



Mundford Church of England Primary Academy

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Consultation on a proposal to transfer the Mundford Pre-School into an early year's foundation stage unit (EYFS) based at Mundford Church of England Primary Academy.

What is the proposal?

The Pre-School Trustees have been actively considering the long term future for the Pre-School and have consequently engaged in discussions with The Federated Governing Body and Trustees at Mundford Church of England Primary Academy to explore future opportunities to transfer the preschool into a new school based Nursery for children of 3 to 4 years of age.

Both the Trustees of Mundford Pre-school and The Federated Governing Body and Trustees at Mundford Church of England Primary Academy believe the proposal will enable the continued provision and growth opportunities for pre-school facilities in Mundford and the surrounding community.

What will the school early year's foundation stage nursery provision look like?

It is proposed to have a building on the school grounds with two class rooms to accommodate both the Nursery and Reception classes creating an EYFS unit.

What are the benefit for the children:

- Eliminates the transition between two providers increasing stability, security and confidence in the school environment from an early age
- Provides consistently high quality of education for children 3-5 years of age
- Ensures continuity and consistency of high-quality teaching and learning together, with an increased ability to track long term achievement

- Provides continuous high-quality care for the most vulnerable children and those with special education needs (including more-able pupils)
- Opens opportunities for a richer social development and interaction with a wider range of age groups for children.

Benefits for parents and carers:

- Provides the ability to foster longer term family relationships within one school
- Simplifies communication between school and parents, especially for parents with children in both providers, removes duplication and ensures a joined-up approach for events, training and other matters.

Benefits for leadership and governance:

- Promotes continuity and progression of learning between ages 3-11 years, via a single leadership and vision
- Ensures continuity and consistency of policy and planning across key stages
- Supports the recruitment and retention of a strong governing body
- Further enhances consistency of approaches to inclusion and well-being
- Improves co-ordination and flexibility in the management of SEN benefits for staff and the school
- Gives opportunities for career development through the sharing of a wider range of expertise and possibilities for working from EYFS - KS2
- Utilises staff knowledge, skills and specific expertise more fully across the amalgamated school
- Allows continuous assessment, tracking and target-setting procedures for the entire EYFS and primary phases of education.

What about the Trust's obligations under the Equality Act 2010?

In considering this proposal, the Trust is mindful of its duty to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it

The relevant protected characteristics are:

- a. age
- b. disability
- c. gender re-assignment
- d. pregnancy and maternity
- e. race
- f. religion or belief

- g. sex
- h. sexual orientation

The Trust will be carrying out its own assessment of any such impact on the protected characteristics of a decision to move forward with the development of an early year's foundation stage unit, but if there is anything related to this which you would like to draw to the Trust's attention, please do let us know via the online survey referred to on the final page.

Who will be consulted?

Under section 16 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, the Trust Board as the proposer of the planned change must consult:

- Parents/carers of pupils at Mundford CoE Primary Academy
- Parents / carers of children at Mundford Pre-School
- Department of Education
- Norfolk County Council
- Regional School Commission

Who will make the final decision and when could the change happen?

The consultation will start on Monday 4th October 2021 and end on Friday 12th November 2021.

DNEAT Trust Board will review the results of the consultation and an application will be made to the Regional Schools Commissioner's office via the Headteacher Board.

If at the end of the consultation process, the proposal does not go forward, then the decision what happens with the Preschool in Mundford lies with Pre-School Trustees.

How can I learn more about this proposal and have my say?

There will be meetings for parents/carers and other interested members of the community and this date will be confirmed shortly.

Interested parties are invited to share their views by completing the online questionnaire via this link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScivXUmzvn0ruUa1x9OT46HJMjfZtX1KV93gW5BBx-31qKqkw/viewform?usp=pp_url

Responses to the questionnaire should be submitted via the link by 4.00pm on Friday 12th November 2021.

Thank you for your participation in this process.