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## **Public Playing Field Consultation - Proposed Disposal of Former St Joseph's Lancastrian Infant School, Orchard Gardens, Chichester, PO19 1DG**

West Sussex County Council (WSSCC) is seeking views from residents, local organisations, and community stakeholders on the loss of playing field land which will result from the proposed disposal of the former St Joseph's Lancastrian Infant School site. This playing field consultation is a specific requirement from the Department for Education. (DfE)

### **About the Proposal**

A Surplus Declaration has already been made for this site, and a Key Decision for freehold disposal has recently been approved. More details are available on our website via the links below:

*Key Decision:* <https://westsussex.moderngov.co.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?ID=2393>

*Surplus Declaration:* <https://westsussex.moderngov.co.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?Id=2028>

### **What the Site Includes**

- Former school buildings
- Former playground & forest school garden area
- Vehicle and pedestrian access

### **Why We Are Consulting**

Under Section 77 of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998, disposal of former school playing-field land requires consultation and DfE approval.

It is important to note that we are not consulting on the proposed disposal itself, only the loss of playing field land which will result.

### **Impact on Local Education**

Nearby schools have sufficient playing field land in line with DfE requirements, however all publicly funded schools in the immediate locality have been invited to comment.

### **How to Respond**

If you would like to provide comments on the loss of playing field land which will result from the proposed disposal, please email [land.consultation.response@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:land.consultation.response@westsussex.gov.uk)

Responses must be received no later than 22 May 2026. The consultation runs for 6 weeks from 13/04/2026 to 22/05/2026.

### **What Happens Next**

All feedback will be reviewed before submission to the DfE. No disposal will take place until the statutory process has been completed.