

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:**

**Roger Gough, Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education**

**DECISION NO:**

**19/00009**

Unrestricted

Key decision: No

**Subject: Proposal to change the age-range of Bysing Wood Primary School in Faversham from 4-11 years to 2-11 years, through the addition of a school run nursery**

**Decision:**

As Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education, I propose to:

- a) To issue a public notice to permanently change the age range of the school and subject to no objections being received to the public notice
- b) Change the age range from 4-11 years to 2-11 years in order to establish a school run nursery

**Reason(s) for decision:**

Bysing Wood Primary School currently provides early years education for children who turn five when in the Reception class. Following a decision to close taken in December 2018 by the Management Committee of Rainbow pre-school (located on the school site), the Local Authority has asked the school to consider running a nursery provision in the former Rainbow accommodation. This accommodation is owned by KCC and adjoins the Children's Centre buildings. The sudden closure of the nursery has left a shortfall of pre-school places in the locality. Although the children attending the nursery at the time of closure were found alternative places in Faversham, these provisions are now at capacity and the school and nursery serve an area where several new housing developments have commenced build-out.

Bysing Wood Primary School was judged "Good" by Ofsted in February 2017 with strong and effective leadership. The Local Authority is confident that the school has the capacity to establish a successful nursery provision. This would ensure that sufficient pre-school places would be available for local families and to meet increasing demand likely to arise from the nearby housing developments.

It is proposed to change the age-range of Bysing Wood Primary School from 4-11 years to 2-11 years. The Governing Body fully supports the option of establishing a nursery. The nursery provision would operate under the school's Ofsted registration and provide places for two, three and four year olds. As Rainbow pre-school has already closed, there is the possibility of establishing the new nursery provision from the start of the summer term, subject to business planning and Cabinet Member agreement

**Equality Implications**

This will be completed as part of the consultation process

**Financial Implications**

These will be updated prior to the decision being taken

**Legal Implications**

These will be updated prior to the decision being taken.

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

N/A

**Any alternatives considered and rejected:**

These will be included in the report circulated to the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee prior to the final decision being taken.

**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**