

Report to: **Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability**

Date: **14 November 2016**

By: **Director of Children's Services**

Title of report: **School age range changes**

Purpose of report: **To seek Lead Member approval to publish statutory notices in respect of a proposal to lower the age range at Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary School to enable the governing body to incorporate the onsite third party nursery provision.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Lead Member is recommended to:

- 1) **Authorise the publication of statutory notices in respect of a proposal to lower the age range at Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary School from 4-11 to 2-11. With the proposal to take effect on 1st April 2017;**
 - 2) **Delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services to amend the proposals prior to their publication if required.**
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1 Background

1.1 The school currently has a third party nursery provider on site who leases space from the school to operate provision for 2-4 year olds. The governing body of the school wishes to take on the management of the respective nursery provision by lowering their age range from 4-11 to 2-11.

1.2 The aim of the proposal is to integrate, fully, nursery provision into the Early Years Foundation Stage within the school. The governing body wishes to ensure that the nursery continues to support the local area and to offer high quality early education delivered by experienced and well-trained staff across the Early Years Foundation Stage. The aim is to build on the work already done by the school and nursery provider to secure good outcomes for all children in the future.

2 Supporting information

2.1 The governing body consulted between 27th September and 25th October 2016 on a proposal to lower the school's age range with effect from 1st April 2017. The governing body consulted with staff, families of children at the school, the local community and other interested parties.

2.2 By the close of the consultation period no responses had been received.

2.3 Proposed changes to the organisation of schools have to follow a prescribed process established by the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013. The next phase of the process is to publish statutory notices in relation to the proposals. It is intended that the notices would be published in the Sussex Express, on the ESCC website and posted on the entrances to the school on Friday 16th December 2016. A four week period of representation would follow, giving interested parties a further opportunity to comment on the proposals. The Council has a duty to determine each proposal within two months of the end of the representation period. We anticipate that a decision would be taken at the Lead Member meeting on 28th February 2017.

3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

3.1 In conclusion, we believe the proposal to lower the age range at Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary school will help to build on work already done by the school and nursery

provider, ensuring a fully integrated Early Years Foundation Stage to help secure good outcomes for all children.

3.2 For this reason, the Lead Member is recommended to:

- 1) Authorise the publication of statutory notices in respect of a proposal to lower the age range at Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary School from 4-11 to 2-11. The proposal to take effect on 1st April 2017;
- 2) Delegate authority to the Director of Children's Services to amend the proposals prior to their publication if required.

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LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillors Ian Buchanan and Philip Howson