Proposed provision of Early Years Education Places at Mattersey Community Primary School

Consultation Responses Analysis:

Number of consultation documents distributed approximately 200

Status of Respondent	No. of responses received Agreed	No. of responses received Disagreed	No. of responses received Didn't Know
Parent/Carer	13	0	0
Governor	7	1	0
Staff	8	2	0
Pupil	0	0	0
Other	5	0	0
Unknown	1	0	0
TOTALS	34	3	0

Where reply forms indicated more than one type of respondent, only one has been included in the table above using a priority order of 'parent/carer', 'governor', 'staff' and then 'pupil/other'.

Comments/Issues/Points raised within Written/Electronic/On-line responses:

The decision making process

- It is felt the proposed early years places will be a valuable asset to the school and the community.
- Opinion expressed that no other provider would give the same quality of education.
- Opinion expressed that as the school is the centre of learning in Mattersey, it is the right place to be used to maintain high standards.
- Opinion expressed that the village is crying out for a nursery setting.
- Comment made that early years provision is something parents/carers have wanted for a long time.
- In disagreeing with the proposed early years provision at Mattersey Primary, opinion expressed that continuing to use alternative providers would seem to give parents greater choice. There is allegedly already a 3-11 school nearby.
- In supporting the proposal, comment made that it will benefit parents with older children if younger siblings can go to the same school. It was also felt it will benefit the early years children as they will already be settled into the school environment and be familiar with the surroundings, making their transition easier.
- Opinion expressed that to only continue to use alternative providers could mean that children from the village have other facilities available.
- Comment made that to continue the viability of Mattersey Primary it would be helpful if children are familiar with the school and hopefully parents willing to send them into the main school when they reach Primary level.
- In opposing the proposal, comments made that there are alternative early years providers allegedly in very close proximity to Mattersey Primary.
- Concern expressed that Nottinghamshire County Council cannot provide projections of children in order to provide reassurance that other providers would not be adversely affected by the proposed early years places at Mattersey.
- In disagreeing with the proposed early years places, a local primary school headteacher was very concerned that their school had not been contacted by

- either the County Council or Mattersey Primary prior to the consultation being initiated.
- In opposing the proposal, concern expressed by another local primary school headteacher that providing early years places at Mattersey Primary could potentially have a detrimental effect on the requirement for places at other settings in the locality.

Financial issues

 Comment made that the previous early years provider in Mattersey became unable to offer places for financial reasons; the school offering EYP is highly desirable as it will offer a seamless education experience for children in the village from age 3 to age 11. This will encourage parents/carers to send their children to Mattersey when they are rising 5.

Building and site related issues

- Opinion expressed that the school already has excellent facilities and resources to provide Early Years places; many pupils have younger siblings who would benefit greatly from the proposed provision. It is well placed with regard to facilities, resources, reputation (Ofsted rated Good), location, access for local residents, reinforcing the sense of community.
- Comment made that having an early years setting on school premises will hopefully secure the on-going continuity of Mattersey school.
- Opinions expressed that it would be of vital importance and more beneficial for children to have continuity and stability from pre-school provision to primary education in the same school setting. This would make the transition easier and would help the children's progress.
- Opinion expressed that Mattersey Primary is well resourced and fully equipped in readiness for the provision of early years places.

Pupil, Curriculum and Community related issues

- Opinions expressed that the young children of Mattersey village are missing out on vital early years experience and important early education opportunities, as there is no local provision currently.
- Concern expressed that many 3 year olds are not getting the start in life they deserve.
- In opposing the proposal, opinion expressed that alternative providers offer a good standard of education for early years children.
- Opinion expressed that other early years providers are allegedly not full and there is sufficient capacity within them.

- Opinions expressed that this would benefit those parents living locally who
 have young children but no means of transport to take them elsewhere.
 Alternative providers are only accessible to families with transport as this is a
 small rural setting.
- Comments made that most parents rely on inadequate public transport and cannot reasonably get their children to other local providers as it is quite a long walk with very young children to other providers.
- Opinion expressed that Mattersey Thorpe is an area of deprivation with very poor public transport, isolating many residents.
- Comment made that Mattersey is a rural setting and other 'alternative providers' would only be accessible for local families if they had transport.
- In supporting the proposed early years provision, a parent living in a neighbouring village commented that there are allegedly no primary schools with nursery provision nearby. The nearest pre-schools are in in a neighbouring local authority and were all private.
- It is believed that the proposal would not only bring vital pre-school education to young children in the surrounding area, but also give those children an early start in sampling the healthy and balanced menu the school offers.
- Opinion expressed that the proposed early years provision would offer continuity for local children i.e. getting the young children to integrate with siblings and familiar surroundings, eases them into the education system.
- It is believed that it would be beneficial to the children and their families to be able to attend the school that siblings attend.
- Comment made that it would help the younger children become used to school.
- Belief that it is essential that village children can benefit from local pre-primary education so that they are not disadvantaged to those in town/city locations.
- Comment made of being aware of the remote location of Mattersey and the social isolation and deprivation of Mattersey Thorpe in particular. Opinion then expressed that the provision of early years education at the school will be inclusive to both parents and their children, which will benefit them as they progress through their school life.
- In supporting the proposal, comment made that anything which utilises school facilities in an isolated community and ensures longevity of primary education in Mattersey seems to be a good thing.