

**Consultation on the proposal
to extend the age range of
Winsford High Street
Community Primary School,
High Street, Winsford CW7
2AU
from 4 – 11 years to 3 – 11
years**

25 November 2013 – 17 January 2014

Cheshire West and Chester Council
Children and Young People's Service
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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।

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。

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.

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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۔

Have your say on the proposal to extend the age range of Winsford High Street Community Primary School, Winsford, CW7 2AU from 4-11 years to 3-11 years

This document has been produced by Cheshire West and Chester Council to support the consultation processes with parents, staff, schools, early years providers and key stakeholders as prescribed under the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007, Regulation 8 of the 2007 Regulations. It seeks the views of all these interested groups on the proposals which it is anticipated would take effect from 1 September 2014. It is proposed that Winsford High Street Primary School extends its age range from 4 -11 to 3 – 11 years to allow the school to operate a maintained nursery class.

Why is the Council proposing to make these changes?

Under Section 7 of the Childcare Act 2006, local authorities are required to make available 15 hours per week of high quality Early Years Foundation Stage to all 3 and 4 year olds free of charge, for thirty eight weeks per year. Provision within the authority must be offered flexibly and in sessions of varying lengths over a minimum of three days per week to meet parental demand. Cheshire West and Chester Council have a duty to ensure sufficient levels of early year's entitlement for all eligible three and four year olds in its Borough.

Since 1 September 2013, Section 7 of the Childcare Act includes the duty to provide free Early Years Foundation Stage to eligible two year olds, approx. 20% of the two year old population within Cheshire West and Chester. The duty will extend to 40% of the two year old population in September 2014.

Two year old children are eligible for a free entitlement place if they are:

- Looked after children;
- Children who meet the Free School Meal criteria e.g. from families whose income is below £16,190 and their parents are in receipt of any of the following benefits: Income Support; Income-based Job Seekers' Allowance; Income-related Employment and Support Allowance; Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999; the Guarantee element of the State Pension Credit; or Child Tax Credit, provided they have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190, as assessed by Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs, and are not in receipt of Working Tax Credits (except during the four-week period immediately after their employment ceases, or after they start to work fewer than 16 hours per week.

The main benefit, for the two year olds receiving early education as a result of this entitlement, are the expected improvements in cognitive, emotional and social development and school readiness, leading to improved future educational attainment and lifetime earnings.

Winsford has the second largest population of eligible two year olds in the borough. The estimated number for the Winsford area for 2013/14 is 150.

Statutory guidance requires Cheshire West and Chester Council to only use early year's providers who have either Good or Outstanding Ofsted judgements to provide free entitlement places for eligible two year olds. Cheshire West and Chester Council can only fund two year old children in 'satisfactory/requires improvement' providers where there is not sufficient accessible 'good' or 'outstanding' provision.

Additional capacity is being developed in the private, voluntary and independent (PVI) sector of early year's providers by utilising vacant places and the use of designated capital to support the increase of places. However there is still a requirement to increase the early years places and develop the PVI sector to increase the number of two year old places it makes available; enabling the maintained sector to provide more places for three and four year olds.

Cheshire West and Chester Council has recently completed a conversion of the former Chapell building into four classrooms, a hall and a theatre linked to the existing primary school building by a glazed corridor.

How will the proposed changes work?

It is proposed that Winsford High Street Community Primary School will provide a twenty six place maintained nursery class for three and four year olds. The nursery will provide inclusive morning and afternoon sessions and all day (six hours) sessions to support the needs of working parents and those parents who are in education or training.

The following is provided by Mr Joule, Head teacher to provide a vision for the proposed nursery class.

Winsford High Street Community Primary School nursery provision proposal

Overview

At Winsford High Street Community Primary school we look to provide quality education for the children of the locality. Our current provision is for children from the age of four until they leave for secondary school at the age of eleven. However, for many years it has been the desire of all staff and governors of the school to reduce the starting age for the children entering High Street to three years. Within this proposal we are looking to provide a fifty two place nursery; twenty six children will be catered for in the mornings and a further twenty six in the afternoon. There will also be a limited number of places for children to remain in the provision for the full school day. This will be managed by one full time teacher and a number of teaching assistants, which will depend on the uptake for the provision.

