

Please contact: Mark Holmes
Your ref:
Our ref:
Date: September 2008



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Director: Rose Collinson

To all Medway Schools

FOR ACTION: By 24th October 2008

CONSULTATION ON CHANGES TO THE AGE RANGE OF LUTON INFANT SCHOOL

Dear Headteacher,

Please find enclosed a consultation document relating to Luton Infant School.

The consultation is seeking views on whether to amend the age range of the school to allow the admission of children aged three years. Should this be approved, this will allow local children to access the full Foundation Stage of learning (nursery education) at the school.

You are invited to respond to this consultation document, on behalf of your school, **by the closing date of 24th October 2008.**

This document has been circulated to the parents of children attending the school, to all other schools, pre-schools and day nurseries in Medway, to Medway Councillors and to other relevant organisations and individuals. The responses will be considered by Cabinet in November 2008.

If you have any queries concerning this consultation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Mark Holmes
strategic manager - early years services

LEARNING



Change to age range of Luton Infant School, Chatham

Public consultation document

September 2008

Change to age range of Luton Infant School, Chatham

This document is designed to:

- Notify you of Medway Council's proposal to change the age range of Luton Infant School, Chatham from the current 4-7 years, to 3-7 years, by the addition of Foundation Stage classes for three and four year olds
- Explain why these changes are being proposed
- Invite your comments on these proposals

Why is the age range of Luton Infant School being reviewed?

At present the age range for the school is 4-7 years. The school admits children into its reception year when they are at least four years old. This is part-way through the early years foundation stage –the first "Key Stage" of children's education.

Children in the Luton area do not always achieve in their early years as well as children in other parts of Medway. Research evidence suggests that children benefit from a coherent and uninterrupted foundation stage from the age of three years until the end of the reception year, led by qualified teachers.

As part of a plan to continue to improve opportunities for children at the school, the Headteacher and governing body wish to provide an uninterrupted foundation stage at the school.

There is available accommodation at the school that could be suitably converted to provide a good environment for 3 year-olds, including secure outdoor play.

When would the new age range begin?

The governing body has asked Medway Council to change the prescribed age range of the school. This would mean that from January 2009 children could be admitted from three years of age.

It will not be compulsory for children to start school at three years of age. Compulsory schooling begins when a child is five years old.

Foundation stage classes would be staffed by teachers and qualified early years practitioners. The building and learning environment would be designed to meet the needs of young children, including indoor and outdoor areas.

How to make comments

We would like to hear your views on these proposals. Please let us know by:

- Completing the reply slip at the end of this leaflet
- Writing a letter to:
- Early Years & Childcare (Luton)
Medway Council
FREEPOST RRUY-ZBTJ-CZZC
Gun Wharf, Dock Road
CHATHAM ME4 4TR**

Alternatively hand the form or letter in at the School Office at Luton Infant School, who will forward it on your behalf.

Letters and slips must be received by **Friday 24 October 2008**.

Unfortunately it will not be possible to acknowledge receipt.

The next stages

Comments on this proposal will be presented to Medway Council's Cabinet on 4 November 2008. The Cabinet may decide not to proceed with the proposal, or to authorise statutory notices to be published, which will give anyone the opportunity to object or comment.

If there are no objections to the notice Medway Council can decide to go ahead with the proposal. If there are one or more objections, Medway Council as Schools Commissioner, under the Education and Inspections Act 2006, will determine the outcome.

Public consultation period	12 September – 24 October 2008
Report outcome of consultation to cabinet	4 November 2008
Statutory notice period	13 November – 29 December 2008
New designated age range to apply from	1 January 2009

No decisions will be made until the consultation has been completed and local views have been carefully considered.

Change to age range of Luton Infant School, Chatham

REPLY SLIP

Please complete this form, and add any comments you wish below.
Forms and letters should reach us by **Friday 24 October 2008**.

Please return to:

Early Years & Childcare (Luton)
Medway Council
FREEPOST RRUY-ZBTJ-CZZC
Gun Wharf, Dock Road
CHATHAM ME4 4TR

Alternatively hand the form or letter in at the School Office at Luton Infant School, who will forward it on your behalf.

Please tick one box

I approve of the proposal to change the age range of
Luton Infant School to 3–7 years

I object to the proposal to change the age range of
Luton Infant School to 3–7 years

Please give your reasons as fully as possible. This will help careful consideration to be given to the arguments in favour and against the proposal.

It would be helpful to have the following information:

Name: _____

Address: _____

I am (please tick)

Parent / Guardian

Governor

Member of Staff

None of the above (please specify)

Comments

Please use this space to add any further comments

If you have any questions about this leaflet and want to speak to someone in your own language please ring this number.

335577

এই লিফলেট সম্পর্কে আপনার যদি কোন প্রশ্ন থাকে এবং এ ব্যাপারে আপনার নিজের ভাষায় কারো সাথে আলাপ করতে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে এই নম্বরে টেলিফোন করুন:

331780
(Bengali)

如果你對這本小冊的內容有任何疑問，且想與會說你的語言的某人談話，請打這個電話號碼

331781
(Chinese)

જો તમને આ પત્રિકા વિશે કોઈ પ્રશ્નો હોય અને તમે તમારી માતૃભાષામાં કોઈની સાથે વાત કરવા માગતા હો તો કૃપા કરીને આ નંબર ઉપર ફોન કરો

331782
(Gujarati)

यदि आपने इस लीफलेट के बारे में कुछ पूछना है और उस व्यक्ति के साथ आप अपनी भाषा में बात करना चाहते हैं, तो कृपया निम्नलिखित नंबर पर टेलीफोन करने करें:

331783
(Hindi)

ਜੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਇਸ ਲੀਫਲੈਟ ਦੇ ਬਾਰੇ ਕੁੱਝ ਪੁੱਛਣਾ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋਵੋ ਅਤੇ ਤੁਸੀਂ ਉਸ ਵਿਅਕਤੀ ਦੇ ਨਾਲ ਆਪਣੀ ਬੋਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਗੱਲ ਕਰਨੀ ਚਾਹੁੰਦੇ ਹੋ, ਤਾਂ ਕਿ੍ਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਅੱਗੇ ਲਿਖੇ ਨੰਬਰ ਤੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਕਰੋ:

331784
(Punjabi)

اگر آپ اس کتابچے کے بارے میں کوئی سوال پوچھنا چاہتے ہیں اور آپ کسی فرد سے اپنی زبان میں بات کرنے کے خواہشمند ہیں تو براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر فون کیجئے۔

331785
(Urdu)

Elinizdeki bu yazılı duyuru ile ilgili herhangi bir sorunuz varsa ve dilinizi bilen birisi ile konuşmak istiyorsanız, lütfen 331786 numaraya telefon edin.

331786
(Turkish)

**This document is available in other formats on request,
please telephone 01634 331031.**

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Public consultation document