

Irthington Community School
Proposed Change of Age Range Consultation
12 July 2012

Staff and Governors

After a brief introduction and background to the consultation the staff and governors were invited to ask questions (there were 16 attendees in total).

Questions/points raised;

- Q** Why has it taken so long to get to this point in the granting of the Nursery provision?
- A** The process is lengthy and would normally take between 12-18 months. However, there has also been a constitutional change within Children's Services. Cabinet members will be made aware of the delay and the necessary timelines in order to achieve January opening.
- Q** Will there be any back payments available to the nursery due to the delay?
- A** No. Assuming all goes to the timelines mentioned, any pupils in the Nursery in January will be part of the Pupil Census and will accrue finances from that point.
- Q** Will the fact that the business plan for the Nursery was formulated so long ago have a negative impact on the cabinet decision?
- A** No, the time lapse will be explained in the information that goes to Cabinet. It will also be possible for the Business Advisors to assist in the updating of the business plan.
- Q** Would it help the proposal if representatives of the Nursery attend the Cabinet meetings?
- A** This is your choice. All the information and representations already gathered will be presented to the Cabinet. If you do decide to attend then please contact Democratic Services.
- Q** Is there an appeal process should the proposal be rejected at Cabinet?
- A** No. You would need to resubmit the business plan, and it would go through the process again. The Cabinet will explain why they rejected the plan should they do so.

It was commented that the nursery has already been up and running successfully for over 2 years.

Parents and Community

After a brief slideshow, the parents and public present (8 in total) were invited to ask questions.

Questions/points raised;

- Q** Why has the proposal taken so long to get to this stage?
A The process is lengthy and would normally take between 12-18 months. However, there has also been a constitutional change within Children's Services. Cabinet members will be made aware of the delay and the necessary timelines in order to achieve January opening.
- Q** Can the remaining process be speeded up?
A No. It is a statutory process that needs to be followed.
- Q** Why does the decision on the proposal have to go to cabinet?
A It is a decision that needs to be made by elected members.
- Q** Will the Nursery be compensated due to the length of time the process taken?
A No.
- Q** For what reasons could the proposal get rejected?
A There could be a number of reasons. There may be a high number of responses objecting to it, Cabinet members could disagree with the proposal, or it could be decided that the proposals are not feasible or sustainable.
- Q** Is the effect on other providers of the proposal taken into consideration?
A Yes. Existing childcare sufficiency in the area is taken into account.
- Q** Is the current number on roll and sustainability of the Nursery taken into account?
A Yes. It's all considered.

Comments were made that;

The proposal will add to the offer that the village school can make to the locality.

The Nursery provision will cut down the number of journeys that parents have to make between schools/childcare, as well as providing continuity for children in their educational development.

People in the village want to bring their children to a local nursery.