

Summary of responses to consultation on the proposal to reorganise early years provision at Hillbourne School & Nursery

13<sup>th</sup> January - 21<sup>st</sup> February 2014

**Total respondents – 43**

**17 Parents of children at Hillbourne**

Including 5 who also have children attending Twin Oaks Pre-school

Including 2 parent governors

**7 Parents of children at Twin Oaks Pre-school**

**14 School staff**

Including 1 staff governor

**4 Twin Oaks Pre-school staff**

**1 Local resident**

OPTION	NO. OF RESPONSES	COMMENTS
<p>Option 1 – support the proposal to close the maintained nursery and move Twin oaks Pre-school into the early years building at Hillbourne School and Nursery from September 2014.</p>	<p>40</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Parent</i> – I think this is a wonderful opportunity for a well established running group to expand, the support my son has had from Twin Oaks has been wonderful.</li> <li>▪ <i>Staff</i> – A major priority needs to be to make sure that the school is provided with sufficient capital to adapt the EY provision to provide the EY environment in line with EYFS guidance.</li> <li>▪ <i>Staff</i> – It is vital Twin Oaks and the school work together and not as separate entities in order to provide what's best for the local community.</li> <li>▪ <i>Staff</i> – Alternative provision for existing Reception children should be considered e.g. building, disruption. New classroom space needed for September 2014.</li> <li>▪ <i>Staff</i> – I hope that the covenanted land is being ring-fenced and not being sold off. This could be the thin end of the wedge for the council to snatch the school grounds.</li> <li>▪ <i>Parent</i> – I fully support the reorganisation if it means my daughter will have a place in September 2014. Both my sons attended Twin Oaks.</li> <li>▪ <i>Parent</i> – not bothered either way</li> <li>▪ <i>Twin Oaks parent / staff</i> – It is a great opportunity not only for the children but staff as well.</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The proposed early years provision is a sensible and clear option. It will support the long term futures of both Hillbourne School &amp; Twin oaks Nursery while enhancing the current facilities. I hope that every opportunity is made to celebrate and publicise the benefits of these proposals to local families and the wider communities in the Borough of Poole.</li> <li>▪ This would be an ideal solution and would suit our circumstances perfectly.</li> <li>▪ Please see written responses 1 &amp; 2 below</li> </ul>
Option 2 – do not support the proposal to close the maintained nursery and move Twin oaks Pre-school into the early years building at Hillbourne School and Nursery from September 2014.	1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Parent</i> – Even though I don't use the nursery I think it is convenient for those with other children in the school</li> </ul>
Option 3 – alternative option	2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <i>Staff</i> – A shame that we can't merge the 2 operations and enable the school to continue to offer a nursery facility – think that's something the Borough should encourage and support financially. Boroughs should be responsible since Government provides funding and is encouraging nursery to be part of Education Provision. It's the same in Dorset. Private nurseries on school grounds so private businesses making fortune out of this – could boost school income.</li> <li>▪ <i>Parent</i> – knock school down and build a new one fit for purpose</li> </ul>

Comments:

I would like to express my support for Hillbourne and the principle of the Twin Oaks pre school providing the nursery-aged care at the school.

However, I would also like to express my concerns, mainly the potential effect on the reception classes at Hillbourne.

At the consultation, there was less information than I expected about the physical changes necessary to house the pre-school in the existing early years part of the school. At present, Reception classes have lots of space inside, as well as a covered playground, and separate play area at the rear of the building. I am concerned that the Reception space and facilities are going to suffer - I would have expected to see at the least a proposed or draft floor plan for the new facilities, as the change in use could have a big impact on Reception. As a school that has a challenging time attracting parents of Reception age children, their first impression of Reception is important.

Proposal to Reorganise Early Years Provision at  
Hillbourne School & Nursery

Comments to support my concerns on this positive proposal:

I support the proposal to move Twin Oaks within the school grounds as I think the school may gain more interest from parents when the children are due to start school and also the versatility of the Twin Oaks morning and afternoon sessions will be an added attraction.

My only concern is that I feel this proposal can only go ahead if it uses some of the current reception classroom space. For me, the large reception classrooms are a great selling point to new parents together with the dedicated outside space which only the reception children can access.

I don't believe that all the changes necessary for the new nursery can be maintained in the current nursery footprint and think the school but mainly the new pupils will lose out if the reception classrooms are reduced in size.

Having a separate entrance to that of the school is an easy fix but to make the internal space work as a "stand alone" unit seems impossible to me. Things to make a stand alone unit will be a staff room, staff toilets, increasing the current number of children's toilets, currently only two, and also having an area to change nappies of the younger children. Also where will the children staying all day have lunch?

So although I am positive about this new proposal, I am erring on the side of caution until we get to see the new floor plan outline for this proposed new nursery.

