



**WOODLANDS  
PRIMARY  
ACADEMY**  
*Creative  
Education  
Trust*



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# **Woodlands Primary Academy**

## **A Public Consultation**

Main points arising from the Public Consultation on  
the proposal to formally integrate the Woodland  
Day Nursery into Woodlands Primary Academy

9<sup>th</sup> October 2017 to 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017

December 2017 – FINAL

## 1. Consultation Process

- The proposal was to formally integrate the Woodland Day Nursery into Woodlands Primary Academy. The nursery would continue to operate as it does now as all the staff are currently employed and managed by the Woodlands Primary Academy. Both the Nursery and the Academy have achieved 'Good' Ofsted ratings.
- A formal consultation, to seek feedback on the above change, took place across 6 term-time weeks between Monday 9th October 2017 and Friday 24th November 2017.
- The outcomes of the consultation would form part of a 'Significant Business Case' into the DfE/ESFA to seek permission to extend the age range of the school from 4-11 to 3-11. If approved, the new admission arrangements will take effect from the school year 2019/2020 onwards.
- A cover letter (See Appendix A), proposed Admissions Policy and details on how to respond to the consultation were issued to :
  - Norfolk County Council
  - Suffolk County Council
  - All parents of Woodland Day Nursery
  - All parents of Woodlands Primary Academy
  - All staff of Woodland Day Nursery
  - All staff of Woodlands Primary Academy
  - Busy Bees Nursery
  - Scribbles Day Nursery
  - Rascals Day Nursery
  - Seagulls Nursery
  - House of Fun Nursery
  - Moorlands Primary School
  - Hillside Primary School
  - Wroughton Academies
  - Homefield Primary School
  - Children's Centre at Moorlands
- Information was made available on the school's website ([www.woodlands.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.woodlands.norfolk.sch.uk)) setting out the background to the proposed change, a feedback page and a downloadable version of the proposed Admissions Policy. See Appendix B for the details shown on the website.
- Respondents were also encouraged to provide feedback via email ([consultation@creativeeducationtrust.org.uk](mailto:consultation@creativeeducationtrust.org.uk)) or by post (Woodlands Primary Academy, Church Walk, Bradwell, NR31 8QQ).

## 2. Feedback

- 75% (3 out of 4) of respondents were in favour of the proposed change.

## 3. Analysis of responses

- a. Respondents were asked to indicate which of the following categories applied to them:

| ANSWER CHOICES  | RESPONSES |          |
|---|-----------|----------|
| a parent or carer of a child at Woodland Day Nursery?                       | 50.00%    | 2        |
| a parent or carer of a child at Woodlands Primary Academy?                  | 50.00%    | 2        |
| a parent or carer of a child considering joining Woodlands Primary Academy? | 0.00%     | 0        |
| a local nursery?  | 0.00%     | 0        |
| a local primary school?   | 0.00%     | 0        |
| Other (please specify)  | 0.00%     | 0        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>  |           | <b>4</b> |

- b. In response to the key question of '***Do you agree with the proposed amended admissions policy for effect in 2019?***'

| ANSWER CHOICES | RESPONSES |          |
|----------------|-----------|----------|
| Yes            | 75.00%    | 3        |
| No             | 25.00%    | 1        |
| <b>TOTAL</b>   |           | <b>4</b> |

- c. Feedback from Suffolk County Council:

In our consultation letter we stated that the Academy would wish to formally integrate the Woodland Day Nursery into Woodlands Primary Academy, thus allowing the children on roll at the Nursery to gain automatic entry to the school's Reception class.

In their consultation feedback, Suffolk County Council advised that they had concerns as to the lawfulness behind the proposal to add children who are on roll at the nursery as a priority in the oversubscription criteria as it would not comply with paragraphs 1.8 and 1.9i) of the School Admissions Code.

Paragraph 15d of The School Admissions Code 2014 states "...Published admission arrangements must make clear to parents that a separate application must be made for any transfer from nursery to primary school, and from infant to junior school." By including the 'automatic entry' criterion, it would unfairly disadvantage parents and carers who do not want to or cannot send their child to the nursery, therefore leaving them with little or no chance of getting a place. It could also appear that for one-child families and/or first child applications to the school that attendance at the nursery will virtually be a prerequisite to getting admission in the Reception Year class, and could therefore easily be considered to be unfair. Parents should be able to consider their preference for nursery provision separately.

However, there are ways to prioritise children who attend the nursery as stated in paragraphs 1.9e) and 1.39B of the School Admissions Code, i.e.:

- Where parents pay optional nursery fees to the nursery for additional hours on top of their 15-hour funded early education, where children from the school nursery class or school-run nursery are given priority for admission to Reception;
- Where children are eligible for early years pupil premium, the pupil premium or the service premium.

## Appendix A: Consultation cover letter

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9 October 2017

### **CONSULTATION FOR PROPOSED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2019/2020**

The Creative Education Trust (CET) is the Admission Authority for Woodlands Primary Academy and administers the admission arrangements on behalf of the Local Governing Body of our school.

The Board of Directors are **proposing to make changes to its admissions arrangements** for the academic year 2019/2020. As such The Admissions Code of Practice requires an Admission Authority to consult with stakeholders including parents of children aged between 2 and 18 years.

