Statutory Consultation of a Prescribed Alteration:

Lowering the age range of Shepton Mallet Community Infants School and Nursery from aged 3 to aged 2 years

Background:

Shepton Mallet Community Infants School and Nursery are registered as a school from aged 3 to aged 7 years. The school also provide nursery care for children from 0-3 years as well as their pre-school. The Nursery was originally set up as a joint venture between school and the Children’s Centre. In 2010 the school’s Governing Body took over responsibility for the Nursery and it was incorporated into the school. It is now an integral part of the school. The school employ a teacher/manager, who is part of the school’s Senior Leadership Team and whilst the School Governors have the strategic responsibility for the Nursery, the Head teacher has overall responsibility for its day to day running.

The Proposer:

Somerset County Council is the Proposer. Shepton Mallet Community Infants School and Nursery has carried out an initial consultation which closed on the 13th of December 2016. This received favourable responses in regards to the proposals.

Proposal:

To lower the age limit of Shepton Mallet Community Infants’ School and Nursery from aged 3 years to aged 2 years from the 1st December 2017.

Rationale:

The school would like to lower the age range from 3 years to 2 years old to improve progress tracking and management systems at the school.

Lowering the age range will improve progress tracking and monitoring. The online system of tracking of Foundation Stage lets the school record through all the EYFS curriculum statements and bands, from birth up to 60 months. Once the school have begun entering judgements, the software also begins to automatically band each child so progress can be tracked over time. Progress and attainment can be monitored in high levels of detail. It allows a seamless transfer to Reception and then to Key Stage 1.

The change will also enable the two year old children attending the school to be included in the school’s management system and track their progress more easily via their pupil progress tracker which is linked to management system.
This will improve efficiency for administering the school’s data and census information.

There will be no change to the day to day operation of the nursery or pre-school as the early year’s staff team are already led by a qualified teacher, and there is already an established early year’s provision on site. The Governing Body of Shepton Mallet Community Infants’ School & Nursery are already responsible for the pre-school.

**Have your say:**

Somerset County Council and Shepton Mallet Infants School and Nursery would like to know what people in the community feel about the proposal to change the age range. The consultation will open on the 2nd of October 2017 and close on the 6th of November 2017.

**You can respond by:**

- Accessing the consultation survey on Somerset County Council’s website: [www.somersetconsults.org.uk](http://www.somersetconsults.org.uk)
- Sending in the consultation response form below to the Local Authority by post or email:

**FAO: Charlotte Wilson, Service Manager Early Years Commissioning**

Somerset County Council, B2 South, County Hall, Taunton, TA1 4DY

**FAO: Charlotte Wilson to Cwilson@somerset.gov.uk**
Consultation Response Form

Please return this response form to Somerset County Council - FAO: Charlotte Wilson, Service Manager Early Years commissioning, Somerset County Council, B2 South, County Hall, and Taunton, TA1 4DY

Or

FAO: Charlotte Wilson to Cwilson@somerset.gov.uk

Please tell us who you are:

| Parent/carer of a child at Shepton Mallet Community Infants School and Nursery |
| Councillor (elected member) |
| School Governor |
| Local resident |
| Member of staff at Shepton Mallet Community Infants School and Nursery |
| Other |

Do you agree with the proposal to change the lower age limit of Shepton Mallet Infants School and Nursery from 3 years old to 2 years old?

| Yes I agree | No I don’t agree |

Please include any comments here:

Thank you for taking part in this consultation