



# Yenton Primary School



Chester Road, Erdington, Birmingham, B24 0ED

tel: 0121 464 6588

fax: 0121 464 7432

email: [enquiry@yenton.bham.sch.uk](mailto:enquiry@yenton.bham.sch.uk)

website: [www.yenton.bham.sch.uk](http://www.yenton.bham.sch.uk)

Acting Headteacher

Mr P Smith

29<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Dear Families

**Re: The Future plans for Nursery and out of hours provision at Yenton Primary School**

Thank you to all of you who attended the recent information evening on the future plans for nursery and out of hours provision. For those who were not able to attend, I have attached a copy of the powerpoint slides used.

We appreciate that the information the school is able to provide at the moment is not as comprehensive as you, as parents who use these facilities, would like. We would like to assure you we are working hard with colleagues in Birmingham City Council to try to gain clarity around the future provision at our school. Please be assured that there will be nursery and out of hours provision provided for pupils at Yenton school in September, and we are all working as quickly as possible to move the tendering process forwards with all possible speed.

One of the requests from parents at the meeting was for a chance for you to express what you would like to see in regards to nursery and out of hours provision. The general feeling of the parents who attended was this would be better done via an online survey. Therefore, we have attached a link to an online survey through SurveyMonkey. This link has also been sent out to all of our parents via text message.

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/nurseryscoping>

**PLEASE DO NOT COMPLETE THIS SURVEY UNLESS YOU CURRENTLY USE APPLETREE, HONEYBEARS OR SANDCASTLES NURSERIES FOR NURSERY OR OUT OF HOURS PROVISION.**

Another question was about the reduction in the size of the nursery provision offered. This is based on a sufficiency survey completed by Birmingham City Council and the size of the provision offered by them meets the current need for nursery places in the Erdington Ward. Mrs Didiaily, representative from Birmingham City Council (BCC), was present at the meeting to explain this more fully. She also met with parents after the meeting and undertook to arrange a meeting between parents and the Early Years team at BCC to go through the sufficiency data and what is available in the locality.

We understand that timescales are becoming very tight for all concerned and we will keep you informed as to any future developments

Paul Smith

Miss Popplewell

Acting Headteacher

Chair of Governing Board

# Future plans for Nursery and Out of School Provision at Yenton Primary School

# Current situation

- 3 nursery providers in the old school foundation building, providing nursery, before and after school provision and holiday clubs.
- Ongoing discussions with City Council since 2015.
- The foundation building is becoming unviable and will require significant work in the near future.
- Birmingham City Council and the school have commissioned a building survey to confirm this – neither the school nor the council have the funding available to complete this work.

# Plans to move forwards

- The current foundation block will be handed back to the city in September 2018.
- Birmingham City Council and the school recognise the importance of the provision provided by the nurseries, and the importance this has for the school and the local community.
- BCC has committed to building a new, bespoke nursery block for 50 Full Time (or 100 part-time) nursery places. This will also include providing before and after school care, and holiday clubs.
- This is based on a detailed sufficiency analysis (supply/demand) of the available nursery provision in the Erdington ward

# Plans to move forwards

- The school will tender for a “new” nursery provider to occupy the new building.
- We will set out the type of provision required, quality of childcare, safeguarding, experience etc
- We will be seeking one provider.
- All existing providers will be able to apply to become the sole provider of both nursery and out of hours care in the new building.
- The process will begin as soon as possible, with the successful provider being appointed by the end of May 2018, to begin in September 2018

Some questions already raised

## Why is the proposed new nursery smaller than the existing nurseries?

- BCC have looked at the need of nursery places in the Erdington ward and have determined that a 50 place nursery is all that is required in this area.

# Is this anything to do with any plans to join a multi-academy trust?

- No – this has to do with guaranteeing the long term financial stability of Yenton Primary School. The existing foundation building is becoming an increasing drain upon the school's financial reserves and would need significant investment in the near future, investment which the school or local authority cannot afford.

# Will there be enough before and after school provision?

- We are doing our best to make sure this is the case. Should the demand exceed what can be accommodated in the new building, then the school will look to provide an additional area to increase the provision available.
- This additional space will be made available for the new provider to use. The school will **not** be running its own before/after school club.

# Who will be given priority in gaining places at the “new” nursery?

- As part of the tender, we will require that the “new” provider will give parents of children who attend Yenton Primary School priority when assigning places at the before and after school clubs, and in the holiday club.
- The school will co-ordinate a list of children who will require a place at the before/afterschool club before the new provider is appointed.

# Can any of the existing nursery providers apply to become the “new” provider?

- Yes – the tendering process will be open to all nursery providers, including the existing providers. All applicants will be evaluated against the criteria laid out in the tender document by a panel made up of an early years advisor from the city council, an experienced Early Years teacher, members of the school staff, a member of the school governing board and someone with financial experience.

## Will the school get the land the existing foundation block is on?

- No – the building and the associated land will be “red-lined” out of the school’s possession and will be returned to Birmingham City Council.
- Birmingham City Council will then consider options for the future use of the site according to their procedures.

# Where will the new building go?

- Currently plans are with Birmingham City Council. The plan is to build on the land at the back of the foundation block, with access for parents through the Orphanage Road Entrance. This is currently not used by the school.

# What will the building look like?

- The building will be a purpose built and self contained modular building which will be designed for nursery/child care provision.
- It will be a permanent structure and has a lifespan of at least 25 years. It is not a portacabin. It will be of similar construction to the extension already built for the school.
- It will be assembled and fitted out within a matter of weeks once the services have been connected.

# What will the building look like?

- It will be a brighter, more energy efficient building and easier to maintain than the current provision.
- Provision will be made for a play space outside.
- The site/premises will be secure and in line with school's safeguarding requirements.

# What if the building isn't ready in September?

- The new provider will be able to use the current foundation building until the new building is completed.
- The current occupiers will vacate the premises at the end of August.

Any questions???