

**Department of Children's Services**

Early Years Services  
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Bradford  
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On Behalf of Lilycroft Nursery School

Date: 23 April 2018

All Council Members

Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Dear Colleagues

**Consultation on lowering the age range of children at Lilycroft Nursery School**

We are consulting on lowering the age range of children who attend our school from 3-5 years old to 2-5 years old.

Lilycroft Nursery Governing Body currently hold an Early Years Ofsted registration for 0-5 year olds at 56 Toller Lane Bradford BD8 8QH under which they provide 2 year old funded entitlement places and paid for childcare. We would like to reconfigure the service to offer 2-5s provision including paid for childcare to be delivered on by the school at Lilycroft Road, Bradford, BD9 5AD.

We propose to lower the age range of the school to offer places for 2 year olds from September 2018.

Not every child is eligible for a funded 'Early Education for Two Year Olds'. The eligibility criteria have been set by the government, not the school. Funded places at our proposed two year old nursery would be available to the following children:

**Whose parents are in receipt of an income-related benefit, which are:**

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA)
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance (ESA)
- Universal Credit\*
- Tax credits and you have an annual income of under £16,190 before tax
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit
- Support through part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- The Working Tax Credit 4-week run on (the payment you get when you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

**A child can also get free early education and childcare if any of the following apply:**

- they're looked after by a Local Authority
- they have a current statement of special education needs (SEN) or an Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan
- they get Disability Living Allowance

- they've left care under a special guardianship order, child arrangements order or adoption order

This development will support the children and families within the local area with a focus on disadvantaged two year olds who are less likely to have experienced play and learning opportunities outside the home, and might fail to achieve their full potential. We can anticipate a significant gap between their outcomes and those of their less disadvantaged peer groups.

Early Education for two year olds seeks to redress some of that imbalance. Research has shown that access to quality early education improves children's outcomes and this provision forms the significant part of early education for two year olds.

There is strong evidence that early education makes a positive difference to young children. The 'Effective Provision of Pre-school Education' study found that high quality early education has particularly strong impacts on the cognitive and social development of disadvantaged children, and that these benefits last throughout primary school.

This letter is to gain your views and comments about this proposal as part of the overall consultation. We will also be informing the local community and other stakeholders in the area, and seeking their views.

The consultation process will begin on Monday 23rd April and continues until Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May after which a full analysis and report with recommendations will be made to the Director of Children's Services, who will decide if Statutory Notices will be published as part of the formal consultation.

Any comments or suggestions can be made on the attached form which can be sent or handed in to the school office. Or if you prefer you can answer the on-line consultation on the [Bradford Council website](#).

Yours sincerely

Sian Young  
Head of School  
Lilycroft Nursery School

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**1. Please indicate which applies to you:**

- ☐ Parent of a child in our school
- ☐ Parent of a child under three years old
- ☐ Governor at Lilycroft Nursery School
- ☐ Staff member of Lilycroft Nursery School
- ☐ Local resident
- ☐ Councillor or MP
- ☐ Day Nursery/ Pre-school provider/childminder
- ☐ Local school
- ☐ Other interest group (please describe) .....

**2. Do you agree that the school lower their age range in order to accommodate 2 year old children?**

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Neither agree or disagree
- ☐ Other

**3. Please state the reason for your answer**

**4. Any Other Comments on the proposal?**

Your name .....

Signed .....

Date.....

Thank you of taking the time to comment. Please return by **25<sup>th</sup> May 2018** at the latest.  
Please return to: