



Derby City Council

**CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD
9 December 2014**

ITEM 11

Report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People

Consultation on the Future Viability of Castle Nursery School

SUMMARY

- 1.1 Castle Nursery School is one of eight maintained nursery schools within the City, located on the outskirts of the Arboretum ward. It has an 'outstanding' Ofsted judgement and delivers funded places for three and four year olds. The future viability of Castle Nursery is a concern due to static low numbers on roll over the last eight years, with only 17 children currently accessing a place at the nursery. Castle Nursery can accommodate 80 children and is, therefore, only 21% full.
- 1.2 As a result of sustained low occupancy levels over a number of years, this report suggests that consideration is given to the future viability of the nursery. There are alternative nursery places available for the 17 children on roll within the locality of Castle Nursery, so if there is a closure proposal, this would not result in a shortfall of funded places in the nursery's area.
- 1.3 Nursery schools receive a considerably higher hourly rate than nursery units attached to schools and private, voluntary and independent childcare providers to deliver three and four year old funded places. In addition to this, nursery schools receive a lump sum of £100,000 per annum to cover standalone costs related to premises and salary costs. This is a fixed amount and is not dependent on the number of funded places provided. The suggestion is that the future viability of Castle Nursery and value for money are given careful consideration in view of continuing low numbers on roll, and very high operating costs.
- 1.4 Castle Nursery's current budget is £193,699, which is funded from the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG). This budget figure includes £100,000 as a fixed amount. Potential savings to the DSG from this proposal would be this fixed amount of £100,000 per annum. The school is also forecast to have an overspend by the end of the financial year.
- 1.5 It should be noted that a new housing development of up to 840 properties is taking place in the Castleward area. Although the development is already underway, it is being implemented on phased basis and timescales for completing the whole development are not fixed at this stage.
- 1.6 A new primary school is required as part of the second phase of the Castleward development. Timescales for the commencement of the second phase of the development, and for the provision of the new school, are currently unclear. However,

it is very unlikely that the new school would open before September 2018 given that the housing development is in a relatively early stage, and due to the timescales required to design and construct a primary school.

- 1.7 Attached as Appendix 3 to this report is the suggested consultation document to consult on the future viability of Castle Nursery School. The consultation period will be from 26 November 2014 to 12 January 2015, which is in line with the Department for Education's recommendation of a minimum 6 week consultation. Staff and parents consultation meetings have been arranged during this period. Subject to approval, the consultation document will be circulated widely to all interested parties, including parents of children on roll at the nursery, Staff, Governors and Ward Members.
- 1.8 The outcome of this initial consultation will be reported to Council Cabinet on 18 February 2015. Cabinet will be asked to consider whether or not to proceed to the next stage of process which includes the publication of a statutory notice. If there is approval to move to the next stage of the process, there will be a further 4 week statutory consultation period. The 4 week statutory consultation period is prescribed in legislation (School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013) and cannot be shortened or lengthened. Following this, the outcome will be reported to Cabinet on 15 April 2015 for a decision on closing Castle Nursery. Subject to this decision, Castle Nursery will close from 31 August 2015.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To note the Consultation Document attached as Appendix 3 to consider the future viability of Castle Nursery School.
- 2.2 To note that, subject to approval, the initial consultation period will run from 26 November 2014 to 12 January 2015, with the outcome to be reported to Council Cabinet on 18 February 2015.
- 2.3 To note that following this initial consultation, the next stage, subject to approval, will be the required statutory consultation for a further four week period, with the outcome to be reported to Cabinet on 15 April 2015.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 The Local Authority has a statutory duty under Section 7 of the Childcare Act 2006 to provide sufficient funded three and four year old places for eligible children to access. If a decision is taken that the nursery is strategically and / or financially unviable and should close, there are alternative maintained nursery places available in the direct locality of the nursery and in other areas of the city for potentially affected children to access a place.
- 3.2 The Local Authority is committed to delivering and funding services that evidence value for money. However, the current cost per place at Castle Nursery is significantly higher than that of the other nursery schools. There is the potential for £100,000 savings per annum to the DSG.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Occupancy Levels and Financial Viability

