

CONSULTATION

Response deadline 30 November 2023

Summary of proposals

Proposed change of age range at Hawthorns Primary, Springfield Infant and Nursery, Brook Infant and Nursery, Maidenbower Infant and Nursery, and St Margaret's CofE Primary, Ifield, and Slinfold CofE Primary and Preschool. (Prescribed alteration to the age range to become a 2 – 11 primary, or 2 – 7 infant, school thereby regularising the Early Years age range. And in the case of Hawthorns Primary, prior to academisation, to allow the Governor run nursery to transfer with the school to the Schoolsworks Academy Trust).

Introduction

West Sussex County Council and the Governors of the listed schools wish to consult on a change of age range. The consultation runs from 2nd November to the 30th November 2023.

Need for change

The listed schools currently have Governor-led early years provision, run under Section 27 Community Powers.

Should these school convert to an Academy, conversion of the legal status of the school does not automatically include the early years provision. Whilst, aside from Hawthorns Primary, there is no intention to convert to an academy, this will ensure consistency across all schools in West Sussex and would avoid any delays in the future should the schools choose to move to an academy trust. The Department for Education has advised that a change of age range is required for any governor led early years provision to transfer with the school to become part of the academy trust.

The change would also ensure that the information held on the Department for Education 'Get Information About Schools' matches the age ranges catered for consistently, in line with other governor led provision.

The Governing Body of Hawthorns Primary agreed to convert to become an Academy under the Schoolsworks Academy Trust in June 2022. The Academy Order was agreed by the Department for Education on 25th May 2023.

The proposals

WSCC and the Governors of each of the schools propose to increase the age range of the listed Primary Schools from age 4 - 11 (YR – Y6) to an age 2 -11 (Nursery – Y6), and Infant Schools from 4 – 7 (YR – Y2) to 2 – 7 (Nursery – Y2). This is with effect from January 2024. There is no planned change to the

CONSULTATION

Response deadline 30 November 2023

operation of the early years provision. The consultation is a requirement of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

It is proposed to extend the age range to the maximum allowed, in order to prevent further timely consultations in the future, should the schools wish to extend their Early Years provision to include 2-year-olds, where they do not already. Please note, there is no intention for the services currently provided by the schools to change because of this proposal.

Staffing at Hawthorns Primary

Staff are our most valuable resource, and it is important that should there be any need for changes these are dealt with fairly and sensitively. The unions and professional associations will be informed about this consultation and will be involved with the academization at each stage. This proposal will ensure that nursery staff at Hawthorns Primary transfer to the academy in the same way as teaching staff. Union involvement is designed to support all staff through the process of change.

For schools not changing to an academy, there will be no impact on current staff. The provision will continue to be governor led and not a maintained nursery class.

Statutory Notices

Consultation is with schools, parents and other key local and education stakeholders. The Cabinet Member for Children and Young People, Learning and Skills, Jacquie Russell, has decided to publish statutory notices to seek representations for a four-week period after initial informal consultation from 9 October 2023. This consultation is supported by the Diocese of Chichester in the case of Slinfold CE Primary, and St Margaret's CE Primary, Ifield and by the Governors of the remaining Local Authority Schools. This document is part of the consultation and invites parents and stakeholders to make representations via our website or email. We anticipate the final decision to change the age range to be taken in January 2024 allowing Hawthorns to academize in February 2024 and any other schools listed.



CONSULTATION

Response deadline 30 November 2023

Our preferred method of response is to complete the online survey on our 'YOUR Voice Engagement Hub'

<https://yourvoice.westsussex.gov.uk/age-change>

1. Or, Contact School Organisation & Development -
Email: SOAD@westsussex.gov.uk
Phone: 0330 222 3046
2. Or, via letter to the below postal address or by handing into the school office:-
Vanessa Cummins c/o
The School Organisation Team
Ground Floor, Northleigh
Tower Street, Chichester
West Sussex, PO19 1RH

Please ensure all paper copies are returned to your local school or to the above address before the closing date of the **30 November 2023**.

Privacy/Data Protection Notice

The School Planning Team at West Sussex County Council will use this survey to collect some personal data (e.g., age, sex) in fulfilment of a legal obligation to consult on Nursery School proposals. You do not have to answer these survey questions but the information you do supply will be processed in accordance with the 2018 Data Protection Act and the General Data Protection Regulations, and any subsequent relevant legislation. West Sussex County Council will not share any personal information collected as part of this survey. The information will be held electronically for a period of three years/months before being appropriately destroyed.

The information you provide will be used for statistical analysis, management, planning and the provision of services by the County Council and its partners. It will not be used for any other purpose without your prior consent. West Sussex County Council is registered as Data Controller (Reg. No. Z6413427). For further details and information about our Data Controller, please see our [Data Privacy Policy](#).

