



**Aston Rowant C+E Primary School**  
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*Headteacher: Mrs Helen France*

## **Governing Body Response to Consultation Paper on the Proposed Change of Category from Controlled to Aided for Aston Rowant Church of England School**

Thank you to everyone that took the time to give us your thoughts on the above proposal. We are pleased to say that the overall response was positive. In response to the statement '*I think that Aston Rowant CE School should become a voluntary aided school*' nobody answered 'disagree', two respondents answered 'not sure' and all others answered 'agree'.

There were two questions submitted which we have responded to below:

### **Q1: What guarantee can be given that the admission arrangements will remain as they are, at least for a reasonable period?**

As a VC school the Governing Body currently have no say on our admissions policy or criteria. As a VA school the Governing Body will become the admissions authority and the admission policy would be reviewed annually as this is a government requirement. The admissions policy for 2024/25 has already been agreed so the very earliest any changes could be made is September 2025, but there is no intention or appetite to change admissions policy or criteria in the foreseeable future.

### **Q2: I suspect that the money is all about seeking more monies for the school and the sourcing of more parents from afar with children.**

The school currently has a PAN (Published Admissions Number) of 15, meaning we can accept 15 children into Reception each year. This is currently set by OCC. Whilst as a VA school we could theoretically change this, there is no intention to do so. Due to the size of the school and number of classrooms we have two year groups per class (i.e. maximum of 30 per class). Therefore it is not practical for us to increase the PAN. The financial advantage of becoming a VA school that is mentioned refers to the fact that the Governing Body would have greater say in how we spend the school's money. There are also some grants etc available from the diocese.

Oxfordshire County Council will now carry out their statutory consultation period at the end of which the Governing Body will make a final decision on how to proceed. If you have any questions or comments in the meantime please do reach out to use by emailing [chair@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:chair@aston-rowant.oxon.sch.uk)

**GRATITUDE RESILIENCE OUTREACH WONDER TRUST HARMONY**

*'Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him.'* Colossians 2:7