

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	To approve the proposal to change the age range at Broadlands Primary School from 3-11 to 2-11 from 1 September 2023
Date of decision:	4 July 2023
Decision maker:	Head of Educational Development
Authority for delegated decision:	The authority for the specified officer to take this decision as set out in the Children and Young Peoples scheme of delegation line 91. https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/s50111047/Children%20and%20Young%20People%20Scheme%20of%20Delegation.pdf
Ward:	Aylestone Hill
Consultation:	Broadlands primary school conducted a public consultation from 5 May to Monday 19 June 2023. 3 responses were received in total. 2 responses were in agreement that age range should be change to 2-11 Reasons below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunity to give children the best start in school • 2 year old provision would be a good idea. <p>1 response was not supportive of the proposal because there were concerns over increased traffic, increased pollution, parking and safety of pedestrians.</p>
Decision made:	Approve the age range change at Broadlands Primary School
Reasons for decision:	The Childcare Act (2006) requires local authorities in England to ensure there is sufficient childcare for children (aged 0 to 17 years old) of working parents, parents studying or training, and for disabled children within their local area. In the Spring 2023 Budget, the Government announced a package of increased childcare support. One of the areas of addition support allows working parents to access 30 hours of free childcare per week, for 38 weeks of the year, from when their child is 2 years old to when they start school. This will be rolled out in April 2024. Demand for funded 2 year old places has increased, across the county, over the last 3 years (pre-pandemic) by 23%. With the additional funding on offer, this will increase further. There has been significant housing growth in the North of the city over recent years. As a result, demand for childcare is also increasing. The change in age range will help to support parents and carers wishing to go back to work/education, and therefore supports economic growth.

Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	none
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	The only other option is to do nothing.
Details of any declarations of interest made:	none

Signed..... Date: 4 July 2023

Head of Educational Development