

# PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS

BOROUGH OF POOLE

## **In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details**

1. The name, address and category of the school .

Hillbourne School and Nursery  
Kitchener Crescent  
Waterloo  
Poole  
Dorset  
BH17 7HX  
Community School

## **Implementation**

1. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented.

It is planned to implement the proposal on 1 September 2014.

## **Objections and comments**

2. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —
  - (a) the date by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and
  - (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

The Statutory Notice was published on 2 April 2014. Within 4 weeks of the date of publication of the proposals (by 30 April 2014), any person may object or make comments on the proposal by sending them to:  
Kate Rixom, Legal and Democratic Services, Borough of Poole, Civic Centre, Poole, Dorset. BH15 2RU

## **Alteration description and evidence of demand**

### **3. A description of the proposed alteration and evidence of demand**

It is proposed to change the lower age range of the school from 3-11 years old to 4-11 years old from September 2014. The school would provide year groups Reception to Year 6 instead of Nursery to Year 6.

This proposal would mean the closure of the maintained Nursery and reorganisation of the early years provision by moving an alternative provider, Twin Oaks Pre-School, into the early years building at the school.

The maintained Nursery class has never been full since it opened in 2002. Current childcare sufficiency information suggests that there are not enough children of pre-school age in the local area to sustain both the Hillbourne Nursery class and Twin Oaks Pre-School. The school is concerned that the Nursery is not viable on the basis of the low level of demand for places. Twin Oaks Pre-School is popular with parents and is able to offer a more flexible service. It was rated 'good' at its last Ofsted inspection.

## **School capacity and the effect of the proposal on other schools and academies**

### **4. School capacity and effect of the proposal**

The current capacity of the school is 420. The current admission number is 60 places. The proposal does not change either the capacity or the admission number of the school.

The January 2014 census recorded a total of 330 pupils at the school.

## **Site**

### **5. The effect on the site and whether any additional site will be needed**

Works will take place to enable Twin Oaks Pre-School to move in to the school's early years building. The early years provision will have its own separate entrance and indoor and outdoor space. No new or additional site will be needed.

## Objectives

### 6. The objectives of the proposals.

- To improve dedicated early years provision on the school site
- To consolidate early years provision by a popular provider and to offer a level of provision that is sustainable by the forecast level of demand
- To provide the opportunity for expansion of early years provision by the provider preferred by local parents

## Consultation

### 7. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—

- (a) a list of persons who were consulted;
- (b) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- (c) the views of the persons consulted;
- (d) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and
- (e) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

- (a) See Appendix A, list of people consulted
- (b) See Appendix B, Minutes of two public meetings held on 5 February 2014
- (c) See Appendix C, summary of the consultation responses
- (d) All applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals were complied with
- (e) See Appendix D, copy of the consultation document

The consultation document was sent to everyone listed in Appendix A. Documents were made available from Hillbourne School and Nursery, Twin Oaks Pre-School, Creekmore Children's Centre and Hillbourne Outreach, from the school's website, Borough of Poole's website and at the public meetings on 5 February. The meetings were advertised by a notice in the Bournemouth Echo.

## Project costs

8. A statement of the project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved.

Some building works are required to adapt the school's early years building to fit the needs of the reorganised arrangements. The pre-school is required to have specific designated space registered with Ofsted with a separate entrance, toilets and outdoor play space.

The Children's Services Capital Strategy 2013-2018, approved by the Council on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2014, identifies the reorganisation of Early Years provision at Hillbourne School and Nursery as a priority.

The costs of the building works required to adapt the early years building are not yet known and budget approval needs to be secured before the Decision Maker decides on the proposal. A detailed report will be presented to the Portfolio Holder for Major Projects or Cabinet on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2014 to seek approval for the allocation of capital funding, not exceeding £500k, to this project once costs are known.

## Age range

9. Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

The current age range is Nursery to Year 6 i.e. from 3-11 years old.

## Early years provision

10. Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5, details of the early years provision, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils.

The current maintained Nursery class has capacity for 52 places as 26 morning sessions and 26 afternoon sessions but it currently offers morning sessions only because of the low numbers of children who attend.

Twin Oaks Pre-School has 26 full-time places that can be offered flexibly as full-time or part-time places. Twin Oaks has operated from the youth club building for 20 years. It was rated 'good' by Ofsted at its last inspection.

## Extended services

11. If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school's extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

Under this proposal the school's Nursery class would close and Twin Oaks Pre-School would offer an early years service.

12. If the proposals involve removing places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice; and

The number of mainstream places will not be affected by the proposal. Discontinuing the maintained Nursery class at the school is proposed in order to achieve the objectives set out in Section 6 of this proposal.

Supporting evidence of the reasons is included in the following appendices.

- Appendix D, copy of the consultation document, sets out the low take up of places at the maintained Nursery
- Appendix C, summary of the consultation responses, shows the support for reorganisation of early years provision as proposed

- (b) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

Families who have applied for a place at the maintained Nursery for September 2014 have been advised that a statutory process is being undertaken to propose closing the Nursery. If the maintained Nursery closes these families will have the choice of taking a place at Twin Oaks Pre-School or finding suitable alternative provision with the full support of the Family Information Service.