

DECISION RECORD

Officer Key Decisions are subject to the Council's Call-In Procedure (Annex 9 of the Council's Constitution <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/about-the-council/freedom-of-information-and-council-data/open-data-statistics-about-hertfordshire/who-we-are-and-what-we-do/who-we-are-and-what-we-do.aspx>)

Subject: Whether to agree to the statutory proposal to change the age range of Maple Grove School, a Maintained school in Hemel Hempstead, to allow children to be admitted from the age of 2, taking into consideration the outcome of the statutory notice period.

Staff Contact: Melany Knowles, Head of Early Years

Tel: 01992 555874

Executive Member: Caroline Clapper

Portfolio: Executive Member for Education, Libraries & Lifelong Learning

1. Decision

To agree the statutory proposal to change the age range of Maple Grove School (a community school), Grovehill, Hemel Hempstead HP2 7BG by altering the lower age limit. This will change the age range from 3 to 11 years to 2 to 11 years, enabling the school to start offering places to 2-year-old children from January 2025.

2. Reasons for the decision

At the Hertfordshire County Council Cabinet meeting of the 09 July 2024, Cabinet authorised the Director of Children's Services to publish a statutory notice to change the age range of Maple Grove School, to enable the Nursery to start offering places to 2-year-old children from January 2025.

The statutory notice period ended on the 29 September 2024 and no objections to the proposal were received.

3. Alternative options considered and rejected

None

4. Consultation

Was any Councillor consulted? Yes

If yes:

(a) Comments of Executive Member

The Executive Member has no comments other than to concur with the Director's intention to agree the proposal.

(b) Comments of other consultees

None

5. Any conflict of interest declared by a councillor who has been consulted in relation to the decision

None received.

6. Following consultation with, and the concurrence of the Executive Member, I am proceeding with the proposed decision.

Signed: Jo Fisher

Title: Executive Director of Children's Services

Date: 16 October 2024

6. Copies of agreed document to:

- Elaine Shell, Democratic Services Manager, Room 213, Old Block, County Hall (signed paper original).
Electronic copy to: Democratic.Services@hertfordshire.gov.uk

and following the expiry of the call-in period to:

- Executive Member - Councillor Caroline Clapper
- Local Member – Colette Wyatt-Lowe, Hemel Hempstead North East
- Chair (Councillor David Andrews), and Vice-Chairs (Councillors Tina Bhartwas and Sandy Walkington) of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Office of the Schools Adjudicator (osa.team@osa.gsi.gov.uk)
- The Headteacher of Maple Grove School for distribution to Staff and Parents Via Parent Mail or similar
- The governing board of Maple Grove School - email to head teacher to forward to chair of governors for distribution to governing body members
- The local Church of England diocese - Canon David Morton, Director of Education, Diocese of St Albans (dde@stalbans.anglican.org)
- The local Roman Catholic diocese - Peter Sweeney, Director of Education, Diocese of Westminster Education Service (education@rcdow.org.uk)