

**2016 No. 973**

**EDUCATION, ENGLAND**

**The Designation of Rural Primary Schools (England) Order  
2016**

*Made* - - - - *7th October 2016*

*Coming into force* - - *10th October 2016*

The Secretary of State makes the following Order in exercise of powers conferred by section 15(7)(b) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006(a).

**Citation and commencement**

1. This Order may be cited as the Designation of Rural Primary Schools (England) Order 2016 and comes into force on 10th October 2016.

**Designation of rural primary schools**

2. The schools in a list called “List of designated rural primary schools 2016” published on the Gov.uk website on 3rd October 2016 are designated as rural primary schools in England.

**Revocation**

3. The Designation of Rural Primary Schools (England) Order 2015(b) is revoked.

Signed on behalf of the Secretary of State

7th October 2016

*Lesley Jones*  
Deputy Director  
Department for Education

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order designates those primary schools in England which are rural primary schools for the purpose of section 15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

This Order revokes the Designation of Rural Primary Schools (England) Order 2015.

Section 15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 requires that when formulating proposals for the closure of a rural primary school, those proposing the closure have regard to specific factors.

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(a) 2006 c.40.  
(b) S.I. 2015/1748.

These factors include the likely effect of the closure on the local community and any alternatives to the closure of the school. The decision makers must also consult parents and the district and parish councils. This Order designates rural primary schools by reference to a list of such schools published on the Gov.uk website at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/rural-primary-schools-designation>.

When considering proposals to close rural primary schools, decision makers should refer to this list. A copy can also be obtained by writing to the Department at the following address:

School Organisation Policy Team, Department for Education, 2 St Paul's Place, 125 Norfolk Street, Sheffield, S1 2FJ.

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