



Norfolk County Council



Consultation on change of age range to allow for spaces for Under 4's at Browick Road Primary School from September 2017

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to discuss proposed changes to the provision at Browick Road Primary School for under 4's which requires a lowering of the schools age range by 2 years. Norfolk County Council agrees with the school's Governing Body proposal to consult on the proposed changes in line with legal requirements.

The consultation period will run for 3 weeks from **Monday 8th May to Friday 26th May 2017**. Norfolk County Council will consider all comments received during the consultation period. We are consulting with all relevant stakeholders as required by law when making changes to school age range arrangements.

What change is being proposed?

Currently the school takes children into the Reception Class at the start of school year after their fourth birthday. All younger children attend Busy Bees Playgroup or alternative Early Years provision within Wymondham.

From September 2017 a merger with Busy Bees Playgroup is proposed, thereby lowering our school's age range to admit 2 year olds. As part of this merger the school will take on the management of the playgroup and will be known as Browick Road Primary and Nursery School. This will make the schools age range 2 - 11 years, rather than the current 4 - 11 years.

Please note that there is no change proposed to the determined admissions arrangements. The school's determined admission arrangements for school entry in September 2018 remain unchanged and there is no change to the fact that a nursery place does not in any way guarantee a place at the school, as is documented on the admissions policy on the school web site.

Norfolk County Council believes this change will;

- protect the current number of early year places in the immediate area
- ensure a sustainable governance structure for the early years provision.

Why is the school making this change?

The school was approached by the Busy Bees management committee with regard to a merger due to difficulties in recruiting committee members. A voluntary playgroup has a legal duty to run by an effective committee and it has proved increasingly difficult to recruit to this voluntary role. This has an impact on the sustainability of the playgroup and staff security. The school and playgroup see this as a positive and exciting move which will strengthen the partnership between both settings.

Will the proposed change result in any impact on current Busy Bees provision?

From September 2017, Browick Road Primary School intends that the new provision will reflect the current Busy Bees model, in that the older children will be prioritised in the morning, with the option of additional afternoon sessions in line with the introduction of the 30 hours funding <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/children-and-families/childcare-and-early-learning/free-childcare-and-learning/free-childcare-for-working-parents-of-3-and-4-year-olds> . Younger children will still be able to apply for afternoon sessions. The proposed sessions will run from 9.00 – 12.00 and 12.00 – 3.00 Monday to Friday term-time only.

Will the proposed change result in additional traffic near the school at drop off and pick up times?

There will not be any impact on peak time traffic at the school, as the provision is already on the school site.

What will the impact be of providers of nursery provision locally?

We cannot foresee any impact on other providers locally as new places are not being created.

The earliest this could happen is 1 September 2017.

Have your say

We will be holding an event where you can come and find out more about this proposal on:

Thursday 11th May, 2.45 – 3.45pm in the School Hall, Browick Road Primary School.

If you are unable to attend this drop in session, but would like to comment on our proposal please write to School Organisation Team, FREEPOST IH 2076, Floor 8 (Bay 29), County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DH, email schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk or access our online survey: <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/browick-road-primary-school>

We need all responses by 3pm, Friday 26th May 2017.

Finally, if you would like further information or ask questions on the proposal;

- Current parents of Busy Bees children please contact Tara Smith via the usual methods of communication
- Browick Road Primary School can be contacted by email at office@browickoad.norfolk.sch.uk



Consultation on change of age range at Browick Road Primary School, Wymondham.

Let us know what you think.

We hope to change the age range to 2 – 11 year olds at Browick Road Primary and Nursery School, from 1st September 2017.

Do you agree with our proposal?

Yes

No

Which organisation are you associated with:

Browick Road Primary School

Busy Bees Playgroup

Neither

Please add any comments you would like to make about our proposal.

Please return this form by **3pm on Friday 26th May 2017** by:

- Handing it into the school
- Posting it to: School Organisation Team, FREEPOST IH 2076, Floor 8 (Bay 29), County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DH
- emailing schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk
- accessing our online survey: <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/browick-road-primary-school>