



Cheshire West  
and Chester

Consultation on the proposal  
to increase the age range  
of  
The Acorns Primary and  
Nursery School.

6 March 2017 – 2 April 2017

Cheshire West and Chester Council  
The Acorns Primary and Nursery School Consultation  
Children and Young People's Services  
Floor 3, Nicholas House,  
1 Black Friars  
Chester  
CH1 2NU

**The Acorns Primary and Nursery School  
Increase in Age Range Consultation**

To Pupils, Parents/Carers, Staff, Governors and Stakeholders

6 March 2017

**Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council is proposing to permanently increase the age range of The Acorns Primary and Nursery School Pooltown Road, Whitby, Ellesmere Port, CH65 7ED from 3-11 years of age to 2-11 years of age from September 2017.**

**1. Why we are proposing to increase the age range of The Acorns Primary and Nursery School**

Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council (the Council) have been requested by the Governing Body of The Acorns Primary and Nursery School (the Governing Body) to permanently increase the age range of the school to include provision for two year-olds. The Governing Body's request follows an Ofsted judgement that Heathfield Playgroup, which currently provides provision for two year-olds from the school, 'requires improvement'. The Governing Body believe that it is now best placed to ensure a high quality Early Years offer for the most vulnerable two year-olds is available to local families through building on the strengths of its existing Early Years leadership team.

**2. Where will the provision be made?**

The school propose to make use of the accommodation currently used by Heathfield Playgroup to provide the Early Years offer to two year-olds. This would now be provided under the school's governance. Heathfield Playgroup is aware of this proposal.

**3. Will any building work be required to accommodate the younger children?**

The school believe that no major works will be required to the current premises. Any adaptations will be minimal and if required will be carried out during the summer holidays.

**4. How many pre-school children will be admitted and will this mean reducing the number of pupils admitted to the school as a consequence?**

The Governing Body propose to admit up to 20 two year-olds for a session running from 8.45am to 11.45am each day. The Governing Body will review demand with a view to the potential future introduction of additional afternoon sessions. The Governing Body believe that there is adequate space within the school for them to admit up to the Published Admission Number of 45 pupils in each year group. The school propose to employ existing Heathfield Playgroup employees along with a new Room Leader to staff the provision for two year-olds.

## 5. The consultation process – indicative timeline

Date	Activity
6 March – 2 April 2017	Informal Public Consultation Period
14 March 2017 3pm to 6pm	Drop-in Meeting at the school for parents/carers, staff, governors & stakeholders
April 2017	The Director of Education decides whether to continue with the proposal. If so, a Public Notice will be published in a local newspaper, displayed at the school and published on the Council's website. During this time comments and objections can be made about the proposal. The Public Notice will run for four weeks.
June 2017	The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People considers all responses made and decides whether to approve the proposal.
Anticipated September 2017	Permanent increase in age range of the school is implemented if the proposal is agreed.

## 6. How can I give my views?

There are a number of ways to give us your views on this proposal:

- At a drop-in for parents/carers, members of staff and governors is being held at the school on 14 March 3pm to 6pm, where there will be the opportunity to ask questions and complete a response form.
- By sending the response form to Cheshire West and Chester Council, School Organisation Team (Nicholas House, Floor 3), 4 Civic Way, Ellesmere Port, CH65 0BE Alternatively, you may hand your response form in at the school. All written responses need to be received by midnight on 2 April 2017.
- By completing the online form at [TheAcornsPrimaryandNurserySchool](http://TheAcornsPrimaryandNurserySchool)
- By emailing [schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)
- Visit [www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/theacornsprimaryconsultation](http://www.cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk/theacornsprimaryconsultation) for further information.

## 7. What happens next?

This consultation stage closes on midnight 2 April 2017. A report summarising the responses received during the consultation period will be submitted to the Director of Education who will then decide whether to proceed with the proposal and move to publish statutory proposals in the form of a public notice. The public notice would be published in a local newspaper. For a period of four weeks following the publication date any person can comment on the proposals. Having taken into account any responses, the Cabinet Member for Children and Young People will then take a final decision as to whether to proceed with the proposal.

Yours sincerely,



Carolyn Davis  
Senior Manager Education Infrastructure

**The Acorns Primary and Nursery School– public consultation feedback to be completed by deadline of midnight Sunday 2 April 2017**

**We would like your comments on the Council's proposals for The Acorns Primary and Nursery School outlined in the accompanying consultation document. Please read this document before completing this survey.**

**Q1.** Please tell us whether you agree or disagree with the proposal to increase the age range of The Acorns Primary and Nursery School from 3-11 years of age to 2-11 years of age?

- Agree                                       Disagree                                       Not sure/don't know

**Q2.** Do you wish to make any additional comments with regards to the proposed change to increase the age range of The Acorns Primary and Nursery School from 3-11 years of age to 2-11 years of age?

**About you**

The information you give in this section is strictly confidential and will be used to analyse the responses. All questions are voluntary; please leave blank any you wish not to answer. No information will be released that would allow identification of you as an individual or of your household.

**Q3.** To which of the following categories do you belong?

- Parent/carer            Pupil\*            Governor            Member of school staff        
Local resident            Other\*\*      \*\* Please specify.....

\* Please ensure an adult knows you are completing this survey

**Q4.** Which school (if any) are you linked with .....

**Q5.** Please tell us your postcode (not full address).....

Please send any responses back by the deadline of midnight, Sunday 2 April 2017

- By post: Cheshire West and Chester Council, School Organisation Team (Nicholas House, Floor 3), 4 Civic Way, Ellesmere Port, CH65 0BE.
- Email: [schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:schoolplanningandpolicy@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

Thank you for completing this survey.

### Additional Information

- Cheshire West and Chester Borough Council is a data controller under the Data Protection Act 1998 and will comply with the requirements of the Act at all times. The Council will ensure that your personal information is processed fairly and lawfully and in this instance used only for the purpose of validation, which will enable a fair and just consultation.
- At the end of the period of informal consultation the Council will assess the Equality Impact of the proposal to see if it could affect anyone unfairly. We welcome any comments you might wish to make that might help to inform this assessment.

## Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in Audio, Braille, Large Print or other formats. If you would like a copy in a different format, in another language or require a BSL interpreter, please email us at [equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk](mailto:equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk)

إذا أردت المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو بطريقة أخرى، نرجو أن تطلب ذلك منا.

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

Pokud byste požadovali informace v jiném jazyce nebo formátu, kontaktujte nás

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਲਓ।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

Türkçe bilgi almak istiyorsanız, bize başvurabilirsiniz.

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

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