



Lazonby C. of E. School : Lazonby : Penrith : Cumbria CA10 1BL
Tel and Fax: 01768 898458 Head teacher: Miss Y Hunt
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26th November 2012

Dear Consultee

LAZONBY C OF E PRIMARY SCHOOL – CONSULTATION ON CHANGE OF AGE RANGE TO INCORPORATE NURSERY PROVISION

Introduction

The Governing Body of Lazonby C of E Primary School is consulting on the option to provide maintained nursery education at the school by incorporating the existing nursery provision into the school. The purpose of this letter is to invite comments on this possibility.

In order to establish a maintained nursery at Lazonby C of E Primary School, it is necessary for the Governors to publish a formal proposal to change the age range of children for which the school can cater. The school is currently able to provide education for children aged 4 to 11 but, if the age range is changed, it would be able in the future to cater for children aged 3 to 11. It can only do this after consulting parents and others that may be affected. Having considered your views, the Governors would then decide whether or not to publish formal proposals in order to bring about the change of age range. A voluntary managed provision is presently established within the school (Lazonby Little Learners).

Proposed arrangements

Initially the proposed nursery class will operate one session each day (Monday to Friday) and those sessions will be three hours duration each. It is proposed that these sessions will be from 9.00am to 12.00 noon, Monday to Friday, during term time. This meets the requirements for free nursery entitlement.

Lazonby C of E Primary School has already fully embraced the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) curriculum and all requirements have been followed. Lazonby Little Learners have a 'good' judgement from OFSTED, at their inspection in September 2012, and are registered with the County Council to provide free nursery places. So, in practice, the children currently attending will see no difference to their existing excellent provision. Nursery children will continue to be incorporated fully into the life of the school. New children entering the school will benefit from the same experience as older children who have attended the school in recent years.

In practice, this will simply replace the Voluntary Management led childcare provision that is currently in place at the school. It will, however, mean that the school can better plan a streamlined curriculum and deliver better continuity across the EYFS.

It is not anticipated that the opening times of the school will be changed. It has been found that

parents who use the existing facility often have other children at the school and it makes more sense to operate at a time which will suit them, i.e. parents only need to make one trip per day to drop off their children. Indeed, parents using the current facility have indicated that this arrangement is the most suitable to them.

There is no other registered nursery provision (other than childminders) within the catchment area of Lazonby C of E Primary School.

It is not intended, as an integral part of this proposal, to offer care other than during the standard education nursery sessions. Were the change of age range to be approved, the pupils would be taught with Reception age pupils. The children would follow the foundation stage of the National Curriculum. The maximum number of children who would be catered for during each session is likely to be 12.

Further information

A decision on the application for change of age range may not be made until after the date by which parents need to apply for a nursery place starting in September 2013. If parents would like their child to attend the nursery provision at Lazonby C of E Primary School, they should apply in the usual way for a place in the existing provision at the school. Children attending or obtaining a place to start the current nursery provision at Lazonby C of E Primary School from September 2013 will be guaranteed a place in the proposed new facility.

Children will be eligible to attend the nursery from the start of the term following their third birthday and will be fully integrated into the school. Nursery education is not statutory and parents can choose whether they wish to take up their entitlement of a free place.

Funding arrangements for the nursery provision will fall under the main school budget.

The published admission number (PAN) for admission to the Reception class at the school is currently 15 (i.e. for entry in 2012/13). The school capacity is 105 and the current number on roll at the school is 63. Were a proposal to be published following this consultation the statutory notice would confirm the nursery admission number to be used in September 2013. The proposal for change of age will not affect the number of children who can be admitted to Reception each September.

Admission to the nursery would be in accordance with the school's 'nursery admission policy'. Admission to the nursery would not guarantee a place in the Reception group of the school as that is governed by a separate policy.

Cumbria County Council transport policy does not cover children attending nurseries, therefore, transport will not be provided for children aged 3 and 4 years old attending nursery at Lazonby C of E Primary School. The County Council only provides transport to children attending Reception and above, in line with the School Transport Policy.

Future actions

The issue of this document marks the beginning of a period of consultation during which the views of any interested parties are sought. These views will be considered before any move to the next stage of the process happens. Dependent upon the outcome of this consultation, a decision on whether to proceed in issuing a statutory notice must be made by the Governing Body of the School. The School Organisation and Governance Regulations mean that, if a Governing Body of a School proposes to change an age range their proposal must be published in a statutory notice. Following publication of statutory notices representations can be made on the proposals. This period lasts for six weeks. Within two months after the six week representation period ends, the County Council must make a decision on the proposal. If the proposal is approved then it is likely that changes

would be implemented from September 2013.

The consultation period will commence on **1st December 2012** and run for the next **6 weeks** ending on **1st February 2013**. Proposals will be published on 13th February 2013

Your comments on the proposals for change of age should be sent to:

Miss Yvonne Hunt (Headteacher), Lazonby C of E Primary School, Lazonby, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 1BL 01768898458 or you can email manager@lazonby.cumbria.sch.uk. The response form will also be available on the school website www.lazonby.cumbria.sch.uk

Thank you for taking the time to consider our proposal. We value your comments.

Yours sincerely

Miss Yvonne Hunt
Headteacher

Gordon Nicolson
Chair of Governors

REPLY SLIP – Please send by **1st February 2013** to Lazonby C of E Primary School, Lazonby, Penrith, Cumbria, CA10 1BL or manager@lazonby.cumbria.sch.uk For the attention of Miss Yvonne Hunt

Lazonby C of E Primary School

Proposal for change of age range to establish maintained nursery provision.

Please tick:

I support the proposal []

I do not support the proposal []

Additional comments

Please indicate your interest in this proposal by ticking one of the boxes below. I am:

A parent of a pupil at Lazonby C of E Primary School []

A parent/prospective parent of a child attending the existing nursery at Lazonby C of E Primary School []

A member of staff at Lazonby C of E Primary School []

A Governor at Lazonby C of E Primary School []

A member of the local community []

Other (please indicate)..... []

Name.....(Please print)

Address.....

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.....Postcode.....

Date.....