

3rd March 2020

Consultation on the proposal to lower the entry age of children at Stanton St Quintin Primary School

Introduction

Stanton St Quintin is a small village school situated to the north of Chippenham. The school has capacity for 147 children with a PAN (Pupil Admission Number) of 21. It has capacity to operate as a five class school. In the last 5 years, the NOR (Number on Roll) has reduced due to a number of factors: low occupancy of military accommodation, aging demographic of catchment families and a falling birth rate affecting Wiltshire wide schools. This has resulted in the school reducing from 4 classes to 3 to reflect the numbers on roll, resulting in classroom capacity/space. Despite this, outcomes for children are above average and have an Ofsted grade of Good – May 18.

Purpose and rationale for the consultation

Whilst there are a number of governor/committee and private nurseries in the area, successful preschool provision has proven more successful in school settings. We believe that Stanton St Quintin Primary School could offer high quality education for the children within and in the surrounding areas of the school. There is no pre-school provision in Stanton St Quintin. Discussion with the local authority commissioning and through the school's own informal consultation, there is an indication that there is a need for pre-school setting at Stanton St Quintin. We believe a school led model would particularly allow opportunities for CPD, transition for moving into Foundation Stage 2 and ensuring sustainability for the school.

This document will be circulated to:

- Parents and carers of children at the school
- Teachers and support staff at the school
- Governors at the school
- Local Authority
- Local Councillor
- Parish Council
- Other schools and pre-schools in the area
- Wiltshire Council's Lead Member for Children's Services: Residents of Stanton St Quintin and Lower Stanton

The document will also be published on the school's website www.stantonschool.net

Proposal details

Age Range



The school proposes to lower the age range of the school, from 4-11 years currently to 3-11 years from 1st September 2020. We are propose to create 24 pre-school places for children aged 3-4 years only. As a school led preschool this would require 2 members of staff, one being a qualified teacher.

Proposed nursery location and impact on existing school accommodation

The school has the accommodation and space available to run a pre-school on site. Our proposal will not impact detrimentally on existing school accommodation. The preschool would be accommodated in a pratten hut. Currently this classroom is used for music, break out learning and by the After School Club; and is separate to the main school building. A number of adaptations have been identified should we proceed with this proposal, including a designated Pre-school outdoor area. Existing areas such as school's Wooded/Small Woods area, school hall, hot lunches and the current EYFS outdoor provision will be timetabled so that all children have equitable access to these aspects of the school and therefore no loss of service quality, capacity or frequency to the current and future school children.

Pupil Admission Numbers and Number on Roll

The use of the pratten hut as a pre-school base could impact the potential school's capacity for 147 children. School numbers have, as identified earlier, fallen in recent years. By reducing the PAN from 21 to 17 this would give a capacity of 119 to operate as a 4 class school. The school currently has 68 children on roll. With no immediate military relocation to the area or planned housing development for Stanton St Quintin, it is unlikely that the school capacity of 119 if it were to reduce to 17 from 21 PAN be achieved in the foreseeable future. The current applications for EYFS September are as follows: 11- 1st choice, 7- 2nd choice and 6- 3rd choice.

Age (as at Sept 2019)	Current Available Places	Proposed Available Places from Sept 2020
Pre-school (age 3 to 4)	0	24
Reception	21	17
Year 1	21	17
Year 2	21	17
Year 3	21	17
Year 4	21	17
Year 5	21	17
Year 6	21	17
Total	147	143

Note: the school is not proposing to increase the number of school places available on the site.



By creating pre–school places, the school is not seeking any changes to our Admissions Policy and attendance at the pre-school will not offer any additional guarantees of a school place at Stanton St Quintin Primary School. Places will continue to be allocated using the existing Local Authorities criteria so equality of opportunity for all will not be compromised.

Impact on existing neighbouring nursery provision

There are a number of pre-schools, committee led and school led, between 2-5 miles in distance away from Stanton St Quintin Primary School. The school proposes to offer wrap around care from 8.30am-5.30pm to meet the demands of working parents. We do not believe that by offering preschool provision at Stanton St Quintin Primary School this will be at the detriment of existing good quality early years provision.

Timescale for the change to age range of the school

The pre-school provision is targeted for opening 1st September 2020. Consultation will take place during March 2020.

What happens next?

You are invited to make your views known by using the attached proforma, by sending an email or letter to the address below. The closing date for responses is 12.00 noon on 31st March 2020.

There will also be a public meeting at Stanton St Quintin Primary School on Monday 23rd March 2020 at 5.30pm at which you may ask for further information or make your views known.

Following this consultation period, the Governing Body will consider the consultation responses. These will be sent to the Wiltshire Council who will use the consultation information to form the notice and Full Proposal. This is then sent to the Department for Education's School Organisation team who will undertake due diligence. Following this a summary report will be presented to the Cabinet for Education, Education and Skills who will then make the final decision.



Consultation on the proposal to lower the entry age of children at Stanton St Quintin Primary School

Please take time to complete this form so that we can take account of your views.

Only one response per person will be accepted. We will not pass on your personal information to a third party. Your views will be treated as strictly confidential

- Please indicate, by circling the appropriate group, your interest in the school: Parent/carer Member of staff Local resident Governor at school Prospective parent Other, please specify ______
- 2. Do you agree with the proposal to lower the entry age of children at Stanton St Quintin Primary School in order to provide 3 year old school led Early Years provision?

Y	es	

No

Please circle as appropriate

If you wish to give your reasons please do so below

By hand: Please return the form to the school office by noon on 31st March 2020 or By email: Send to <u>clerk@stanton-st-quintin.wilts.sch.uk</u> By post: Clerk to Governors, Stanton St Quintin Primary School, Stanton St Quintin, Chippenham, SN14 6DQ