



Complete Proposal

**to change the age range from 3 to 11 to 4 to 11
at**

**Market Deeping Community Primary School,
Market Deeping**

MATTERS TO BE SPECIFIED IN SECTION 19 OF THE EDUCATION AND
INSPECTIONS ACT 2006

PROPOSALS TO MAKE A PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO A SCHOOL

29 March 2019

Contact details

This proposal has been published by Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ regarding the change of age range at Market Deeping Community Primary School, Willoughby Avenue, Market Deeping, PE6 8JE.

Implementation

The proposal is to permanently change the age range at Market Deeping Community Primary School from 3 to 11 to 4 to 11 with effect from 1 September 2019.

Objections and Comments

Any person or organisation may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to the School Organisation Planning Team, Children's Services, Lincolnshire County Council, County Offices, Newland, Lincoln LN1 1YQ or by emailing schoolorganisation@lincolnshire.gov.uk to be received by the deadline of 26 April 2019.

Alteration Description

In September 2018 the Published Admission Number (PAN) of the school was increased from 30 to 45 with the capacity for 4 to 11 year olds increased from 210 to 315. As a result of those expansion plans the pre-school part of the school was temporarily closed in September 2017, with displaced pre-school places being provided by Madcaps; a third party provider on site. Therefore no nursery provision was lost. Temporary age range changes are allowed for up to a maximum of two years before a decision needs to be taken regarding making the arrangements permanent or reverting back to providing pre-school places.

The temporary closure of the school's nursery provision has allowed the classroom space to be used for 4-11 year olds whilst building work has taken place. This has been a successful arrangement which is proposed to be made permanent and Madcaps to continue to provide the required pre-school places. There would therefore be no requirement to also have 3 year old provision on roll at Market Deeping Community Primary School.

School Capacity and Site

Failure to implement this change in age range would result in an unsustainable over-provision of pre-school places.

Objectives

The proposal detailed in this document is to permanently change the age range at Market Deeping Community Primary School from 3 to 11 to 4 to 11.

It is the Local Authority's (LA) statutory duty to maintain both a sufficient number of early years places in Lincolnshire and also sufficient school places to accommodate all pupils of statutory school age in Lincolnshire. The LA works with the maintained sector and also private, voluntary and independent providers to ensure sufficient early years places. There would be an over-sufficiency of pre-school provision for 3 year olds in this area of Market Deeping if the age range is not changed. There are currently no 3 year olds on roll at the school.

The school and the LA believe that the provision of LA maintained nursery places are no longer necessary at Market Deeping Community Primary School. There will continue to be sufficient early years places in the area to ensure adequate provision and choice for parents in Market Deeping. Following statutory consultation, if the proposal is approved, the age range will be amended with effect from 1 September 2019.

Consultation

In order for the school to change the age range the LA must follow the necessary statutory legal processes as required by the Secretary of State in accordance with the Education and Inspections Act (EIA) 2006 and updated by the Education Act 2011 together with the guidance "Making 'prescribed alterations' to maintained schools. Statutory guidance for proposers and decision-makers" (October 2018) issued by the DfE. Under this guidance there is no longer a requirement for a prescribed consultation period prior to the publication of the Statutory Notice and Complete Proposal. However, the DfE still has a strong expectation that LAs will consult interested parties in developing their proposal. To fulfil this expectation the LA undertook a fair and open consultation to ensure all views were considered.

Consultation originally began on 23 January 2019 with a letter, incorporating relevant information and reasons for the proposal, sent to all parents of pupils attending the school informing them of the proposal. Interested parties were also informed as required by guidelines issued by the DfE.

All parents/carers and other interested parties were given the opportunity to respond as part of the consultation process by 20 February 2019. Copies of the letter commencing consultation and the response form were also published on the County Council website under the webpage Current Consultations on www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/schoolorganisation

All written responses received during consultation have been provided to the Executive Councillor for consideration in the decision making process. To briefly summarise there were 6 valid responses in total with 1 against the proposal, 5 for the proposal and 0 neither for nor against.

The proposed changes were also discussed by the School Council at the school. They had a vote and 5 children were in favour of keeping a nursery in the school and 2 were in favour of the change of provision to MadCaps.

They felt it was important that the nursery children came into school and did things with the older children. The school are looking into opportunities to join up Christmas plays, World Book Day dressing up and getting the pre-schoolers to assemblies in the summer term.

Under current legislation the LA is the decision maker for the proposal and is co-ordinating the statutory process before making a final decision in June 2019. The LA, as decision maker, must be able to show that all relevant issues raised are taken into consideration in the decision making process.

Project Costs

There are no costs associated with this proposal.

Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) provision

The change in age range of the school is not likely to have any impact on SEND. Consideration of pupils with SEN will take place and the LA will continue to look to make improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the education provision for children with SEN.

Related Proposals

The proposal to expand Market Deeping Community Primary School is not related to any other statutory proposal.

What will happen now?

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At the close of the 4 week representation period (statutory formal consultation) on 26 April 2019 responses will be collated and analysed and a further report will be presented to the Executive Councillor for a final decision in June 2019 on the expansion of the school. The representation period is the final opportunity for people and organisations to express their views about the proposal and ensure that they will be taken into account by the decision maker.