

Marsworth CE Infant School/



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RESPECT, COURAGE, COMPASSION, CURIOSITY

***'Teach children how they should live,
and they will remember it all their lives.'* Proverbs 22:6**

Learn, Live, Remember

Consultation on a proposal to change the school's age of admission.

I am writing to you to inform you of a proposal by the governing board of Marsworth CE Infant School to change the school's admission age to three years of age from its present four years of age, thus enabling the school to support a small group of younger children on site. The proposed date for this to be effective is Monday 24th February 2025. This letter is formal 6 weeks' notice of the consultation period for this proposal. The consultation will run from Monday 13th January until Friday 14th February 2025.

What would be the benefit of the proposal?

This proposed move will allow some parents of three-year olds in the local area to access nursery provision at the school, therefore giving these children a strong start to their Early Years provision in school.

What will this mean?

A governor led Early Years Nursery provision established by schools under the Department of Education Section 27 powers will allow us to operate with a ratio of 1:8 for 3-year olds where at least one member of staff holds the appropriate practitioner qualification. Section 27 of the Education Act 2002 enables maintained schools to set and run community facilities and services whose provision furthers any charitable purpose for the benefit of a) the pupils of the school or their families or b) people who live and work in the area in which the school is situated. This is the power under which the school governor-run community provision is proposed to be set up.

This will apply to the community provision and give the flexibility to use the most effective and appropriate staffing model for the children. The governors will ensure that the provision is of a very high quality properly supervised where at least one member of staff holds the appropriate practitioner qualification. The Early Years Foundation Framework sets out requirements that all Early Years providers, including schools, must follow. General guidance on staffing states that the staff must be available to work directly with the children. We will continue to provide an excellent provision for the children, this will not change. The Nursery will continue to share the facilities in the school including the outdoor areas.

Do staff and Governors support this proposal?

Yes, the Governing Board, the School Leadership and the Early Years team at Marsworth Infant School positively support the proposal as they believe that it would benefit current and future pupils and the local community.



Healthy School

Will the proposal disrupt the education of the pupils currently at the school?

No, it will not affect most year groups as the provision will be housed in the current nursery. We believe that interacting with 3year olds will be a benefit to our pupils currently in nursery in terms of their Communication and Language skills and their Personal, Social and Emotional Development.

Why are we consulting now?

We are keen to understand the views of our local community on this proposal and so, as per best practice recommended by the Department of Education we have incorporated a period of consultation into the decision-making process. The consultation will run from Monday 13th January until Friday 14th February 2025.

Will there be extra traffic and how will the impact be reduced?

Some, of the three-year olds will be made up of siblings of current Marsworth children who already make the journey to school. We will have admissions criteria where siblings and local children in the community will be prioritised.

Will the proposal have any impact on admission to the school's reception class?

No, current admissions to the School remain unchanged and will not be affected by the proposal. Please see Buckinghamshire Council's website for the specific criteria for school admission.

What are the next stages in the process?

Responses will be received throughout the consultation process which ends at 5pm on Friday 14th February. These will be analysed and the School will publish the outcomes on its website. If the governing board decide to proceed with the proposal, the board will plan and publish their final decision. If the proposal goes ahead, we would look to promote the nursery from Monday 24th February

How can I respond to this consultation?

Please complete the attached consultation response form and return it to the school for the attention of The Governing Body. Alternatively email the school to share your view or arrange an appointment to discuss in person: office@marsworth.bucks.sch.uk

We would really welcome your views on our proposal and look forward to receiving your completed response from. Should you have any additional queries please contact us at the address above.

Thank you for your interest

Yours sincerely

Mrs Angela Polatci
Headteacher

Mrs Giles Monks
Chair of Governors



To the Governing Body of Marsworth C E Infant School

Name _____ (please print)

I am – please tick all that apply

- A parent or guardian of a child at Marsworth C E Infant School
 - A close neighbour to the school / nursery
 - Staff member or Marsworth CE Infant School Governor
 - Other – please specify
-

I am in favour of Marsworth C E Infant School changing its age admission from 4 to 3 year of age, and that the Nursery provision is run by a governor committee

Yes / No *(please delete as appropriate)*

I am NOT in favour of Marsworth C E Infant School changing its age of admission from 4 to 3 year of age and that the Nursery provision is run by a governor committee.

Yes / No *(please delete as appropriate)*

If No, please can you give your comments on your decision:

If you would like further information, please provide you e mail address to enable us to contact you.

Thank you for responding

