

Report to:	Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability
Date:	28 February 2017
By:	Director of Children's Services
Title of report:	School age range change – Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary School
Purpose of report:	To seek Lead Member approval to lower the age range at Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary School to enable the governing body of the school to incorporate the onsite third party nursery provision.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Lead Member is recommended to authorise the change of age range at Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary School from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11 with effect from 1 April 2017.

1 Background

1.1 Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary School currently has a third party nursery provider on site who leases space from the school to operate provision for 2 to 4 year olds. The governing body wishes to take on the management of the nursery provision by lowering the school's age range from 4 to 11 to 2 to 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. The governing body consulted with staff, families of children at the school, the local community and other interested parties. No responses were received during the consultation period.

2.2 On 14 November 2016, the Lead Member considered the outcome of the consultation and approved the publication of statutory notices in relation to the proposal. The statutory notice was published on 16th December 2016 in the Sussex Express. The notice was also posted on the entrance to the school. The notice and full proposal was available on the Local Authority's website.

2.3 Publication of the notice was followed by a four-week period of representation, when comments or objections could be made to the Local Authority. At the end of the representation period, no comments or objections had been received.

3. Factors to be considered by the decision maker and types of decision

3.1 Proposed changes to the organisation of maintained schools have to follow a prescribed process established by the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 (the Regulations).

3.2 The process set out above complied with these requirements.

3.3 The regulations set out a number of factors to which the Lead Member should have regard before making a final decision on the proposed changes. These are set out in **Appendix 1**.

4. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

4.1 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.

4.2 For this reason, the Lead Member is recommended to authorise the change of age range at Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary School from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11 with effect from 1 April 2017

**STUART GALLIMORE
Director of Children's Services**

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Local Members: Councillors Ian Buchanan and Philip Howson

Background documents:

Lead Member report and minute from 14 November 2016:

<http://esmodern.gov01v/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=456&MId=2869&Ver=4> (insert up-to-date)

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Factors to be considered before making a final decision

APPENDIX 1

The Lead Member for Education and Inclusion, Special Educational Needs and Disability should have regard to the following factors before reaching a final decision on proposed changes to maintained schools.

1	Did the published notice comply with statutory requirements	The notice complied with statutory requirements as set out in 3.1 of the report.
2	Are the proposals related to other published proposals	The proposal to lower the age range at Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary School is not related to other published proposals.
3	Was consultation carried out prior to the publication of notices	The governing body undertook a period of consultation on a proposal to lower the school's age range from 4-11 to 2-11 to allow them to take on the management of the on-site third party nursery provision.
4	Have any particular comments or objections been raised during the representation period which could directly affect the proposals	The governing body received no responses to the consultation carried out between 27 th September and the 25 th October 2016.
5	The effect on education standards and diversity of provision	The Local Authority does not believe the proposal will have a negative impact on other providers, schools and academies in the surrounding areas as it will simply change the management arrangements of the nursery.
6	The demand for places	The proposal is about changing the management arrangements for the nursery to support its long term sustainability and promote excellence across the Early Years Foundation Stage; it will not provide additional places. Based on current eligibility criteria, forecasts of need in the area indicate there are sufficient early year's places to meet demand over the coming years.
7	The impact on school size, premises and funding	The proposal will not affect the size of the school, which will remain at its current capacity. The proposals do not require a change to the premises and as such will not require funding to implement them.
8	The proposed admission arrangements	The proposal will not affect the admission arrangements of the school, which will remain as published.
9	National curriculum	Telscombe Cliffs Community Primary school will deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage for children aged 2-5 years.
10	Equal opportunities issues	<p>The Local Authority does not believe there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues arising from the proposed changes.</p> <p>The proposal will have a positive impact by creating opportunities for children and families to access early years provision within their local area that meets their needs.</p>
11	Community cohesion	The Local Authority believes that the proposal will enhance community cohesion by bringing the nursery under the governing body's management.
12	Travel and accessibility	The Local Authority does not believe the proposal will have any impact on travel and accessibility as the nursery provision will remain in its current location.