



Head Teacher: Mrs D Cross

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Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community

30th April 2024

Consultation to extend the age range of Stanhope Barrington CE Primary School from 3-11 to 2-11 year olds

This is a proposal to extend the age range of our school so that we are able to offer up to 8 places for 2 year olds. The places will be for children eligible for 15 hours of free early education or parents/carers who wish to pay for a place for their child.

As you will know the aim of our Nursery provision currently is to prepare our children for starting school and supports with the transition into Reception year. The proposed 2-year old provision will be part of the school's current Nursery and will enable even more development opportunities for local children providing a route into our school and continued close working relationships with school staff.

2 year old sessions

Existing arrangements for the number of children catered for in the morning and afternoon sessions in the Nursery will remain but with 8 places for 2 year olds within these sessions. All children within the Nursery will benefit from high quality play-based curriculum with the familiar staff who are part of the staff team at the school under the overall management of Mrs Cross as Head Teacher.

Impact on school

We are confident that this change will have a positive impact on school. The school is well established as part of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Learning Trust and has a dedicated challenge, improvement and support partner from the Trust as well as access to support networks across many areas including an Early Years Network to support staff. The change will help continue to ensure a smooth transition for those children who then move from our Nursery into Reception and greater transition and support into the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Process

Once the public consultation period has finished, a summary of the feedback will be submitted to the Department for Education as part of our application to request that they agree to the school

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lowering its age range as set out above. Subject to the outcome of this consultation, and the Department for Education granting its consent, we would aim for school having an age range of 2-11 by 1 September 2024 at the latest.

Public consultation

We wish to invite views on this proposal and this consultation starts on 1st May 2024 and will run until Friday 24th May 2024. Comments and questions can be sent to the following email address between these dates: d.cross@stanhopebarrington.org.uk

We can set up individual consultation meetings by phone or virtually to discuss any particular queries on request.

We will endeavour to answer all queries which are not addressed above and all comments and queries will be taken into account by the Academy Council and the Trust in deciding whether to proceed with this proposal to lower the age range of the school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs D Cross

Mrs D Cross
Head Teacher

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