EQIA Submission – ID Number
Section A

EQIA Title
Phase 3 of the School Based Nursery programme 2027 to 2030

Responsible Officer
Robert Veale - CY EDSEN

Approved by (Note: approval of this EqIA must be completed within the EqIA App)
David Adams - CY EDSEN

Type of Activity

Service Change
No
Service Redesign
No
Project/Programme
Project/Programme
Commissioning/Procurement
No
Strategy/Policy
No
Details of other Service Activity
No

Accountability and Responsibility

Directorate
Children Young People and Education
Responsible Service
CYPE
Responsible Head of Service
David Adams - CY EDSEN
Responsible Director
Christine McInnes - CY CDO

Aims and Objectives

How the proposed decision supports the Council's Strategic Statement

Aim 3: Supporting residents that need help. Phase 3 of the School Based Nursery Capital Programme supports Aim 3 as it provides greater focus on prevention and early intervention and supports the ambition that every child has the chance to grow up safe and secure.

As set out within the Department of Education's Giving Every Child the Best Start in Life strategy, the Plan for Change commitment's ambition is to ensure families across the country can access affordable quality early education and childcare, enabling children to start school ready to learn, laying the foundations for lifelong achievement.

School based nurseries are a vital part of the early years landscape and will contribute to delivering the Local Authority's statutory duty of ensuring a sufficiency of early years places.

The DfE has operated two phases of its school-based nursery programme. Phase 1 was only available to schools with surplus accommodation that could be converted for less than £50k – five schools in Kent

successfully applied. Phase 2 widened to schools with more expensive proposals, but these needed to be well advanced, for example already having planning consent for a new building. The schools made applications directly to the DfE, and the funding arrangements are between the schools and the DfE. The DfE has already announced the successful phase 2 schools, with 9 of the 300 nationally being in Kent.

Phase 3 is a three-year programme, which will be led by Local Authorities. Phase 3 builds on the foundations of Phases 1 and 2 and invites Local Authorities to develop multi-year funding proposals to deliver new and extended school-based nurseries between 2027 and 2030. To be eligible for the grant, the SBN project must result in the creation of additional early education and childcare places. These places should support the delivery of the government's early education and childcare entitlements, including:

- Early Learning for 2-year-olds, formerly known as families receiving additional forms of support (FRAS)
- Universal 15 hours for all 3-and 4-year-olds regardless of family circumstances
- Free Childcare for Working Parents (expanded from Sept 2025): 30 hours a week for working parents of children aged 9 months until school age eligibility

Nationally, the SBN Capital Grant equates to £325m of further funding between 2027 and 2030.

Section B – Evidence

Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?

Yes

It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?

Yes

Is there national evidence/data that you can use?

No

Have you consulted with stakeholders?

Yes

Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?

Schools, academies, Kent Early Years Provider Association, the DfE and colleagues in The Education People.

Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?

No

Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?

Yes

Section C – Impact

Who may be impacted by the activity?

Service Users/clients

Service users/clients

Staff

No

Residents/Communities/Citizens

Residents/communities/citizens

Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?

Yes

Details of Positive Impacts

This is an opportunity to receive capital funding from the DfE to further increase early years places across the county, especially in areas identified as being poor deprived and/or with lower, present capacity.

Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions

19.Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age

Are there negative impacts for age?

No. Note: If Question 19a is "No", Questions 19b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Details of negative impacts for Age
Not Completed
Mitigating Actions for Age
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age
Not Completed
20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability
Are there negative impacts for Disability?
No. Note: If Question 20a is "No", Questions 20b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Details of Negative Impacts for Disability
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Disability
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Disability
Not Completed
21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex
Are there negative impacts for Sex
No. Note: If Question 21a is "No", Questions 21b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Details of negative impacts for Sex
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Sex
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Sex
Not Completed
22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
No. Note: If Question 22a is "No", Questions 22b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender
Not Completed
23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race
Are there negative impacts for Race
No. Note: If Question 23a is "No", Questions 23b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Race
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Race
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race
Not Completed
24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief

No. Note: If Question 24a is "No", Questions 24b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Religion and belief
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Religion and belief
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief
Not Completed
25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
No. Note: If Question 25a is "No", Questions 25b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation
Not Completed
26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
No. Note: If Question 26a is "No", Questions 26b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity
Not Completed
27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
No. Note: If Question 27a is "No", Questions 27b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships
Not Completed
28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
No. Note: If Question 28a is "No", Questions 28b,c,d will state "Not Applicable" when submission goes for approval
Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed
Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed
Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities
Not Completed