- 4.1 The future viability of Castle Nursery due to static low occupancy levels and numbers on roll over the last eight years is causing concern. Only 17 children currently access a place at the nursery which is staffed to operationally deliver 52 part time places and is, therefore, only 33% full. Castle Nursery is currently federated with St Chad's Church of England Nursery and Infant School.
- 4.2 The city centre location of the nursery makes it difficult to attract new children, as it is surrounded by industrial units with limited local housing. Despite discussions with the nursery to look at marketing opportunities and extensive marketing by the nursery, the situation has not improved. The nursery has offered parents different options to access their funded nursery sessions, including offering longer funded sessions to support working parents, but this has not resulted in increased numbers in the nursery.
- 4.3 Castle Nursery has the capacity to provide 40 full time three and four year old nursery places for 80 children to access, but due to significantly reduced numbers over the last eight years, the nursery actually provides 26 full time places for up to 52 children. The table below details Castle Nursery's occupancy levels over the last eight years based on delivering 52 and 80 part time funded places. This shows significant levels of surplus capacity.

| | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Number of children on roll | 28 | 32 | 34 | 33 | 32 | 31 | 21 | 17 |
| Occupancy % based on 52 part time places | 54% | 61% | 65% | 63% | 61% | 60% | 40% | 33% |
| Occupancy % based on 80 part time places | 35% | 40% | 42% | 41% | 40% | 39% | 26% | 21% |

- 4.4 The number of children on roll at nurseries usually increases over the spring and summer terms, but has not been higher than 34 part time children during the last two years at Castle Nursery. The number of children accessing a part time place at the nursery each term over a three year period is detailed in Appendix 2.

- 4.5 Castle Nursery occupancy levels are considerably lower than those seen in the other seven nursery schools in Derby, which all operate at their maximum level of places and still have significantly higher occupancy levels and provide considerably more funded places.
- 4.6 Castle Nursery does not mainly provide three and four year old places for the local area, but has children accessing a funded place from all over the city. Only 5 children of the current 17 children on roll live in the Arboretum and Normanton wards. Other children come from other areas of the city, including Allestree, Blagreaves, Chellaston, Littleover, Oakwood and Sinfin.
- 4.7 Castle Nursery have been looking into the possibility of providing a maximum of eight part time funded places for two year olds to try and improve the occupancy levels in the nursery, and to provide additional funding to help with their current financial situation. However, there are a significant number of two year old providers already established in the locality for children from the Arboretum and Normanton wards to access.

Sufficiency of Three and Four Year Old Places

- 4.8 There are other maintained nursery units available to provide high quality maintained provision in the locality of Castle Nursery. Rosehill Infant, St Chad's CE Infant and St James' CE Infant, which are the closest schools to Castle Nursery, and are within a 2 mile radius, have places available.
- 4.9 It is important to note that if Castle Nursery is considered to be strategically and / or financially unviable and should be considered for closure, the Council can provide an alternative choice of local accessible maintained nursery provision for the low level of children expected to be affected by these proposals.
- 4.10 The Council's Childcare and Families Information Team will also provide an individual childcare brokerage service for any parents affected by these proposals to provide early support with sourcing alternative provision to access their three and four year old funded place. If Castle Nursery is considered for closure, Derby City Council will, of course, seek to minimise any disruption for parents of children on roll at the nursery.

Value for Money

- 4.11 The Council's commitment to value for money has been considered in respect of the proposal to consider the financial viability of Castle Nursery. Using the fixed allocation of £100,000 which forms part of all nursery school budgets, in calculating a cost per part time place, based on Castle Nursery delivering 17 places, this equates to £5,882 per place, compared to the cost per place in those nursery schools who have full occupancy levels and deliver 80 part time places at £1,250, and 104 part time places at £962 per place. This demonstrates the significant cost of a place at Castle Nursery in view of low numbers and future viability issues, together with rising value for money concerns. In addition to the £100,000 fixed allocation, there is an hourly rate based on the actual take up of provision at the nursery

- 4.12 The low number of children on roll at Castle Nursery means that the nursery's budget is now in deficit. The school is projected to have an overspend by the end of the current financial year on 31 March 2015. The deficit budget and the high cost of a place at Castle Nursery raises significant concerns about the future viability of the nursery. The school must be able to set a balanced budget within the current funding envelope and there are no options for the school to be supported with additional funding.

