

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

Date: **11 July 2016**

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

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

Purpose of report: **To seek Lead Member approval to lower the age ranges at Grovelands Community Primary School and Hurst Green CE Primary School to enable the governing body of each school to incorporate the onsite third party nursery provision.**

---

## **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Lead Member is recommended to:

- 1) **authorise the change of age range at Grovelands Community Primary School from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11 with effect from 1 September 2016; and**
  - 2) **authorise the change of age range at Hurst Green CE Primary School from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11 with effect from 1 September 2016.**
- 

## **1 Background**

1.1 Both schools currently have third party nursery providers on site who lease space from the school to operate provision for 2 to 4 year olds. The governing body of each school wishes to take on the management of their respective nursery provision by lowering their age range from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11.

1.2 The aim of each proposal is to integrate, fully, nursery provision into the Early Years Foundation Stage within each school. The governing bodies wish to ensure that their respective nurseries continue to support their 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 schools and nursery providers to secure good outcomes for all children in the future.

## **2 Supporting information**

### ***Grovelands Community Primary School***

2.1 The governing body consulted between 22 June and 20 July 2015 on the proposal to lower their age range. The governing body consulted with staff, families of children at the school, the local community and other interested parties. Two responses were received, the details of which can be found in **Appendix 1** (first bullet point, section 3).

2.2 On 16 May 2016, the Lead Member approved the publication of statutory notices in relation to the proposal. The statutory notice was published on 27 May 2016 in the Sussex Express. The notice was also posted on the entrance to the school. The notice and full proposal was also posted 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.

## **Hurst Green CE Primary School**

2.4 The governing body consulted between 15 March and 22 April 2016 on the proposal to lower their age range. The governing body consulted with parents and carers of children at the school, staff, the local community and other interested parties. Two responses were received, the details of which can be found in **Appendix 1** (second bullet point in section 3).

2.5 On 16 May 2016, the Lead Member approved the publication of statutory notices in relation to the proposal. The statutory notice was published on 27 May 2016 in the Kent and Sussex Courier. The notice was also posted on the entrance to the school. The notice and full proposal was also posted 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'). Schedule 3 of the Regulations requires the proposed changes to be published on a website and must set out:

- 1) how copies of the proposals may be obtained;
- 2) that any person may object to or comment on the proposals and the address of the local authority to which any objections or comments should be sent; and
- 3) the date by which such objections or comments must be sent. That date is within four weeks from the date of publication.

3.2 Schedule 3 also requires that a notification of the proposals (including the address of the website where the proposals are published) is published in a local newspaper.

3.3 The process set out above complied with these requirements.

3.4 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 ranges at both schools will help to build on work already done by the schools and nursery providers, 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:

- 1) authorise the change of age range at Grovelands Community Primary School from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11 with effect from 1 September 2016 and
- 2) authorise the change of age range at Hurst Green CE Primary School from 4 to 11 to 2 to 11 with effect from 1 September 2016.

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

Contact Officer: Gary Langford, Place Planning Manager  
Tel. No. 01273 481758  
Email: gary.langford@eastsussex.gov.uk

## APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Factors to be considered by the decision maker

## BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Lead Member report and minute from 16 May 2016:

<http://esmodern.gov01v/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=456&MId=2869&Ver=4>

## LOCAL MEMBERS

Councillors Bill Bentley, Laurence Keeley and John Barnes