

# Holbeton Primary School



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## Final Consultation Meeting

held at Holbeton Primary School on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 4pm

Holbeton Primary School is proposing changing it's age range from 4 to 11 years, to 2 – 11years.

Present: Sophie King, Claire Northmore, Georgia Bourne, Jane Weston-Baker, Tom Davies, Nirosha Gunatillake, Lily Mildmay-White, Alice Murray Baker, Pauline Campbell, Emily Mitchell, Jackie Rundle & Kate Nash.

Mrs. Rundle:

Thank you to all those that are in attendance and for all those that have taken the time to send in their comments which I will discuss later.

A huge thank you to the pre school committees, past and present, who have been working tirelessly to keep pre school going whilst this very extended process has continued. It needs to be acknowledged that the work they have done has not been easy and has taken a huge commitment from them. So again, thank you.

Apologies to those that couldn't make the meeting at this time. Obviously no time would have suited all but the hope was by having it at this time, we can get the minutes out before the evening is out for everyone to access.

Firstly clarification of some terminology, difference between Foundation and Reception:

Foundation stage is from 0 to 5 (including pregnancy)

Reception stage is aged 4 to 5

Se we are proposing to have a Foundation Stage unit from children aged 2 to 5

### Responses to the Consultation letter:

There were many verbal comments from parents of both pre school and the primary school, all of which were positive.

There were 10 written responses:

3 were from parents from the primary school

3 were from parents who have children on both preschool and the primary school and

4 were from the wider community. One of these was from the local Parish Council.

### All were in support with no objections:

3 general support, no reason given

5 commented on how it ensures the sustainability of pre school



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1 commented on how it will also help ensure sustainability of both preschool and the primary school  
3 commented on how positive transition will be  
1 commented on the positive effect this will have on children of all ages in the primary school.

**Some queries and assurances asked for:**

1 asking how this will impact on use of space and resource for the primary school aged children.  
3 queried who would manage the unit and its curriculum  
2 wondered if Reception children would be able to mix with older children (not being held back)  
1 concerned that the very youngest children might have to mix with primary school aged children.

In response to these queries, please see below.

As mentioned in our proposal this will be the organisation:

Open during primary school days

**Sessions:**

2 sessions per day:

a morning session from 9am to 12.30pm and an afternoon session from 12.30pm to 3.30 pm to include lunch. Lunch will either be a packed lunch or a pre ordered 'hot dinner' from school.

The unit will continue Forest School sessions on a Tuesday morning and Beach School will be on a Friday morning in the first half of the Autumn Term and for the Summer Term.

**Places:**

There will 13 places available, with a maximum of two 2 year olds per session (although this may increase for Beach School as it is so popular)

Priority will be given to those that have siblings at school already.

We will ask parents to book sessions for the term with a 4 weeks notice period.

**Staffing:**

The unit will be staffed with 2 members of staff, at least one who will have Level 7 Teacher status.

Current pre school staff are currently being consulted through the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) regulations (*TUPE*) process.

Whomever will be employed, will be managed by myself and will be part of the appraisal and training process as all members of staff at Holbeton Primary School already are. The plan is for them to also be supported by other WeST practitioners, especially with regular planning (weekly) and moderation meetings. Mrs. Mitchell will also support with planning and implementation of Beach School and Forest School.

**Charges:**

2 year olds = £5.00 per hour

3 and 4 year old will be £4.50 per hour

Parents will be able to claim their 15 hours of free universal entitlement and 30 hours extended entitlement. Parents who are eligible can also access two year old funding. As an Ofsted registered provision parents will continue to be able to access support with childcare cost through childcare vouchers, tax free childcare and universal credit.

We will continue to ask for a further voluntary contribution towards Beach School to help pay



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for resources, transport and extra staffing. We will probably still have to carry on fundraising to help with transport costs.

#### **Housing:**

The unit will be housed in what is currently the Reception/Year 1 and 2 area. The mezzanine floor will be converted to a sensory space, suitable for those that need to sleep too. The playground fencing will remain in place to ensure a safer/smaller space for 'play' for those that would prefer it, although the larger playground will also be available for their use.

Year 1 and Year 2 will move to the upstairs floor which they use now already anyway. They will use the 'Assembly room' (but with fold away tables so that schools Assemblies can still continue to meet there) the resource area and one table in the library. This will also give them access to the outside area and a link to the Foundation outdoor area monitored with CCTV. This will help with the transition of the Year 1 and Year 2 children too.

Key Stage 2 will remain where they are.

#### **New school population:**

Although drop off and pick up will be at the same time as the other children, the Foundation Unit will have sole access to the outside area. The youngest children will not have to mix with the other children at all, unless they want to.

However the aim is for Reception children to integrate more and more with the older children as the year goes on to ensure the transition to Year 1 is seamless and that children will be ready to access Key Stage 1.

The daily set up will be run on projects and themes, as does the rest of the school.

Continuous Provision will continue with some activities being adult led. For the younger children, most of these will be child initiated and adult teaching and children learning through play. For Reception children there will be more 'Must Do' jobs, and again these will extend as the year progresses. If younger children want to join these session and they are able to access the learning, then they may do so.

#### **What happens next?**

As soon as this meeting closes and if there are no follow on actions or objections, I will be able to send of the application to the Department of Education. It is a fast track application but the worst case scenario is that it could take 3 months.

Practically, this gives us some issues to contend with, but I have already been meeting with pre school and how we can manage this. Sadly we may only be able to offer provisional spaces to start with, with everything being finalised once we receive DfE approval. The aim is still to be open for business in September 2019.

#### **Further questions?**

What would happen if it took longer than 3 months ?

Pre school would continue to run until transfer completed. Devon County Council support the move because of the lack of other local provision.

What play areas would the pre school children have access to?

All areas will be available to they wish. Play areas will be available to all children but Foundation will require adult supervision in the upper areas.

Can I can clarification on number of children in the unit?



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Pauline explained that the biggest session is 10 at the moment. Beach sessions run separately and fundraising will to support this will continue.

Is there budget to increase these numbers and pay for facilities?

The current ratio is 1:13 children per adult (excluding 2 year olds), 2 year olds is 1:4. For best practice we have decided to offer 13 places and our budget reflects this.

Pre school budget will pay for improved equipment.

The unit has to make a profit for 12 months on current numbers.

There will be no impact on the schools budget, but moving forward fundraising across the school will be shared

What will happen to the money already raised for pre school?

As Pre school is a charity, money in their bank account must be ring fenced for the pre school age children.

Will there be enough cover if a member of staff is taking out of the unit to change a nappy?

We will have enough support within the rest of the school.

Where will the children eat?

We are giving the children the opportunity to eat separately in their unit, but they may choose to eat with the other children/siblings etc.

Meeting was closed at 4.45 pm.



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