Housing Developments

- 4.13 A new housing development of up to 840 properties is taking place in the Castleward area, close to Castle Nursery. As at October 2014, the developer had completed 19 houses, of which five were occupied. Although the development is already underway, it is being implemented on a phased basis and timescales of completing the whole development are not fixed at this stage.
- 4.14 As things stand, the first phase of the development (163 properties) has planning approval. It is anticipated that an application for the second phase of the development will be submitted in 2015. It is currently anticipated that Phase 1 may end in 2016. The sizes and locations of the phases may change dependent on future land acquisition and demand for appropriate residential units. The developer is required to provide a half form entry primary school during the second phase of the development, with the third phase not to start until a single form entry primary school has been provided. The proposal is that there will be a nursery unit at this school, which will provide new places for children moving into the new housing.
- 4.15 Timescales for constructing the second phase of the development and for the provision of the new school are currently unclear. However, it is very unlikely that the new school would open before September 2018 given that the housing development is in a relatively early stage, and due to the timescales required to design and construct a primary school. It is not possible to keep Castle Nursery open until the new primary school is built and opened, as this could be at least three years away. The low numbers of children at Castle Nursery and the difficult budget situation mean that it would be difficult to sustain the nursery until the new school is opened.

Statutory Consultation Process

- 4.16 A statutory process is required in respect of any proposed nursery school closure. Subject to approval, the initial consultation period will be for six weeks from 26 November 2014 to 12 January 2015, which is in line with the Department for Education's recommendation of a minimum 6 week consultation. Staff and parents consultation meetings have been arranged during this period. Subject to approval, the consultation document will be circulated widely to all interested parties, including parents of children on roll at the nursery, Staff, Governors and Ward Members. A copy of the consultation document is attached as Appendix 3.

- 4.17 The outcome of this initial consultation will be reported to Council Cabinet on 18 February 2015. Cabinet will be asked to consider whether or not to proceed to the next stage of the process which includes the publication of a statutory notice. If there is approval to move to the next stage of the process, there will be a further 4 week statutory consultation period. The 4 week statutory consultation period is prescribed in legislation (School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013) and cannot be shortened or lengthened. Following this, the outcome will be reported to Cabinet on 15 April 2015 for a decision on closing Castle Nursery. Subject to this decision, Castle Nursery will close from 31 August 2015.
- 4.18 Subject to the outcomes of the processes identified at paragraphs 4.16 and 4.17 of this report, the current proposal is for Castle Nursery to close from 31 August 2015.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

5.1 No other options have been considered.

This report has been approved by the following officers:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Legal officer | Olu Idowu, Head of Legal Services |
| Financial officer | Alison Parkin, Head of CYP Finance |
| Human Resources officer | Liz Moore, Strategic HR Business Manager |
| Estates/Property officer | Philip Derbyshire, Head of Property Design and Maintenance |
| Service Director(s) | Frank McGhee, Director for Commissioning |
| Other(s) | Ann Webster, Equality and Diversity Lead |

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| For more information contact: | Heather Ryder-Carrington, Childcare and Family Information, Manager. 01332 642603. E-mail: heather.ryder-carrington@derby.gov.uk Gurmail Nizzer, Head of School Organisation. 01332 642720 E-mail: gurmail.nizzer@derby.gov.uk |
| Background papers: | None |
| List of appendices: | Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Children accessing a place at the Nursery, 2012-2014 Appendix 3 – Consultation Document |

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

- 1.1 Castle Nursery School is funded by the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG), a ring-fenced specific grant received by the Council from the Department for Education specifically for educational purposes.
- 1.2 The annual budget for the nursery for the financial year 2014-15 is £193,669. The funding for the nursery is formula based with predominantly two main features, a lump sum element of £100,000, which is consistent with all schools' funding, and an hourly rate based on the actual take up of provision at the nursery. The budget is issued on an estimate of take up, but is adjusted in year for the actual take up at the school; where estimates are above actual take up, the nursery's annual budget would be reduced.
- 1.3 Staffing costs of £165,657 make up 86% of the nursery budget despite the low pupil numbers in the nursery; increasing where take up reduces the overall budget. A limited contribution is being made to the Federated Head's salary due to the budget constraints.
- 1.4 The school is currently forecasting a deficit position for the financial year 2014-15 as numbers are lower than anticipated and the costs of the infrastructure of the nursery, including minimal staffing provision, are now more than the funding derived through the formula allocation. There is no scope within the funding regulations to allocate additional monies to the school and a licensed deficit could only be approved where there is a financial plan which shows the school to be out of deficit over a three year period. The current numbers at the school are such that this plan would not be achievable.

