



KINGSWOOD PRIMARY ACADEMY

Consultation Report on the Proposal to Close the Nursery Provision at Kingswood Primary Academy, Southbrook, Corby, Northants

This report summarises the findings of a public consultation around the proposal to close the nursery provision at Kingswood Primary Academy, Southbrook, Corby, Northants.

The consultation ran for a total of four weeks from 12th April 2021 to 7th May 2021.

Background to the proposed closure

Due to persistently low numbers of children attending, we have taken the difficult decision to propose the closure of the school-based nursery provision at Kingswood Primary Academy.

Despite our best efforts to promote the Nursery over the last seven years, the Academy has seen a steady decline in the number of children attending. With a large variety of nursery provision in the area, as well as the national trend of low birth dates, local data suggests that this will continue to be the case for a number of years to come.

The proposed plan

To address these persistently low Nursery enrolment numbers, the Academy proposes it closes this provision from 31 August 2021.

Ensuring all pupils have access to the best possible education and opportunities continues to be the Academy's top priority, which is why, with the support of Greenwood Academies Trust, we are able to offer any current Nursery children a place at The Trust's Hazel Leys Academy from September 2021.

Hazel Leys Academy is located on Gainsborough Road, which is a very short distance from Kingswood Primary Academy. It is also under my leadership and has an excellent Nursery provision.

2. Consultees

A letter was sent to parents/carers and staff of pupils at the Academy, parents/carers of Southbrook, all schools and academies within the Kingswood Primary Academy area, Northamptonshire County Council, Greenwood Academies Trust staff, and local Nursery provisions. The letter informed all connected parties of the proposal. The letter also included details of how to respond to the consultation.

Information was also added to the Kingswood Primary Academy and the Greenwood Academies Trust websites.

3. Key themes coming out of the consultation

The proposal to reduce the early years' education for the children within and around Kingswood Primary Academy has received six emails opposing the closure.

3.1 Parents/Carers and Community Consultation Findings

Six emails received urging the Academy to keep the Nursery open.

3.2 Staff Consultation Findings

No objections received. General staff overview supports the proposal.

3.3 Academy Advisory Council Consultation Findings

Academy Advisory Council (AAC) have been kept informed and updated on the consultation and the plans. The AAC is fully supportive of the proposal.

3.4 Pupil Consultation Findings

No comments have been received from pupils.

3.5 Support from the Local Authority

Local Authority have contacted the Academy by telephone to confirm they are in agreement with the process.

3.6 Support from local MP

The local MP offered his assistance if required.

4. Conclusion and Next steps

Following a review of the responses to the consultation, the Greenwood Academies Trust will be submitting a significant change, fast track application, to the DfE for approval from the Secretary of State for Education.

Details of the outcome will be posted on the Greenwood Academies Trust website and Kingswood Primary Academy website. Letters will also be sent to parents/carers, staff and the local residents.

Dated: 10th May 2021