



THE ALLIANCE  
MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST

Dear Colleagues,

### **Proposed Nursery Provision at Crawley Ridge Infant School, September 2022**

Following the closure of an externally managed school nursery in 2019, we would like to re-open a nursery provision, managed by the school, for children aged 2, 3 and 4 years old. This is in response to our community and many families need for this type of provision.

From research already carried out we believe that our nursery would be well received, but we understand the importance of consulting with the community, to ensure we are providing what is needed and wanted. We propose to offer provision to children who are funded for 15 hours, under the universal funded entitlement and those eligible for 30 hours funded childcare.

As a result of the above, we propose to change the admission age to include children under the age of four. This proposal is fully supported by the governing body and staff.

The consultation will run for 4 school weeks (excluding school holidays), commencing on Friday 11th February and ending on Friday 18th March 2022. Responses will be analysed, and the school will publish the outcomes on its website.

Please use the form on our website named '*Responses regarding a new nursery proposal for those with general views*'.

*The form can be found on our website [www.crawleyridge.co.uk](http://www.crawleyridge.co.uk) > News and Events > Nursery Consultation*

Yours sincerely,

Benedict O'Shea

Headteacher

### **What style of teaching will we use?**

The teaching in the nursery will be driven by the EYFS (Early Years Foundation Stage) and safeguarding the children will be of paramount importance. We will timetable plenty of discovery, free flow and child led activities that incorporate a range of exploration, experimentation and opportunities for age-appropriate risk taking. It is likely that the nursery will follow Anna Ephgrave's scheme of work called 'In the moment planning'. This allows for children to lead their own learning based upon their own interests.

### **Additional information**

#### **Would there be a negative impact on local schools and nurseries?**

All local schools, nurseries and other interested clubs and groups have been informed of the nursery proposal and are invited to share their thoughts through communication with the school. As a school, we have received many enquiries regarding our proposal and the need for children to join our school from the age of three or younger.

#### **Would there be an impact on parking and traffic in the immediate area?**

We anticipate that many of the children that would attend the nursery would be those with siblings already at Crawley Ridge Infant School. Our school had a nursery for many years before 2019 and traffic surveys conducted made no recommendations for change. However, if the consultation highlights traffic as an area of concern we will employ the specialist services of a traffic consultant to help us manage this issue.

#### **Does the school have sufficient expertise?**

Yes, we believe we do. We are committed to utilising all the resources available to us to ensure the nursery meets and exceeds the expectations of all involved. We already have a team of passionate, dedicated staff in our school, and we will also be able to draw upon the expertise from the following:

- Headteacher with many years' experience leading state nurseries.
- The Alliance Multi-Academy Trust
- Local schools and nurseries
- Surrey County Council Early Years team

## Crawley Ridge Infant School – proposal to lower the school age range

Proposal to lower the age range of Crawley Ridge Infant School, Camberley, Surrey Heath to include children under the age of four from September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022, to ensure the school can meet the needs of local families.

The governing body of Crawley Ridge Infant School is consulting you on a proposal to lower the admissions age of the school. This will enable us to develop a school nursery, entry for children under the age of four. This proposal will ensure a consistent approach to learning for our youngest children and enable us to meet the needs of our local community in relation to early years' education.

### **Why are we proposing to lower the entry age of the children joining our school?**

Supporting the government's policy on providing 15 hours Funded Early Education for eligible children in schools we propose to ensure that our school is able to provide for children under the age of four, in the area; a secure, stimulating and quality early years education place. This will complement the offer we have for children in our Reception Early Years Class and provide a joined-up approach to early years education in our School.

### **Why are we consulting now?**

Changes to the DFE/Ofsted regulations enabling schools to include children under the age of four in May 2015 will ensure that the nursery provision is included on the school's inspection process.

Consultation is part of the fast-track change process for Academies.

### **Will the proposal have any impact on the school's admission arrangements?**

Currently we offer 60 reception places and do not have a nursery accommodating children under the age of four. It is proposed that we would initially offer a total of 52 sessions\* for 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds (although this may change depending on the needs of our community and the number of families entitled to 30 funded hours) from September 1st, 2022.

*\*Full-time children account for 2 sessions per day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.*

From:

I am:	√ / x
A parent of a child at the school	
A parent of a pre-school aged child	
A close neighbour of the school	
A member of the local community	
A local faith group	
A local community group	
Other please specify	

I am in favour of Crawley Ridge Infant School lowering the age of admission to nursery to accept 2-, 3- and 4-year-olds.

YES / NO (please *delete as appropriate*)

Comments