

# Extending the Age Range at Alexandra Park Primary School

*Statutory proposal for making significant changes to maintained schools*

## School and LA details:

Alexandra Park Primary School, Bombay Road, Stockport, SK3 9RF

Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council, Town Hall, Edward Street, Stockport, SK1 3XE

## Alteration

To extend the age range from 4-11 years old to 3-11 years old by including an on-site nursery class at the school from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2023.

## Background

The private provider who currently operates Alexandra Park Pre-School has served notice on the Council indicating that their business will cease trading on 27 July 2023. They currently operate out of a classroom located on the site of the school, this classroom adjoins the main school building.

The school have ambitions to continue the good work of the Pre-School and create a fully integrated early years foundation stage in the school. The school understand the importance of high-quality early childhood education and care and that it can have positive and long-lasting impacts on children's outcomes. Benefits will include a highly skilled and experienced SENDCo with strong relationships and networks to support all children. The school is also nationally recognised for its professional development and training for staff .

Nursery children attending Alexandra Park Primary will be part of the whole school, benefitting from all aspects of the wider school. The school nursery will provide a caring, safe and exciting place for children to learn and play. This will be done through the schools' values of Care, Aspire and Achieve and an excellent curriculum delivered by the exceptional staff. Nursery children will be well-integrated into the life of the school and will therefore have a smooth transition to reception class. The nursery will be staffed with a qualified teacher and skilled, experienced level 3 teaching assistants. The nursery staff will also run the lunchtime and wrap around provision to ensure a high quality, consistent experience for the children.

The school have costed plans to remodel the space currently occupied by the Pre-School and create a large nursery classroom which is attached to and integrated within the Reception class.

## Evidence of demand & impact

There are currently 13 children aged 3-4 years old attending Alexandra Park Pre-School which are funded by the local authority.

The impact on other local provisions should be minimal as the provision is replacing an existing provision within the local area. The number of applications for a provision which forms part of the school may increase due to the appeal of continuous education into the school.

In terms of early years foundation stage results, Stockport as a Borough performs better than the national average with 65.4% of children having a good level of development by the end of Reception with an average of 14.2 learning goals at an expected level. We know that these results vary significantly across our Borough and areas of deprivation see results far lower than the Stockport average.

An early years foundation unit intended to prepare children for school from nursery age will better support children who need additional support in achieving early year's goals and school readiness through early identification of need followed by seamless provision and delivery of the early years curriculum.

### Project costs

To achieve the schools' ambition of a fully integrated early years unit within the school, the existing classroom will be knocked through to create a walk through between both classrooms and access to the toilets. There will be a new kitchen area created for food preparation and kitchen activities. The breakdown of costings are:

#### **Knock through for Nursery – Create open walk through between classrooms and toilets**

1 x 2.4m between existing classrooms  
2 x 1.2m between existing classroom and current toilets.  
Steels – double skin  
Padstone & lintels  
Plaster  
Decorate  
Reconfiguration & plumbing of toilet basins  
Skip and removals  
Create changing room within toilets (best sited at the end for modesty)

**Estimated Cost £8,600 exc Vat**

#### **Kitchen within Nursery – relocate Nursery kitchen**

Stud wall  
2 x 1000mm Base units  
2 x 1000mm wall units  
Worktop  
8 x 500mm cabinet doors  
End panel wall  
End panel Base  
Plinth  
New sink & taps  
Splashback

**Estimated Cost £3,350 exc Vat**

#### **Other estimated costs:**

Flooring £1,500  
Age appropriate sized furniture £2,500  
Curriculum Resources £4,000

**Total estimated cost: £19,950**

The work will be carried out by a local company who specialise in school building and maintenance called Maintain my School. They have provided various works and delivered projects for the school in the past. The work will be carried out during the school holiday in the spring term. During the summer holidays, the area will be equipped with additional furniture and carpet spaces.

The funding for the building work is coming from the schools' existing school budget and the resourcing for the nursery will come from the EYFS budget. The outdoor areas have already been recently refurbished and improved to include age appropriate areas for nursery and this will be further enhanced over the coming year as part of the school development plan with funding budgeted as part of the ongoing improvements.

### Implementation timeline

<b>August 2022</b>	Communicate to the community and parents that the school is entering a consultation phase with the intention of providing a school nursery from September 2023.
<b>Autumn Term 2022</b>	Provide school tours and communication to prospective new parents. Advertise places.  Set up an administrative system with the LA to accept and offer places.
<b>Spring Term 2023</b>	Statutory notice to be published, formal consultation to open for a minimum of 4 weeks.  Set up admin support in school and employ staff for September 2023. Recruitment to be complete by mid-March.
<b>Summer Term 2023</b>	Write nursery policies and ensure all legal obligations are met and communicated.  Present all new policies to governors for approval at summer full governing board.  Plan and resource nursery provision and curriculum, provide training for existing staff and newly recruited staff.  Create large nursery classroom by knocking through 2 classrooms, design and resource nursery provision

### Key dates

This consultation will be published on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2023 and will close at 11:59pm on 18<sup>th</sup> June 2023

## How to respond

To help us analyse the responses please use the online system wherever possible to provide any comments, support or objections.

Visit [www.stockport.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.stockport.gov.uk/consultations) to submit your response.

If for exceptional reasons, you are unable to use the online system, for example because you use specialist accessibility software that is not compatible with the system, you may download a PDF version of the consultation document and respond either via email or post.

If you are not responding via the online survey, please can you ensure you provide:

- your name
- relevant contact details
- whether you are responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation, along with your role
- whether you would like your responses to be kept confidential within your response.

By email: [Admissions.consult@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:Admissions.consult@stockport.gov.uk)

By post: School Places, Admissions and Transport Team, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Stopford House, SK1 3XE