Accommodation / Staffing

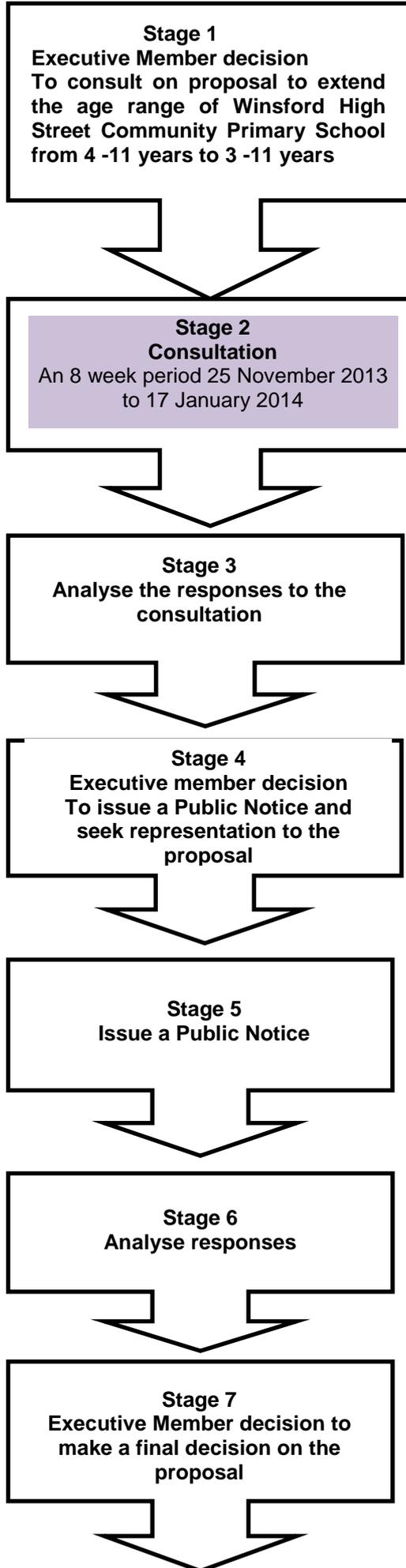
To accommodate the younger pupils at High Street, we will move our current Year 1 pupils to the spare classrooms that have been made available through the recent

redevelopments. This will enable us to relocate the Foundation Stage 2 pupils (current reception) into the Year 1 classes, leaving the existing Foundation Stage available to accommodate the youngest children. This will mean that the Foundation Stage Manager will be able to oversee both Foundation Stage 1 and 2 as both year groups would be in close proximity to each other; allowing for the staff to plan and work collaboratively for the benefit of all pupils, thus giving a very accurate overview of each child from an early age. In doing so we feel that we would be able to support the families from the area more at a significant time in their child's development. As we currently have children joining the school with speech and language delays we would look to work with all parents of nursery aged children to support them during the very important stages of language development.

In addition to this, there will also be flexibility for movement between the two areas, depending on a child's needs due to the close proximity of both of the Foundation Stage Classes.

Although there is current provision for Nursery aged children in the locality, research indicates that there will be a heavy demand of further places in the coming years, due to the additional funding being made available by the government for child care. As a school, we feel that we have the facilities and highly trained staff to compliment the current provision in the town, thus providing a central provision for pre-school aged pupils. Although we realise, as with all maintained nurseries that not all pupils who attend our provision will transfer to our main school, it is our desire to give every child the best start possible to their learning journey!

7 STAGES OF THE PROPOSAL



We are at this stage

Next steps

Following the process of consultation, and due consideration of the feedback received, the Executive Member for Children and Young People's Services will be asked to make a decision as to whether the proposals should be progressed or progressed in an amended form.

How do I tell you my views?

The public consultation will take place between Monday 25 November 2013 and Friday 17 January 2014. A drop in session will be held Wednesday 8 January 2014 from 2pm to 6pm. During this time we really would like to hear your views on the proposal we have put to you in this paper. You can take part by:

- Online: complete an online feedback form:
 - Provide feedback using a hard copy form and return to:
Cheshire West and Chester Council
Children and Young People's Service
School Planning and Policy
3rdFloor
HQ, 58 Nicholas Street
Chester
CH1 2NP
- If you require clarification on any of the points raised in this document please also contact us on 01244 972316

**Please make sure you have submitted your response by
Friday 17 January 2014**

What happens to your responses?

All of the responses received during the consultation period are summarised in a report (anonymously) with an analysis of the outcomes of the consultation and recommendations on the next steps. The report is then taken to the Cheshire West and Chester Executive Member, Councillor Mark Stocks, who has the following options; to decide not to take the proposals any further, or to recommend changes to the proposals in some way or to proceed with the original proposal to the next stage of the process. The report will be made available publicly as part of the process.

All of the information you provide in your response will be treated in the strictest of confidence and only used for the purpose it was collected.

Thank you for taking the time to respond to this consultation. Your response will be considered in full.

Consultation Feedback:

Please let us know your views on these proposals.
You may find it helpful to consider the following question when formulating your response:

Q.1: Do you agree or disagree with the Council's proposal to change the age range of Winsford High Street Primary School from 4 -11 to 3 – 11 years?

Strongly Agree		Agree		Neither agree nor disagree		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
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If you would like to make any comments, provide further explanation for your response to Q1 or ask any questions, please use this space.

**Please continue on separate piece of paper if you require more space.
Thank You**