

Single Member Cabinet Decision

Executive
Forward Plan
Reference**E2971****Reduction of the lower age limit at Midsomer Norton
Primary School**

Decision maker/s	Cllr Michael Evans, Cabinet Member for Children Services
The Issue	It is proposed to reduce the lower age limit at Midsomer Norton Primary School from 3 to 2 in order to increase the delivery of the Early Years Entitlement offer and childcare in premises already provided on the school site.
Decision Date	On or after 24 th June 2017
The decision	The Cabinet Member agrees to reduce the lower age limit at Midsomer Norton Primary School from 3 to 2.
Rationale for decision	Midsomer Norton Primary School already delivers Ofsted rated Good Early Years provision in their nursery for 3 and 4 year old children. By expanding the nursery to include 2 year old children their expertise, led by a Qualified Teacher, will enable the children attending to get the best opportunity for school readiness and help Bath and North East Somerset Council to meet the objective of narrowing the gap in attainment between children in the Early Years and beyond
Financial and budget implications	<p>The school will receive funding through the Early Years Entitlement funding and parental fees in order deliver the early learning and childcare provision. This funding forms part of the Dedicated Schools Grant and therefore has no impact on non-school budgets.</p> <p>The property has already been built on the school site using a Department for Education capital grant previously ran as Council operated 2 year old early education and childcare provision to deliver the exact same service.</p> <p>The school has taken full advice from Human Resources on any staffing implications and relevant legislation.</p>
Issues considered (these are covered in more detail in the report)	Social Inclusion; Human Resources; Property; Young People; Equality (age, race, disability, religion/belief, gender, sexual orientation); Human Rights; Corporate; Impact on Staff; Other Legal Considerations
Consultation undertaken	Ward Councillor; Town Council; Trades Unions; Staff; Other B&NES Services; Service Users; Local Residents; Stakeholders/Partners; Section 151 Finance Officer; Chief Executive; Monitoring Officer
How consultation was carried out	A statutory proposal was published and available in line with the DfE guidance (see background papers) between 5 th May 2017 and 9 th June 2017. It was available on the Council website, by notice in a local paper and shared by the school with its relevant stakeholders.

	<p>There were 4 replies presented either by email or in writing as required by the proposal process.</p> <p>All of those proposals supported or did not object to the proposal. Comments included “Brilliant idea, long overdue for the town. Best of luck with developments”, “Great idea” and “I think its a very good idea and goes some way to providing a early years service which the town is currently lacking.”</p> <p>The School’s Capital Organisation Team (SCOT) on behalf of Bath and North East Somerset Council’s Education Service has no objection to the proposal on the condition that there will be no impact on the number of school places provided at the school for pupils in Year Reception to Year 6, now or in the future. Also on the understanding that the adjacent former Children’s Centre accommodation is to be made available to the school to accommodate these additional Early Years age children.</p>
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Other options considered	None
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Declaration of interest by Cabinet Member(s) for decision, including any dispensation granted:	None
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Any conflict of interest declared by anyone who is consulted by a Member taking the decision:	None
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Signatures of Decision Maker	
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Date of Signature	
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Subject to Call-in until 5 Working days have elapsed following publication of the decision