



Full Proposal Document

Grendon Primary School

Proposal to alter the age range to remove nursery provision.

Introduction

Birmingham City Council, as the Local Authority for Birmingham, in collaboration with the school, is consulting on the following changes to Grendon Primary School (a community school).

School Information

Type:	Community School (Local Authority Maintained)		
Name:	Grendon Primary School	DFE:	2087
Address:	Grendon Road, Birmingham B14 4RB		
Ward:	Highters Heath	District:	Selly Oak
Age Range:	3 – 11 years	Capacity:	420
Last Ofsted:	11 th July 2019	Ofsted Rating	2 : Good

Nursery Capacity:

Capacity of nursery provision:	26
Full time equivalent:	26
Current nursery attendance:	0

What changes are proposed?

We are proposing to carry out the following changes to Grendon Primary School:

- Alter the lower age limit from 3 years to become 4 years;
- This would change the age range of the school to be 4 – 11 years.
- This would result in the removal of nursery provision.

Why do we want to do this?

The school has a nursery class that can admit up to 26 full time places for 3 and 4 year olds. The school has not admitted pupils into the nursery class for the last 2 years, this was a temporary closure with the agreement of the Local Authority.

The temporary closure was necessary as the number of pupils attending the nursery at the school had been lower in recent years, due to there being a large supply of nursery provision in the local area. The nursery had been operating at approximately 48% capacity before the temporary closure in September 2018. Nurseries operating below capacity can have financial implications as the cost of providing the nursery is more than the amount of money received and can be at risk to the financial viability and sustainability of the nursery which can impact the budget of the school.

Evidence of Demand:

There is a large over-supply of Early Education and Childcare provision (0 to 4 age range) in the local area surrounding Grendon Primary School i.e. Highters Heath Ward.

- Number of places in the Highters Heath ward: 580 part time equivalent (pte).
- Number of places potentially needed in the Highters Heath Ward: 394 pte.

There are 15 early-years providers in the Highters Heath ward consisting of 1 nursery class managed by a primary school, 10 childminders and 3 full day-care private, voluntary or independent (PVI) nursery providers and 1 nursery school.

When will these changes happen?

If the proposal is approved by the decision makers at Birmingham City Council, it is intended that the proposal will be implemented from **31st July 2020**

Will there be any effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area?

Other nursery providers in the area may find that they have increased applications. There is sufficient provision to accommodate the local need.

How will this affect pupils at the school?

There are no safeguarding concerns. There are no pupils in the nursery.

Note: The admission arrangements at the School are not affected by this proposal. Attendance at a nursery provision does not give pupils any priority to admission into the School's reception class.

How will this affect staff?

All nursery staff have been found alternative roles within the school since the temporary closure. These arrangements will remain should the proposal be approved.

Will there be changes to the school building?

There is no building work needed for this proposal. Should the proposal be approved the current nursery accommodation will be used as a teaching classroom for other children.

What are the project costs for this proposal and how is it funded?

There are no project costs associated with this proposal.

Will this definitely happen?

No, there is a statutory process we must follow to make these sorts of changes to schools.

This document is the full proposal for statutory public consultation, referred to as "the representation period". All comments we receive during that period will be anonymised and forwarded to the decision makers for consideration. Within two months of the end of the representation period, Birmingham City Council's Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and Culture, jointly with the Director of Education and Skills, will make a decision.

It is only after the decision that we will be able to say with certainty whether or not the proposal will be implemented. A letter will be sent to the Governing Body and Head Teacher to notify them of the decision. The school will share the decision with families and staff of the school. The decision will also be published on the consultation webpage in the details below.

What will happen if this proposal is rejected?

If this proposal is rejected, Grendon Primary School will continue to have an age range of 3 to 11 years; and continue to offer nursery provision.

Alternative solutions to the sustainability of the nursery provision would need to be explored to relieve the financial pressure this causes to the school budget.

How can I make my views known?

We invite all interested parties to give us their views and comment on this proposal.

Any comments must be received between 5th March 2020 and 2nd April 2020

You can submit your written comments via the following methods:

- Online survey: <https://www.birminghambeheard.org.uk/people-1/Grendon>
- By email (with Grendon in the subject): eds.enquiries@birmingham.gov.uk
- Using the attached form or by letter to:
School Organisation Team – Education Infrastructure
Birmingham City Council
PO Box 15843
Birmingham B2 2RT

What happens next?

The dates set out below meet the government requirements for us to consult fully with the people affected by the proposal.

Key dates

Action	Date
Statutory notice to be published	5 th March 2020
Beginning of 4 week consultation period	5 th March 2020
End of 4 week consultation period	2 nd April 2020
Final decision to be made no later than	2 nd June 2020
Changes implemented	31 st July 2020