

RECORD OF DECISION TAKEN BY CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND SCHOOLS, COUNCILLOR ANDREW LEADBETTER
[Executive Posts - Democracy in Devon](#))

This Report must be completed on behalf of the relevant Cabinet Member immediately after any decision has been made. It needs to be shared in line with the guidance set out in [section 3b of the Constitution](#) (para 11) before sending to Democratic Services for publication in accordance with the Council's Constitution.

<p>Title and Summary of Matter or Issue Requiring Decision</p>	<p>(a) approving a consultation take place on a proposal to extend the age range of St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School from 4-11 to 2-11 with effect from September 2024.</p> <p>(b) if consultation at (a) is agreed, proceeding straight to a four week formal representation period providing there are no materially significant objections received to the consultation.</p> <p>In the event that such objections are received to the consultation, that the decision to move to the formal representation period be determined by Cabinet Member decision.</p> <p>(c) Upon completion of (a) and (b) above, approval of the proposal to extend the age range of St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School from 4-11 to 2-11 from September 2024, providing no materially significant objections are received to the formal representation period.</p> <p>In the event that such objections are received to the formal representation period, that the decision to approve the proposal be determined by Cabinet Member decision.</p>
<p>Decision Taken (i.e. approved or not approved together with any caveats)</p>	<p><i>Approved/Not approved.</i></p>
<p>Summary of Reason(s) for Decision Taken (or provide a link of any report or other document setting out the reasons)</p>	<p>In accordance with the Department for Education's School Organisation Statutory guidance and legislation, changes to the age range of 1 year or more for Community schools requires a four stage statutory process of consultation, representation, decision by the Local Authority and implementation.</p> <p>St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary is a Community Primary School maintained by Devon County Council. The school caters for children aged 4-11.</p> <p>The proposal is to lower the age range from 4-11 to 2-11 from September 2024.</p>

	<p>There is an existing Governor run Pre-School, situated on the grounds of St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School which currently offers places to 2, 3 and 4 year olds.</p> <p>This proposal is concerned with the Pre-school becoming part of the school rather than operating as an extended service. There will be no change in relation to the number of early years places currently offered and no change to the school's published admission number. If the proposal is approved, the main difference is that the Pre-school will become a maintained Nursery Class, organised as a Foundation Stage Unit (Nursery and Reception class integrated). Early Years staff will be employed directly by the school and children currently in the Pre-school will be registered on the school roll, if the proposal is approved.</p> <p>Parents will still need to make a separate application to Devon County Council for a place in the Reception class.</p> <p>Devon's Early Years and Childcare Service is supportive of this proposal and have advised the school on staffing requirements and meeting the early years foundation stage qualification and ratio requirements.</p> <p>Devon's Schools Finance Service have reviewed the school's budget plan and other supporting documentation and are also supportive of this proposal.</p> <p>Planning consent is not required.</p> <p>It is also confirmed that no capital is required from the Local Authority, the proposal will not affect the school's net capacity or published admission number and will not put pressure on existing classroom space.</p> <p>The proposal is in line with the policies and procedures contained within the Education Infrastructure Plan 2016-2033 (revised) and the statutory responsibilities relating to the strategic planning of pupil places and school organisation procedures.</p>
<p>Publicity or consultation undertaken (either before or after the decision is made)</p>	<p>A consultation and a formal representation period will take place and will be published on DCC's Have Your Say website as well as the school website. The consultation and formal representation stage will be widely circulated to parents/carers, staff and governors of the school, as well as County Councillors, District Councillors, MP, Union representatives, all schools, local Early Years Providers, Equality groups, Parish Council amongst others in accordance with Cabinet Office consultation principles and in line with School Organisation legislation.</p>

<p>Divisions affected by the decision and consultation with the local Member or Members. (Confirm you have consulted the Local Member)</p>	<p>Holsworthy Rural</p> <p>The Local Member has been informed of the proposal.</p>
<p>Summary of Alternatives or Options considered and rejected (alternatively, attach copy of any report or other document setting out alternatives/options)</p>	<p>The school would not extend its age range and remain as a Governor run pre-school.</p>
<p>Links to the Council's Strategic Plan</p>	<p><i>How does the decision contribute to the <u>Council's Strategic plan</u></i></p> <p>This proposal is in line with the priority to be ambitious for children and young people. St Giles-on-the-Heath Primary School is a Good school and this proposal will help ensure children have the best possible start in life with access to quality early years provision. Childcare enables people to work, it improves life chances for children and reduces social isolation.</p>
<p>Financial and Risk implications, including staffing.</p>	<p>A financial plan has been approved by the School Finance Officer and based on the numbers provided by the school, which are considered cautious, the nursery class will be financially viable.</p> <p>There are no changes for the staff.</p>
<p>Legal implications</p>	<p>School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013 apply and a statutory process must take place to extend the age range of a community school.</p>
<p>Other legislative implications - including public sector equality duty (attach any Impact Assessment undertaken or provide a link)</p>	<p>An Impact Assessment is attached and will be published when the consultation commences.</p>
<p>Details of any personal interest / conflict of interest and dispensation granted to the Cabinet Member(s) involved (or consulted upon) in this decision.</p>	<p>None</p>

Contact for enquiries/further information	Shona Meek, Senior School Organisation Officer Shona.meek@devon.gov.uk 01392 383000	
Notice of this Decision will be published on the Council's website and any supporting documentation considered by the individual taking this decision and relevant to the matter shall also be made available for inspection by the public		
Signature of Cabinet Member	Councillor Andrew Leadbetter	Date: 5 April 2024