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**PROPOSAL FOR ALTERATION OF AGE RANGE OF AN EXISTING SCHOOL**

**Based on Department for Education statutory guidance:**

**‘***Making significant changes (‘prescribed alterations’) to maintained schools:*

*Statutory guidance for proposers and decision makers’*, DfE, October 2024.

[Making significant changes (‘prescribed alterations’) to maintained schools (publishing.service.gov.uk)](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1131672/Making_significant_changes__prescribed_alterations__to_maintained_schools_Jan_2023.pdf)

**Statutory proposal for alteration of age range**

**Contact details in respect of a Local Authority proposal.**

**School and Authority details:**

**1.** The name, address and category of the school affected:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | **Orchard Primary & Nursery School**  **Chapel Street**  **Kirkby in Ashfield**  **Nottinghamshire**  **NG17 8JY**  [**office@orchard-pri.notts.sch.uk**](mailto:office@orchard-pri.notts.sch.uk)   * **Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC)**   **County Hall,**  **West Bridgford,**  **Nottingham NG2 7QP**  [**place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk**](mailto:place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk) | |

**Implementation:**

**2.** **It is proposed that:**

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| The age range at Orchard Primary School be lowered to 2 - 11 years from the existing 3 - 11 years. This would enable the school to offer an Early Years provision to accommodate 2 and 3 year old children. This will be effective from the start of Autumn term 2025. |

**Reason for change:**

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| School have had enquiries from parents wanting to take up a place. School would also like to serve the local community needs by offering help to families in particular those on a lower income who may benefit from a nursery place.  The school will be able to offer places to parents who want to take up their entitlement of funded hours. Since the changes to funding for working parents from April 2024, more parents are entitled to 15 hours funded hours, increasing to 30 hours from September 2025.  In the Kirkby Cross & Portland Ward where the school sits, there are 4 childminders and no other pre school or day nursery provision.  There are limited vacancies across other provision within Kirkby in Ashfield according to the Autumn 2024 data.    ***The reason for school wanting to lower their age range is to provide:***     * A first quality education for 2 year olds and above (before starting school); * Quality transition into main school; * Earlier identification of need and referrals to external services where required; * Revenue in the school budget; * Opportunities for staff, parents and children; * An improvement in school data due to improved school readiness.   The school and governing body have carried out a survey of families and the local community, the results showed that there was a need for a nursery to accommodate 2 year olds. The proposal, approved by the governing body, is to reduce the age range within the school from 3 to 2 years to enable the school to offer sessional care for pre-school age starting from 2 years of age.    There will be no change to statutory school places within the school. |

**Pupil numbers and admissions:**

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| **Pupil numbers:**  The maximum number of children who will be able to access a place is 10 children. Within the school’s business plan for this project there is provision planned for 39 x 3 year olds and 5 x 2 year olds, per session AM and PM.  **Admissions:**  The current admissions arrangements of Orchard Primary & Nursery School will not be affected by this proposal. |

**Displaced pupils:**

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| There will be no pupils displaced by this proposal. |

**Impact on the community:**

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| The school governing body approved this proposal on October 14th 2024.  Children and families of 2 year-olds will have access to early years childcare and education in their own locality. They will not need to travel to an alternative provider out of the area to access their free entitlement place. |

**Travel:**

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| No alteration to existing travel arrangements will be caused by this proposal as it is expected that existing families using the current on site early years unit will continue to use the early yearsprovision at Orchard Primary and Nursery School. |

**At the end of this document there is a Consultation Response Form.**

**If you wish to respond to the consultation on this proposal, please send written comments to:**

* The Executive Director Children and Families,

(*for the attention of Strategic Pupil Place Planning*),

Education, Learning and Inclusion,

County Hall, West Bridgford,

Nottingham, NG2 7QP

or by email to [place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk)

* Comments may also be submitted online at [Orchard Primary and Nursery School: Proposal for alteration of age range - Nottinghamshire County Council - Citizen Space](https://consult.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/schools/orchard-primary-and-nursery-school-proposal/) (see **View our consultations**)

**To be received no later than 23:59 hrs on Sunday 6th April 2025**

**Consultation Response Form**

**STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON ALTERATION OF AGE RANGE AT**

**ORCHARD PRIMARY & NURSERY** **SCHOOL**

If you wish to respond to the consultation, you can share your views by:

* Completing the online survey on Nottinghamshire County Council’s consultation hub <https://consult.nottinghamshire.gov.uk>
* Emailing Nottinghamshire County Council at [place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk)
* Requesting a paper copy of this consultation from:

*Strategic Pupil Place Planning, Education Learning and Inclusion, Nottinghamshire County Council, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, NG2 7QP -* to which your response should be returned.

**…………………..……………………………………………………………………………………………….**

**Question 1.**

Do you think that the age range at Orchard Primary & Nursery School be lowered to 2 – 11 years from the existing 3 – 11 years?

Yes

No

Neither agree or disagree

**Question 2**

Do you approve this proposal which would enable the school to offer provision for 2 year olds from Autumn Term 2025?

Yes

No

Neither agree nor disagree

**Question 3**

Do you have any further comments?

**It will help us to analyse responses if we know more about you.**

**Please complete the following details:  
(Please tick and complete all boxes that apply)**

I am a:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Parent / Carer | Which school do(es) your child(ren) attend? |
| Governor | At which school? |
| Member of Staff | At which school? |
| Pupil | At which school? |
| Other | Please specify (e.g., resident) |
| What is your post code? |  |