



**Statutory proposal for lowering the age range at
Westfield Primary School, Longfellow Road,
Radstock, BA3 3XX, in order for the onsite nursery
provision to be delivered by the school.**

Name, address and category of school proposed for change of age range

Westfield Primary School, Longfellow Road, Radstock, BA3 3XX
Category: Community School

Name and contact details of Council publishing the proposals

Bath and North East Somerset Council, Early Years Planning and Performance Team, Bath and North East Somerset Council, Lewis House, Manvers Street, Bath, BA1 1JG
Email address: EYE@bthnes.gov.uk
Telephone number 01225 395394

Description of the proposal

Bath and North East Somerset Council is proposing to reduce the lower age of Westfield Primary School from 4 to 2 in order for the school to deliver the Early Years Entitlement (EYE) offer and childcare in the premises already built on the school site. Before this change can be made the Council is required to publish a statutory notice detailing this proposal.

Early years and childcare provision was developed and built on the Westfield Primary School site in 2008/09 to provide a purpose built facility in addition to the school. The nursery registered and opened in 2009 and to date has been run by a private nursery provider working closely with both the school and children's centre to deliver early learning and child. Recently some additional space has been provided in the building by the children's centre to allow more places for funded 2 years olds to be made available.

Following a decision by the current provider to voluntarily withdraw from providing childcare at this location the school have agreed to take over the running of the nursery which offers places from children aged 2 up until they are eligible to start in reception. The majority of these children will be in receipt of EYE funding, a targeted offer for 2 year old children but a universal offer for children aged 3 and above offering up to 570 hours of early education to families. In addition and depending on demand, families can purchase additional childcare hours on top of the EYE.

Evidence of demand

From opening the nursery has been a very popular choice for families in Radstock. During the period of peak demand each year, the Summer term, there will be over 60 funded children at the nursery.

The Childcare Act (2006) requires Bath and North East Somerset Council to monitor levels of Childcare Sufficiency across the Council area and publish the results on the Council's website. The reports can be found at <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/children-young-people-and-families/childcare-early-years-play/childcare-sufficiency-assessm>

The Childcare Sufficiency updates continue to highlight that Radstock continues to be an area of undersupply for EYE and childcare place provision when compared to other areas of Bath and North East Somerset Council. This evidences demand for this provision to continue.

In addition from September 2017 the EYE offer for working families will increase from up to 570 hours a year to 1140 or a maximum of 30 hours a week. This will only increase demand for provision which this proposal will help to support.

Objectives of the proposal

A seamless transition of the nursery ownership and management to enable the provision to continue to operate in order to demand for places within Radstock.

It will be a legal requirement on the school to ensure that the provision is planned and led by a qualified teacher which is not a requirement for a private provider. This can only help to further support good outcomes for children at the nursery which is Ofsted rated as Good under their current management arrangements.

Please note - there is no automatic transfer into any school from a nursery as outlined in school admissions regulation.

The impact on other nursery provision in the area

This proposal is a change of ownership and management and is not creating additional provision in the area. There is not expected any impact on other provision in the area,

The impact on the other schools in the area

Other schools in the area either have their own provision or a provider onsite running provision so this proposal is not expected to impact on other schools in the area.

Costs of the proposal

The school will be eligible to receive the Early Years Entitlement (EYE) funding to deliver places for 2, 3 and 4 year old children. In addition and on top of the entitlement the school is able to charge for the provision of additional childcare hours above the 15 hours that the entitlement provides for. This income should fund the provision as it does under the current business model.

Implementation

The date for implementation is 1st September 2016.

Procedure for response

Anyone can comment on or object to the proposal. If you would like to respond to this proposal you can do so by sending an email or a letter to Bath and North East Somerset Council as detailed below.

In order to ensure that every response counts please could you ensure that you give your name, your postcode, state the school's name and your relationship to the school e.g. parent/carer, member of staff etc. All responses must be submitted in writing.

In accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998 your personal details will not be used for any other purpose, will not be made public or shared with any other organisation.

Email address: EYE@bthnes.gov.uk

Postal address: Bath and North East Somerset Council, Early Years Planning and Performance Team, Bath and North East Somerset Council, Lewis House, Manvers Street, Bath, BA1 1JG

Date notice period ends

The notice period ends on 22nd July 2016. The deadline for responses to be received by Bath and North East Somerset Council is **midnight on Friday 22nd July 2016**. We regret that we will be unable to enter into any correspondence regarding responses submitted.