Camden Council
5 Pancras Square
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www.camden.gov.uk

21 October 2026

Dear staff, parents, carers and governors at La Sainte Union Catholic Secondary School,

My name is Tim Aldridge and I am the Executive Director for Children and Learning at Camden Council. I am writing with a further update about La Sainte Union Catholic Secondary School.

As we previously shared, all schools in Camden and many across London are under increasing financial pressure. Falling birth rates and families moving out of London means that there are fewer children to take up school places. This is leading to falling pupil numbers and surplus school places.

As a council, we have a duty to ensure that there are sufficient, high-quality and sustainable school places and to manage these school places efficiently. With falling pupil numbers, we need to manage this working closely with schools.

Over the past year as part of our School Sufficiency Programme, we have been working closely with schools that have been particularly affected by these issues to support them to respond to these challenges.

Decision on consultation

Despite everyone's commitment, La Sainte Union Catholic Secondary School is one of four schools that continues to face the most acute and sustained pressures – including high vacancies and increasing financial pressure.

On 20 October 2026, Camden's Cabinet Members – the group of lead councillors – met to consider this report. The decision they made was to go ahead with a consultation, as recommended in the report.

We expect the consultation to run from 2 November to 14 December 2026. You will be consulted on four options and you will be invited to share or identify additional options.The four options are:

- Reducing the school's Published Admission Number (PAN)
- Federating La Sainte Union with another secondary school
- Closing the school's provision for Years 7 to 11 only AND keeping and reconfiguring post-16 provision (Years 12 to 13/14)
- Full closure of the school Years 7 to 13/14.

Sharing your views

We want to make sure that every parent and carer can have their say.

- There will be an in-person consultation session at the school on Tuesday 17 November, from 4pm to 6pm.
- There will be an online consultation session on Wednesday 18 November at 5pm.
- From 2 November to 14 December, you can also complete the consultation online, via a printed booklet and via other formats – including EasyRead and in other languages.
- Please mark these dates in your diary and we will provide more information after half-term on the above, including how to sign up for the sessions..

Next steps, following the six-week consultation

- **February 2027:** Cabinet members would review the outcome of the consultation, along with other factors, and consider which option to take forward for each school.
- **February 2027:** If Cabinet decide on a proposal to close a school, a four-week prescribed statutory consultation period would follow where the school, parents and carers, and wider stakeholders can again comment on the proposal.
- **April 2027:** The final decision would be made.
- **April to May 2027:** If the decision has implications for school staff, a formal consultation process would begin.
- **Implementation date:** This will depend on what change is agreed, if any – but changes could be implemented from next academic year (September 2027).

For more information, please visit **camden.gov.uk/SchoolProposals**, where you can find answers to questions, information in British Sign Language and information in EasyRead.

We will keep you updated on how you can get involved in the consultation. If you have any questions, please email lasainteunionconsultation@camden.gov.uk.

Many thanks,



Tim Aldridge
Executive Director, Children and Learning
Camden Council