

## Barrowcliff School

### PROPOSAL TO CHANGE THE AGE RANGE OF THE SCHOOL AND CREATE EARLY YEARS PROVISION FOR 2 YEAR OLDS

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The Governing Body of Barrowcliff School is proposing to make Early Years provision for two-year-old children. We would like to know the views of parents and other interested members of the local community.

#### Why are the governors making these proposals?

Eligible two-year-old children are entitled to up to 15 hours per week for 38 weeks per year of government-funded Early Years education and care from the term following their second birthday until the term following their third birthday. The government funded entitlement may be taken in a maintained school nursery and/or in an Ofsted registered private and voluntary sector provision. The funding may be split between more than one provider. It is parental choice as to which type of provision is the most appropriate for their child and which meets their individual circumstances.

Barrowcliff School is proposing to provide places for two-year-old children as an extension of the current nursery class provision in the school, by the creation of an additional 'Early Years' class. The Early Years Class would have a qualified Early Years teacher and suitably qualified and experienced teaching assistant(s) who will provide a high-quality learning environment to support each child's learning and development appropriate to their age and stage of development. It will be in line with the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) with at least one member of staff for every four children.

#### What will our 'Early Years' provision look like?

There will be high quality play-based provision for the two-year-old children in the new class which meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) including role play, sand, water, construction, access to books and reading, mark making and opportunities for outdoor learning. The room will be equipped with suitable furniture, equipment and resources which will support two-year-old children's learning and development. There will be free flow between areas, including outside, offering children a choice of activities and allowing them to engage in learning which is relevant and appropriate to their stage of development. They will be supported by knowledgeable and appropriately trained adults who are in tune with each individual child's needs. The Early Years class will be situated in a suite of rooms adjoining the school office and reception area and the outdoor spaces directly outside the rooms. Children will also have access to the existing Nursery outdoor area.

#### Why is this consultation taking place?

Currently the youngest children that the school can admit are in the nursery class. In order to take younger children into the proposed new 'Early Years class', legal processes must be followed to formally lower the age range for the school from 3-11 year olds to 2-11 year olds. The first step in this process is that local people must be asked for their views. A formal statutory process will then be followed.

We are proposing to offer morning, afternoon or full day sessions for 2-year-olds. The option of a school lunch will be available for those staying a full day. We would be interested to know if provision for before and after school hours care was something parents/carers may require.

How many places will be offered?

The proposed new 'early years' class will provide up to 12 places per morning or afternoon session.

Which children would be eligible for a place?

Priority for admission to the early years class will be determined by the admission policy of North Yorkshire County Council. For more information please visit:

<https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/school-admissions>

Deciding on admissions

The Headteacher will make the offer of a place in the 'Early Years class' in writing to parents and carers

How will the new class affect other providers?

The new Early Years class would take children aged between two and three years old. Local Early Years providers are being consulted and will have the opportunity to make their views on this proposal known.

What will happen next?

This is the first step of the consultation. All views and comments on this consultation will be considered by the Governing Body before a decision is made to proceed with statutory process.

If these proposals go ahead, when will the new foundation stage class open?

It is proposed that the first two-year-old children will be able to join the Early Years class in January 2022.

How do I make my views known?

**Your views are important and we would value your opinions.**

*You should complete the attached comments sheet and return it to the school or send as an email attachment to [schoolorganisation@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:schoolorganisation@northyorks.gov.uk).*

**Comments should be returned by 18<sup>th</sup> June 2021**

If you have any further queries, these should be addressed to Mark Rogers (Headteacher).