grammar School?
<p>If you move to Guernsey between now and August 2018 our existing processes apply. These can be found online at www.gov.gg/movingtoguernsey</p>
17. Are you closing any schools?
<p>We are moving from four secondary schools to three through the merger of two schools.</p> <p>St Sampson's High and Les Beaucamps High may need to take more students in some year groups. We are currently looking at whether this requires any additional accommodation at either of these sites.</p>
18. What does this mean for the rebuild of La Mare de Carteret Schools?
<p>A new 8-form entry secondary school will be built on La Mare de Carteret playing fields. It will open in September 2021.</p>
19. What about the other facilities you planned to build on La Mare de Carteret site?
<p>To minimise costs, we are proposing not to build the community facility or pre-school included in the original plans. We will also phase the build to complete the new secondary school and sports facilities by September 2021 with the external areas and primary school to follow.</p> <p>On the advice of educational specialists, rather than build a separate combined primary and secondary communication and autism base on La Mare de Carteret site, secondary age children and young people with autism or communication difficulties will be supported by integrated bases within each of the secondary schools. This also supports greater inclusion. The primary base will continue at Amherst</p>
20. Why are you still planning to build this new school on la Mare de Carteret site? Wouldn't another site be better?
<p>We have considered a range of sites both in States and private ownership but the reality is La Mare de Carteret offers a large space of level ground with existing playing</p>

fields adjacent to a large population. The new school will be next to a primary school which will be able to share some of the outside spaces and sports facilities with the secondary school.

We have scaled back the original plans and phased the building work to ensure the best value for money is provided.

21. What about our special schools?

Children who attend our secondary special schools, Le Murier and Les Voies, do so due to Formal Assessment and Determination of Need which identifies special school provision as the most appropriate means of meeting their individual needs. We are not proposing to change this.

We believe that Les Voies and Le Murier will be able to benefit from the new structure. We expect to develop further opportunities for individual students to access alternative courses, social or enhancement activities, in mainstream school. This, for example, is currently being further developed between Le Murier and St Sampson's High School.

22. What's going to happen in Alderney?

It is important that our children and young people in Alderney and our staff at St Anne's School are, as far as possible, able to benefit from our proposals.

In line with the previous States decision to remove selection at 11, from September 2019 students at St Anne's will not be able to transfer to the Grammar School or Colleges as special place holders.

The Committee will be seeking views of Alderney parents and wider community about when it would be best for children in Alderney to have the opportunity to transfer to Guernsey to continue their education.

We will continue to explore the use of technology to enable the maintenance and future development of a broad curriculum for secondary age learners in Alderney.

Creative solutions such as shared staffing and technology are being developed to ensure the inclusion of St Anne's students, as far as possible, in opportunities provided for students in Guernsey.

23. What will happen to pupils at the Grammar School once selection at 11 ends in 2018?

All children selected for a place at the Grammar School through the 11+ process will remain in their selective intake until they complete their GCSEs in Year 11.

There is only one more year of 11+testing in primary schools. Those going into Year 6 this September will be the last year group to sit the selection tests (should you wish your child to sit them).

The process is outlined in the Guide for Parents & Carers of Year 6 Pupils available online at www.gov.gg/elevenplus This document will be updated by the start of the

new school year with the test dates etc. We are not proposing any material changes to the process for the academic year 2017/18.
24. My child needs extra help with their learning, will they still get it under your new system?
Yes. As now, schools will provide additional help and support where needed.
25. My child is ‘gifted and talented’, won’t they be held back by others who are not as quick to learn?
No. Our proposals will continue to provide opportunities to stretch and challenge all children, including those identified as ‘gifted and talented’, as currently happens in our primary schools.
26. Will my child still be able to access 14-16 courses at the College of Further Education?
<p>Yes. The provision of vocational and applied options at the College of Further Education will continue to be part of the Key Stage 4 offer in all three secondary schools.</p> <p>These ‘link’ courses will continue to be offered by the CFE until the new Training College opens in September 2024.</p>
27. I am worried about the impact of disruptive children on my child’s education.
All our schools have robust procedures, experienced staff and high expectations of learner behaviour. We expect our secondary schools to share excellent practice more effectively, allocate resources for support where needed and intervene at as early a stage as possible. The enhanced transition process from primary to secondary will also help.
28. Will children be set by ability in subjects at secondary school
Yes. Children will be set by ability in some subjects where beneficial.
29. Will my child still be able to get a place at one of the Colleges in the future?
If the States approve the Committee’s proposals for a new funding agreement, from September 2019 access to a place at the Colleges will be through fee-paying. This is the same as entry into their infant and junior schools.
30. What about brothers and sisters?
<p>Wherever possible, and where there is space, we try to keep siblings together. Obviously, at the moment younger siblings of those selected to the Grammar School through the 11 plus do not necessarily attend the same school.</p> <p>Under our proposals it is possible that younger siblings of those selected to the Grammar School site prior to September 2019 may not be able to attend the same school because admissions would be based on the new partner primary school system.</p>

