

## **Thurlby Community Primary Academy**

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs):**

- To open small nursery unit at Thurlby Community Primary Academy
- To lower the age range of Thurlby Community Primary Academy from 4 to 11 years to 3 to 11 years, from September 2022, to ensure the school meets the needs of local families

We know that many people will have questions regarding the proposals to lower the age range of the school to allow a nursery on site. We have, therefore, tried to answer the questions that we feel may arise. If you have anything else you would like to ask please contact Mrs Finch (Head of School) and Mrs Joyce (Executive Headteacher). Alternatively, you can email enquiries:

[enquiries@thurlby.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@thurlby.lincs.sch.uk)

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

Supporting the Government's policy on providing 15 and 30 hours Funded Early Education for 3- and 4-year-olds in schools, we propose for our school to open a nursery and provide a secure, stimulating and high quality nursery provision.

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

It is proposed that we would offer 26 places, either full time (30 hours) or part time (15 hours) for 3 and 4 year olds from September 2022. It would be a term time only nursery but with the option of an extended day. It is important to note there is no automatic right for nursery aged children to gain a Reception place at Thurlby Community Primary Academy. Parents of nursery aged children would need to apply in the normal way for admissions to the school. It would not change the current admissions process.

### **Do the Governors and staff support the proposal?**

The Local Governing Board, The Keystone Academy Trust and school staff support the proposal as they believe the school community would benefit from lowering the entry age of pupils to include a nursery.

### **How many children will the nursery take?**

We would take a maximum of 26 children per session.

### **Where will the nursery be based?**

The nursery will be based in a new building sited on the school grounds. The nursery children will have access to the outside areas of the school but also a designated area next to the nursery building.

### **Will the nursery have its own secure access?**

At the beginning and end of each session, entrance to the nursery would be through a pre-existing entrance. Access to the building will be gained through a buzzer system.

### **What do you plan to do about any extra traffic the nursery and extended schools service may cause?**

We anticipate that the majority of the children in the nursery would be siblings or very local. This, combined with up to 26 children in each session, would mean there would not be a large increase in

additional vehicles. We would encourage and promote a 'walk to school' culture with the support of our local businesses.

I have a child at Thurlby Community Primary Academy will this affect their education?

The proposed nursery would not affect the quality of education offered to Thurlby Community Primary Academy children. The nursery would never run at a financial loss to the school. School facilities may be used by the nursery but never to the detriment to the main school pupils.

Thurlby village and the surrounding area already have a nursery and other pre-school provision why do we need another one?

We, at Thurlby CP Academy, would aim to ease the transition from pre-school to the Early Years Foundation Stage (Reception). Having this provision on site and by working closely with the teacher in our Reception class, we would ensure that the children are well prepared and ready to start their school years.

Furthermore, we believe that transferring to a school that children are familiar with, feel secure and happy in as well as the adults being fully aware of the needs of each child entering our school, can only be beneficial and provide children with the best quality start to their primary school years.

Finally, our nursery would be teacher led and offering either 15 hour or 30-hour places.

Have you considered the additional noise that a nursery would cause?

Yes. With a maximum of 26 children per session, there would be limited impact. The nursery outside area would be on the school grounds and there are no immediately adjacent properties.

To support the school in developing an understanding in how to structure the demand for our provision, if your child attended a local nursery, are currently at a local nursery or would consider using a nursery in the future, please complete the nursery provision questionnaire, using the following link <https://forms.gle/1gh42pQAG21uTZ7B7>.

We appreciate any feedback and thank you for taking the time to complete the consultation.