

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,

Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

DECISION NO:

19/00049

For publication

Subject:

Recommendation to approve a change the age range of Seal Church of England Primary School, Zambra Way, Seal, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0DJ site to include nursery provision for 2, 3 and 4 year old children from September 2019.

Proposed Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education, I propose to approve the change the age range of Seal Church of England Primary School, Zambra Way, Seal, Sevenoaks TN15 0DJ site to include nursery provision for 2, 3 and 4-year-old children from September 2019.

Reason(s) for decision:

At present, Seal Village Pre-School is located on the site of Seal Church of England Primary School and the majority of their children feed into the school through the KCC admission policy. The proposal was that the Seal Village Pre-school become part of the school and is run as a maintained pre-school within Seal Church of England Primary School.

The pre-school has access to the grounds, however becoming part of the school would mean they have improved and increased access to all facilities within.

The school offers extensive CPD to staff and would aim to continue to develop the staff within the current pre-school. Through this new arrangement, the children within the pre-school would be given Forest School as part of their Early Years curriculum offer, along with the use of the school's technology, resources and facilities. There would be greater transition for children from pre-school into Foundation Stage as they would be situated in a classroom next door within the main building. The pre-school would be located within the new building planned to be built this year and this will give the children more space and a nicer environment in which to thrive.

Financial Implications:

There is no capital cost to KCC. The Pre-School will be governed by the school's governing body. and members of the current management committee will be invited on to the Governing Body, so the Pre-School are appropriately represented.

This proposal will not create additional provision on site; as such it will not attract additional road traffic to and from the school. The staff will remain the same within the nursery, however they will be employed by the school and contracted to Kent County Council rather than the privately-run pre-school. The existing Pre-School will dissolve its charity and as part of a TUPE process, the staff will transfer over and be part of the school.

The Governors at TBF are bringing forward this proposal with the support of the staff and governors at

both schools and Kent County Council.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

A consultation was held from 7 May 2019 to 4 June 2019, including a drop-in session on 13 May 2019. There were two attendees at the drop-in session, but no consultation responses were received.

[To be added after Committee meeting]

Any alternatives considered:

The 'Kent Commissioning Plan for Education Provision, 2019-23 identified a pressure on nursery places in the Sevenoaks district due to increased demand from changes in demographics and small-scale house building. This proposal will ensure the continued viability and sustainability of the provision at Seal Church of England Primary School.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken, and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer: None

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Signed

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Date