

Education Consultation

Blean Primary School



Consultation dates – 04 November 2024 to 2 December 2024

Kent County Council together with the Governing Body is proposing to permanently change the age range of Blean Primary school from 4-11 years to 3-11 years to enable the school to run a pre-school.

Dear Parents/Carers, Students, Staff, Governors, and Other Interested Parties

1. Introduction

Kent County Council, together with the Governing Body, is seeking the views of parents, staff and other stakeholders on a proposal to permanently change the age range of the school from 4-11 years to 3-11 years, to enable the school to run a pre-school class. This document is part of a four week consultation process which opens on 4 November 2024 and closes 2 December 2024. At the end of the consultation period a decision will be taken by KCC's Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, on whether to proceed with the proposed change of age range.

2. What change is being proposed?

Blean Primary school currently provides early years education for children who turn five when in the Reception class.

The proposed pre-school provision at Blean will accommodate a maximum of 26 children and will use a spare classroom as its location.

The Local Authority is confident that the strong and effective leadership of the school has the capacity to establish a successful pre-school provision, so that there will additional pre-school places available for local families. It is planned to open the pre-school by September 2025.

The Governing Body of Blean Primary school has confirmed that the school is very happy to take this proposal forward. The new pre-school provision would operate under the school's Ofsted registration and provide places for three and four year olds.

Please note that if this proposed change of age range to the school goes ahead, it will not affect the determined admission arrangements for entry into the Reception Year. Parents will still need to follow the school admissions process and apply for a place for their child in Reception, even if he/she attends the pre-school.

3. How can I give my views on the proposals?

There are a number of ways to give us your views on this proposal:

- Completing the online response form available via our website: [School consultations and public notices | Let's talk Kent](#)
- By emailing: school.consultations@kent.gov.uk
- Handing your completed form into the office at Blean Primary School.

- By posting the attached response form to Robert Veale, Assistant Director, Education (East Kent), Kent County Council, Brook House, John Wilson Business Park, Reeves Way, Whitstable, CT5 3SS.

All responses need to be received by midday on 2 December 2024.

4. I have a question – who can I ask?

If you have any questions, please contact the school on 01227 471254, or email: school.consultations@kent.gov.uk

5. What happens next?

This consultation stage closes on 2 December 2024. A report summarising the responses received to the education consultation will be submitted to the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee by 16 January 2025. The Cabinet Member will then decide whether to proceed with the proposal and publish statutory proposals in the form of a public notice. The public notice would be published in a local newspaper and for a period of four weeks following the publication date any person can comment on the proposals. Having taken into account any responses, the Cabinet Member will then take a final decision as to whether to proceed with permanently changing the age range of the school.

6. The consultation process – indicative timeline

Date	Information
4 November 2024 to 2 December 2024	4 Week consultation period
16 January 2025	Following the consultation, all views received, will be reported to the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills.
25 February to 25 March 2025	If the Cabinet Member decides to proceed with the proposals, KCC will publish a public notice for a four-week period in a local newspaper, at the school and on the KCC and school website. During this time comments and objections can be made about the proposals.
April 2025	The Cabinet Member considers all responses made and decides whether to proceed with the proposals.
September 2025	Subject to consideration of any objections, the proposal is implemented.

Yours sincerely



Robert Veale
Assistant Director, Education (East Kent)