

Letter to parents and carers

18th March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you are well.

I recently wrote to you regarding our provisional plans to create onsite nursery provision at Ormiston Cliff Park Primary Academy. Thank you for your feedback so far; we were pleased to receive a very positive response to our informal survey of interest.

We are now launching a formal consultation which will run for four weeks, **from 18th March until 29th April 2024**. Feedback from our parents, carers and wider community, alongside colleagues, is incredibly valuable to us and so we are very keen to hear from a wide range of voices throughout our school community.

There will be several opportunities to share your views, including through our consultation website [here](#). We will also be hosting a face-to-face drop in on Tuesday 26th March, from 1pm to 2pm, where we can outline the proposal in more detail and answer any questions you may have. You can register for a place via the consultation website or by using the link [here](#).

Whilst these are only initial plans and no final decision has been made, the purpose of creating a nursery provision is to provide a high quality, teacher-led setting for children of three and above, to ensure the best start for our pupils' education. It is our long-term intention to create a fifty-place provision, opening in staggered phases over the next three years. In opening this provision, our aim is to create a seamless learning journey for children from the age of three to eleven, allowing them to build on their knowledge over a more sustained period and through a bespoke curriculum. We also hope to provide additional nursery places to meet future demand amongst families within the community.

Following initial discussions with the local authority, the provision would open during school time hours only in the first instance. Further consultation with parents and carers at a later date would determine whether there was a need for extended provision within the school community. Places will be offered on either a full-time or part-time basis. Once the consultation process is complete and outcome dependent, we will then be in a position to share further information on timelines, as and when these are confirmed. Please note, as we are still in the beginning stages, these arrangements are subject to change but we will endeavor to keep you updated throughout.

We would encourage you to read through the proposal document accompanying this letter which is also available on the consultation website. However, I have outlined some of the key points from the document below on the leading benefits of nursery education and a joined-up provision for children:

- Pupils who access nursery provision receive a wide range of benefits from attending. These include social benefits such as building friendships, learning to share, taking turns and learning to learn and play alongside others.
- Attending nursery provides young children with opportunities to develop their communication skills such as speaking and listening and to develop their independence and confidence.
- Being part of a school-based nursery also enables children to develop a sense of routine and structure whilst learning a wide range of new skills.
- Pupils who attend nursery settings also have the opportunity to develop greater levels of independence before they start school. These factors, combine to support children to be 'school ready' and eases their transition into reception.
- Many of these benefits help to build the foundations of children's futures and to form the start of them becoming life-long learners whilst also enabling essential partnerships between home and school to develop at an early stage.
- A consistent and integrated approach for how the curriculum is delivered across early years, helps to drive better outcomes for children as they develop through our main school.

We are committed to providing all our pupils with the very best opportunities, skills and experiences that they need in order to fulfil their potential. We believe that creating the best possible learning environment is essential in the achieving this. Every decision we make as a school is with your child's and our communities' best interests at heart and that is why we are exploring these initial plans with you.

Thank you once again for your ongoing support and we look forward to hearing your views. Should you have any specific questions about the proposed creation of the nursery provision, please do not hesitate to get in touch at office@ocppa.co.uk or visit the consultation website [here](#).

Yours Sincerely,

Louise Watkins,
Principal
Ormiston Cliff Park Primary Academy