# ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL

**A proposal to close Montgomery Infant School and Nursery and a related proposal to enlarge the capacity and extend the age range of Montgomery Junior School, to allow it to become an all through primary school.**

**Notice is given** in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Essex County Council, County Hall, Market Road, Chelmsford, CM1 1GS intends to make the following changes:

**Part 1**

In accordance with section 15(1) of the Act, to close Montgomery Infant School and Nursery (Community), Baronswood Way, Colchester, Essex, CO2 9QG on 31 March 2025.

All statutory consultation requirements in respect of this proposal have been complied with.

It is anticipated that pupils attending Montgomery Infant School and Nursery at the time of closure will transfer onto the roll of the current Montgomery Junior School which, under related proposals (see Part 2 of this notice), will be enlarged and its age range extended to become an all through primary school. Alternatively, admission may be sought to other schools in the area that have places available. Since the sites of Montgomery Infant School and Nursery and Montgomery Junior School adjoin, no specific arrangements are proposed for the travel of displaced pupils to other schools. Transport arrangements for pupils attending alternative schools will be in accordance with the County Council's published policy. However, individual cases will be considered on their merits.

**Part 2**

In accordance with section 19(1) of the Act, to make the following prescribed alterations:

(a) change the age range of pupils attending Montgomery Junior School (Community), Baronswood Way, Colchester, Essex, CO2 9QG from 7 to 11 to 3 to 11 years of age;

(b) enlarge the premises of the school to increase its physical capacity to 630 places plus 40 nursery places, by taking over the current site of Montgomery Infant School and Nursery.

Both of these proposed alterations will take effect from 1 April 2025. All statutory consultation requirements in respect of this proposal have been complied with.

The current capacity of the school is 360 and the proposed capacity will be 630, plus 40 nursery places. Data for May 2024 show that there were 345 pupils on roll at Montgomery Junior School and 235 pupils, plus 40 nursery places on roll at Montgomery Infant School. If the proposals are implemented the enlarged Montgomery Junior School, providing education for pupils aged 3-11, will operate on the sites of the existing infant and the current junior school, which adjoin.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from The School Organisation Team at the address provided below or at: https://www.essex.gov.uk/school-organisation-and-place-planning/consultations-and-statutory-proposals

**Within four weeks** from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object to, or make comments on, the proposals by sending them to: Director, Education c/o School Organisation, Infrastructure and Environment, Essex County Council, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1QH, or via email to school.organisation@essex.gov.uk

**Signed**:     Clare Kershaw
            Director, Education
            Essex County Council

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**Explanatory Notes**

1. The proposals to close Montgomery Infant School and Nursery and to enlarge the premises to increase the physical capacity and to alter the lower age range of Montgomery Junior School to enable it to become an all through primary school are related.
2. A copy of the County Council's Home to School Transport policy can be obtained from The School Organisation Team at the following addresses: School Organisation, Infrastructure and Environment, Essex County Council, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1QH, or via email to school.organisation@essex.gov.uk.
3. In accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, Montgomery Infant School and Nursery will be discontinued on 31 March 2025.