The rationale for the change is that the Academy wishes to **formally integrate the Woodland Day Nursery into Woodlands Primary Academy**, thus allowing the children on roll at the Nursery to gain automatic entry to the school's Reception class.

**Note:** The nursery will continue to operate as it does now. All the staff are currently employed and managed by the Woodlands Primary Academy. Both the Nursery and the Academy are rated 'Good' by Ofsted.

Accordingly, the Board of Directors of CET is undertaking this statutory consultation process with the parents and other stakeholders for Woodlands Primary Academy including:

- parents of children between the ages of two and eighteen;
- other persons in the relevant area who in the opinion of the admission authority have an interest in the proposed admissions;
- all other admission authorities within the relevant area (except that primary schools need not consult secondary schools);
- whichever of the governing body and the local authority who are not the admission authority;
- any adjoining neighbouring local authorities where the admission authority is the local authority; and
- in the case of faith schools, the body or person representing the religion or religious denomination.

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CET wishes to invite interested parties to take part in this consultation on the amendment of the Admission Policy for Woodlands Primary Academy – please see [www.woodlandsprimaryacademy.org.uk](http://www.woodlandsprimaryacademy.org.uk) for the proposed arrangements. This is also available for view on the CET website: [www.creativeeducationtrust.org.uk](http://www.creativeeducationtrust.org.uk)

Interested parties wishing to comment on the proposed amendments should do so:

Online at: [www.woodlandsprimaryacademy.org.uk](http://www.woodlandsprimaryacademy.org.uk)

By email to: [consultation@creativeeducationtrust.org.uk](mailto:consultation@creativeeducationtrust.org.uk)

By post to: Woodlands Primary Academy, Church Walk, Bradwell, NR31 8QQ

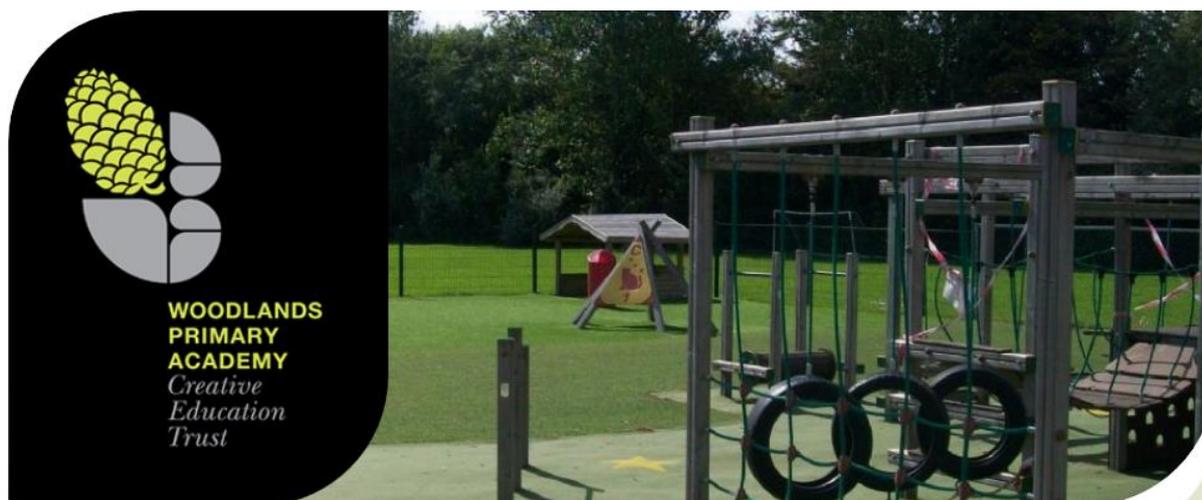
The consultation will take place for a minimum of 6 term time weeks between Monday 9th October 2017 and Friday 24th November 2017.

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely

Julia Howse  
Headteacher

## Appendix B: Consultation details on the school's website



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### **CONSULTATION FOR PROPOSED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2019/2020**

We are proposing to make changes to our admissions arrangements for the academic year 2019/2020 in order to integrate the Woodlands Day Nursery into Woodlands Primary Academy, thus allowing the children on roll at the Nursery to gain automatic entry to the school's Reception class. As such The Admissions Code of Practice requires us to consult with stakeholders.

To view the proposed Admissions Policy, Please [click here](#).

To submit your feedback Please [click here](#).

*To submit additional feedback, please write to Miss Julia Howse, Acting Headteacher, Woodlands Primary Academy, Church Walk, Bradwell, Great Yarmouth. NR31 8QQ by 24th November 2017.*

*Your views on any aspect of the admission arrangements will be sent to our Local Governing Body and the Board of Directors for consideration. All responses received by the end of the consultation period will be carefully considered and will decide the admission arrangements for the school year 2019/2020. Once the arrangements have been determined, they will be publicised by 6th April 2018.*

*The consultation will take place for a minimum of 6 term time weeks between Monday 9th October 2017 and Friday 24th November 2017.*

**WHOLE SCHOOL LETTERS**

**YEAR 1 LETTERS**

**YEAR 2 LETTERS**

**YEAR 3 LETTERS**

**YEAR 4 LETTERS**

**YEAR 5 LETTERS**

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