CONSULTATION

Response deadline 30 November 2023

RESPONSE FORM

Proposed change of age range at Hawthorns Primary, Springfield Infant and Nursery, Brook Infant and Nursery, Maidenbower Infant and Nursery, and St Margaret's CofE Primary, Ifield, and Slinfold CofE Primary and Preschool. (Prescribed alteration to the age range to become a 2 – 11 primary, or 2 – 7 infant, school thereby regularising the Early Years age range. And in the case of Hawthorns Primary, prior to academisation, to allow the Governor run nursery to transfer with the school to the Schoolsworks Academy Trust).

*Questions marked with an asterisk are required fields

1* Please provide your postcode including a space between, e.g., PO19 1RH

2.* Please indicate which school you are responding about or whether you are responding about all the schools listed

- Hawthorns Primary School
- Brook Infant School and Nursery
- Maidenbower Infant School and Nursery
- Slinfold CE Primary School and Preschool
- Springfield Infant and Nursery
- St Margaret's CE Primary, Ifield
- All of the above

3.* Please indicate whether you are: (Please select all that apply)

- Parent/carer
- Staff
- Governor
- Local Resident
- Other

4.* Do you support the proposals to increase the age range from age 4 - 11 (YR – Y6) to become an age 2 -11 (Nursery – Y6) primary school, or age 4 – 7 (YR – Y2) to become an age 2- 7 (Nursery – Y2) infant school, with effect from January 2024. (Please select one option only)

- Support the proposal
- Object to the proposal
- Neither support nor object

CONSULTATION

Response deadline 30 November 2023

4 Please state your views on the proposals. We would be grateful for comments on any aspects of them. Please continue on a separate page if required.

Questions About You (for everyone)

The County Council asks social demographic questions to help monitor the effectiveness of its surveys and to undertake an equalities analysis in fulfilment of its Public Sector Equalities Duties under the 2010 Equalities Act.

The information you provide will be separated from both the respondent details and the response comments and will not be used for any other purpose other than that already stated.

You do not have to provide this information if you don't want to, but it will greatly help us if you do. Should you prefer not to provide the answer to any questions, please choose the 'Prefer not to say' option within each set of questions.

If you are under the age of 15, please provide your age in the correct box below and then go to the end of the survey as we would need parental consent to collect any further personal data.

5. Which of the following age groups best describes you? (Please select one option only)

- 9 or under** (Please now go to the end of survey)
- 10-14** (Please now go to the end of survey)

CONSULTATION

Response deadline 30 November 2023

- 15-19
- 20-24
- 25-34
- 35-44
- 45-54
- 55-64
- 65-74
- 75-84
- 85+
- Prefer not to say

6. What is your sex? (Please select one option only)

- Male (Please go on to question 8)
- Female (Please go on to question 7)
- Prefer not to say (Please go on to question 7)

7. Are you currently pregnant or have you been pregnant in the last 26 weeks? (Please select one option only) Yes No Prefer not to say

8. What is your ethnic origin? (Please select one option only)

- White British (English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish)
- White Other
- Mixed
- Black
- Asian
- Chinese
- Gypsy/Irish Traveller
- Prefer not to say
- Other: if 'other', please specify in the text box below

9. Please specify your religion or belief: (Please select one option only)

- No religion
- Christian (Church of England, Catholic, Protestant and all other Christian denominations)
- Buddhist
- Hindu
- Jewish
- Muslim

CONSULTATION

Response deadline 30 November 2023

- Sikh
- Any other religion
- Prefer not to say
- Other If 'other', please specify in the text box below

10. Do you consider yourself to have a disability or long-term illness? (Please select one option only)

- Yes (Please go on to question 11)
- No (Please go on to question 12)
- Prefer not to say (Please go on to question 12)

11. If yes, please indicate what your disability is: (Please tick all that apply)

- Physical impairment
- Sensory impairment
- Mental health condition
- Learning disability
- Long-term illness
- Prefer not to say
- Other: if 'other', please specify in the text box below

12. Is the gender you identify the same as your sex registered at birth? (Please select one option only)

- Yes
- No
- Prefer not to say

13. Which of the following best describes your sexual orientation?

- Straight/Heterosexual
- Gay or Lesbian
- Bisexual
- Other: if 'other', please specify in the text box below

- Prefer not to say

14. Are you... (Please select one option only)

- Single



CONSULTATION

Response deadline 30 November 2023

- Cohabiting
- Married
- Civil Partnership
- Separated
- Divorced / partnership dissolved
- Widowed
- Other
- Prefer not to say

Thank you for taking part in our survey. Consultation closes on **30 November 2023**.