31. What about school uniforms – will they be changing?
This level of detail will be worked out in discussion with the schools once the States have made a decision about the way forward. We will ask parents for their views at the appropriate time.
32. What is the new school going to be called?
We have not yet decided what the new secondary school will be called.
33. How are students going to be transported to their new schools?
We will be looking at detailed transport requirements to support the transition arrangements from September 2019 and also the new structure once it is fully up and running in September 2024. Until then current transport arrangements apply.
34. I am concerned about the disruption and uncertainty the new proposals will cause for children currently in preschool or primary education.
<p>While it is always unsettling to have to adapt to change and new ways of working, no education system can stay still if we want to improve outcomes and operate as efficiently as possible.</p> <p>We must ensure our children’s education is not adversely affected as we move to this new structure.</p> <p>We have set ourselves some principles to guide the move to the new structure. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best interests of students and staff at core • High quality communication • Provision of a safe and high quality learning environment appropriate to the delivery of the curriculum – (minimising disruption caused by temporary accommodation, building sites, run-down buildings) • No more than one additional school move per child and not in consecutive years • No move between Years 10 and 11, i.e. during Key Stage 4 • Keep school and year group cohorts together wherever possible • Staff recruitment and retention is a key risk and we will endeavour to minimise this risk as much as possible • Curriculum and pastoral continuity will be maintained • Commitment to retain current Grammar School pupils and those due to start in September 2017 and September 2018 in their selective intakes • Introduction of a partner primary school system with minimum disruption to current catchments • All students to move into the new building at the same time

- Contingency plans in place in case the new school building on La Mare de Carteret site is not ready for September 2021.

35. What about the impact on staff?

Workforce planning has been an absolute priority. Not only does the Committee wish to allay any concerns of the workforce and ensure quality and continuity in education provision to safeguard learner outcomes, it also needs to model the financial impact of the restructure.

We are working with staff associations (unions) to ensure we are able to retain and recruit excellent staff both during the transition and also for the new structure.

36. What will happen if I move house at any time over the next few years?

If you move house into a new catchment area between now and July 2019 our existing policy will apply.

You can find out more at www.gov.gg/catchmentareas

We are considering how to address out of catchment pupils within our new three-school model and would welcome your feedback.

37. Will you have enough space in your schools if the population increases?

A three school model has been determined as the most viable option in the longer term and keeps each school size around the optimum recommended – 600 to 900 learners.

It is known that the school population will increase and peak around 2027. It is not known yet whether it will remain at that level or reduce after this.

Our three-school option provides sufficient space now and in the future to cope with this increase. It also provides reasonable flexibility to cope with further increase or decrease in learner population and makes efficient use of the education estate based on forecasting data.

38. I have looked at the population figures and there seems to be more spaces than we need. Why is this?

Although it might look as though there is extra space in our three school model, this is needed to accommodate different sized year groups, for example one year group might have 434 learners and another 478. It is also important that we retain some level of flexibility to ensure pupils from partner primary schools are able to transfer into their catchment secondary school.

39. Why are you proposing to make these changes, why not leave everything as it is?

Education systems in all societies need to change in order to effectively reflect social, cultural and technological developments over time. We have an exciting opportunity to introduce a new structure which will help improve educational pathways and

outcomes, whilst offering all of our children and young people the chance to realise their full potential.

40. Where can I find out more?

You can find a full copy of our proposals and other supporting information on our website www.gov.gg/educationfuture

We are also hosting a range of parent meetings which you are welcome to attend. Dates and venues are available on our website.

If you have any further questions please don't hesitate to contact us on 733000 or via email at educationfuture@gov.gg