

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

Date: **26 June 2018**

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

Title of report: **Lowering the age range at Langney Primary School, Eastbourne**

Purpose of report: **To seek Lead Member approval to lower the age range at Langney Primary School to enable the governing body to incorporate two year olds in their current nursery provision.**

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## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

**The Lead Member is recommended to approve a change of age range at Langney Primary School from 3 to 11 to 2 to 11 with effect from 1 September 2018.**

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### **1 Background**

1.1 The school currently runs nursery provision onsite for 3 and 4 year olds. The governing body of the school wishes to lower the age range from 3 to 11 to 2 to 11 to accommodate families who wish to access funded two year old places at the school.

1.2 The aim of the proposal is to integrate, fully, nursery provision into the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) 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 EYFS. The aim is to build on the work already done by the school to secure good outcomes for all children in the future. The proposal is in line with council strategy for the integration of nursery and school provision.

### **2 Supporting information**

2.1 The governing body consulted between 26 February and the 23 March 2018 on a proposal to lower the school's age range with effect from 1 September 2018. The governing body consulted with staff, families of children at the school, the local community and other interested parties.

2.2 No responses were received during the consultation period.

2.3 On 30th April 2018, the Lead Member considered the outcome of the consultation and approved the publication of statutory notices in relation to the proposal. A copy of the Lead Member report can be viewed by following the link below.

<https://democracy.eastsussex.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MIId=3541&x=1>

2.4 The statutory notice was published on 11 May 2018 in the Eastbourne Herald. The notice was also posted at the entrance to the school. The notice and full proposal was available on the Council's website.

2.4 Publication of the notice was followed by a four-week period of representation, when comments or objections could be made to the Council. 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.

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 proposal. These are set out in Appendix A.

#### **4. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations**

4.1 In conclusion, the proposal to lower the age range at Langney Primary School will help to build on work already done by the school, ensuring a fully integrated EYFS to help secure good outcomes for all children. The proposal is in line with council strategy for the integration of nursery and school provision.

4.2 For this reason, the Lead Member is recommended to approve a change of age range at Langney Primary School from 3 to 11 to 2 to 11 with effect from 1 September 2018.

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

Contact Officer: Jane Spice, Early Years Funding Manager  
Tel. No. 01323 747425  
Email: jane.spice@eastsussex.gov.uk

#### BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Lead Member report and minute from 30<sup>th</sup> April 2018:

#### LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillor David Tutt

## APPENDIX A

**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 the proposed change of age range from 3-11 to 2-11 at Langney Primary School.**

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 proposals are 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 between 26 February and 23 March 2018 on a proposal to lower the school's age range from 3-11 to 2-11 to enable them to incorporate two year olds in their current nursery provision.
4	Have any particular comments or objections been raised during the representation period which could directly affect the proposals	No comments or objections were received during the representation period, and there is no new information or evidence since the notice of proposal was published.
5	The effect on education standards and diversity of provision	The Council does not believe the proposal will have a negative impact on other providers, schools and academies in the surrounding areas as it is about changing the admission arrangements for the nursery to include two year olds to support its long term sustainability and promote excellence across the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS).
6	The demand for places	The school will provide two year old places by utilising space in the de-designated former children's centre on site which is now used for nursery provision. Based on current eligibility criteria, forecasts of need in Langney area indicate there are likely to be sufficient early years places over the next few years. The proposal is in line with council strategy for the integration of nursery and school provision.
7	The impact on school size, premises and funding	No capital investment is required by the Council to implement the proposal. However, the school is currently having building works completed to extend the nursery building to provide more places for three and four year olds who are eligible for the extended 30 hour offer. Work is due to be completed in June 2018.
8	The proposed admission arrangements	The proposal will not affect the admission arrangements of the school, which will remain as published.
9	National curriculum	Langney Primary school will deliver the EYFS for children aged 2-5 years.
10	Equal opportunities issues	The Council does not believe there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues arising from the proposed changes.  The proposal will have a positive impact by integrating, fully, nursery provision into the EYFS 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 for all, delivered by experienced and well-trained staff across the EYFS. This will build on the work already done by the school to secure good outcomes for all children in the future.
11	Community cohesion	The Council believes that the proposal will enhance community cohesion by enabling the governing body to offer funded places to two year olds.
12	Travel and accessibility	The Council does not believe the proposal will have any impact on travel and accessibility as the nursery provision will remain in its current location.