Legal

- 2.1 The legal statutory process will be followed in relation to consulting on the future viability of Castle Nursery School. There is also a need for an Equalities Impact Assessment to be carried out in advance of a final decision being made by Cabinet on 15 April 2015, and which should be included in that report, if not included within the update report in February 2015.

Personnel

- 3.1 The nursery employs one full time teacher and six teaching assistants who work hours ranging from 13 hours to 29 hours per week. There is also a midday supervisor who works 11 hours per week. A total of eight staff could, therefore, be affected by the outcome of the consultation to consider the future viability of Castle Nursery School. The outcome of the public consultation will be reported to Council Cabinet on 18 February 2015 and the personnel implications will be considered further in that Cabinet report once the public consultation has been concluded. Any potential implications for staff will be managed in line with the Council's relevant employment policies and procedures.

IT

- 4.1 None arising from this report.

Equalities Impact

- 5.1 We will need to assess the equality implications of the children, parents and employees, through an Equalities Impact Assessment. The consultation comments will also be taken into account in the assessment. We will check if there are any Deaf parents and employees and make sure the consultation process is accessible to them. The results of the Equality Impact Assessment will accompany the Cabinet report so members can make an informed decision of the future of the school

Health and Safety

- 6.1 None arising from this report.

Environmental Sustainability

- 7.1 None arising from this report.

Property and Asset Management

- 8.1 The Council will consider future options for the current site at the end of the statutory consultation period. Any maintenance and security costs will also need to be considered if a decision is taken to close the nursery and the site is not immediately disposed of.

Risk Management

- 9.1 None directly from this report.

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

- 10.1 All people in Derby City will enjoy achieving their learning potential for a brighter future.

Three Year Summary of Take Up of Part Time Places at Castle Nursery School

| | Spring | | | | | | Summer | | | | | | Autumn | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------|------|-------------|------|------|-------------------------------------|------|------|-------------|------|------|-------------------------------------|------|------------------|-------------|------|------|
| | number of funded part time children | | | Occupancy % | | | number of funded part time children | | | Occupancy % | | | number of funded part time children | | | Occupancy % | | |
| Maximum Number of part time nursery places | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 (estimated) | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
| 52 | 32 | 21 | 31 | 62% | 40% | 60% | 36 | 30 | 34 | 69% | 58% | 65% | 16 | 22 | 17 | 31% | 42% | 33% |
| 80 | 32 | 21 | 31 | 40% | 26% | 39% | 36 | 30 | 34 | 45% | 38% | 43% | 16 | 22 | 17 | 20% | 28% | 21% |

Consultation document – Future viability of Castle Nursery School



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

one Derby one council

Consultation Period: Wednesday 26 November 2014 to Monday 12 January 2015

To:

Parents of pupils at Castle Nursery School, other local schools, Staff, Governors, Trade Unions and Derby City Councillors (Ward Members).

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Please give us your views and comments on our proposal to consider the future viability of Castle Nursery School

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Derby City Council is consulting on a proposal to consider the future viability of Castle Nursery School, as a result of low numbers on roll for the last eight years.
- 1.2 This consultation document tells you the reasons for our proposal and how the decision making process works. Please take time to read through the document and let us know your views and comments using the attached Consultation Response Form. The closing date for responses is **Monday 12 January 2015**. We hope you find the document helpful and informative.

2.0 Reasons for the Proposal

- 2.1 Castle Nursery School is located on the outskirts of the Arboretum ward. The nursery has a history of good Ofsted inspections with the most recent Ofsted inspection of 'outstanding' being achieved on 4 July 2012 and delivers funded places to three and four year olds.
- 2.2 The city centre location of the nursery makes it difficult to attract new children, as it is surrounded by industrial units with limited local housing. Despite extensive marketing by the nursery, the situation has not improved. The nursery has also offered parents different options to access their funded nursery sessions, including offering longer funded sessions to support working parents. Again, this has not helped to drive up numbers in the nursery.
- 2.3 Castle Nursery was built to provide 40 full time three and four year old nursery places for 80 part time children to access, but due to significantly reduced numbers over the last eight years, the nursery is operationally staffed to provide 26 full time places for up to 52 children. The table below details Castle Nursery's autumn term occupancy levels over the last four years, based on delivering 52 and 80 part time funded places. This shows significant levels of surplus capacity.

| | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
|---|------|------|------|------|
| Number of children on roll | 25 | 16 | 22 | 17 |
| Occupancy % based on 52 part time places | 48% | 31% | 42% | 33% |
| Occupancy % based on 80 part time places | 31% | 20% | 28% | 21% |

- 2.4 The number of children on roll usually increases over the spring and summer terms, but has not been higher than 34 part time children during the last two years. The number of children accessing a part time place at the nursery each term over a three year period is detailed in Appendix 2.
- 2.5 Castle Nursery School is one of eight maintained nursery schools in the city. However, as well as offering less part time places than their capacity compared with the other nurseries, who generally operate to their maximum part time places, Castle's occupancy levels still remain considerably lower than those in the other seven nurseries.
- 2.6 Castle Nursery does not only provide places for children from the local area, but also has children accessing funded places from all over the city. Only five children of the current 17 children on roll live in the Arboretum and Normanton wards. Other children come from other areas of the city, including Allestree, Blagreaves, Chellaston, Littleover, Oakwood and Sinfin.

- 2.7 The low number of children on roll and the inability to increase these numbers raises significant concerns about the viability of the nursery and has led to this proposal to consider the future viability of the nursery.
- 2.8 Castle Nursery have been looking into the possibility of providing a maximum of eight part time funded places for two year olds to try and improve the occupancy levels in the nursery, and to provide additional funding to help with their current financial situation. However, there are a significant number of two year old providers already established in that locality for children from the Normaton and Arboretum wards to access. The nursery would need to make an application to be registered with Ofsted to provide two year old places, which can currently take up to 24 weeks.

3.0 Financial Situation

- 3.1 Nursery schools in Derby receive a considerably higher hourly rate per place to deliver three and four year old funded places compared with the rate paid to nursery units on mainstream school sites, and private voluntary and independent childcare providers. In addition to this, all nursery schools receive an additional fixed amount of £100,000 per year to cover standalone costs related to premises and staffing. This fixed amount is not dependent on the number of funded places provided.
- 3.2 The Council's commitment to value for money has been considered as part of this proposal to consider the future viability of Castle Nursery. The cost per part time place at Castle Nursery, based on the current number on roll of 17 children, is £6,250 per place. The cost per place in the other nursery schools that have full occupancy levels is £1,250 for those nursery schools that deliver 80 part time places, and £962 per place for those that deliver 104 part time places.
- 3.3 The low number of children on roll at Castle Nursery means that the nursery's budget is now in deficit. The school is projected to have an overspend by the end of the current financial year (31 March 2015). The deficit budget and the high cost of a place at Castle Nursery raises significant concerns about the future viability of the nursery.

4.0 Housing Developments

- 4.1 A new housing development of up to 840 properties is taking place in the Castleward area, near to Castle Nursery. As at October 2014, the developer has completed 19 houses, of which five are now occupied. Although the development is already underway, it is being implemented on a phased basis and timescales for completing the whole development are not fixed at this stage.
- 4.2 As things stand, the first phase of the development (163 properties) has planning approval. It is anticipated that an application for the second phase of the development will be submitted in 2015. It is currently anticipated that Phase 1 may end in 2016. The sizes and locations of phases may change

dependent upon future land acquisition and demand for appropriate residential units. The developer is required to provide a half form entry primary school during the second phase of the development, with the third phase not to start until a single form entry primary school has been provided. The proposal is that there will be a nursery unit at this school, which will provide new places for children moving into the new housing.

- 4.3 Timescales for constructing the second phase of the development and for the provision of the new school are currently unclear. However, it is very unlikely that the new school would open before September 2018 given that the housing development is in a relatively early stage, and due to the timescales required to design and construct a primary school. It is not possible to keep Castle Nursery open until the new primary school is built and opened as this could be at least three years away. The low numbers of children at Castle Nursery and the difficult budget situation mean that it would be difficult to sustain the nursery until the new school is opened. There are maintained nursery places available at other local schools.

5.0 When will the proposed closure take place?

- 5.1 Subject to this initial consultation, followed by the statutory consultation which is the next stage, the proposed closure, if approved, will take effect from September 2015.
- 5.2 If the closure is approved, the Council will consider options for the current site, including disposal. This is likely to require Secretary of State approval.

6.0 What are the views of the school?

- 6.1 The school have concerns with the proposal to consider the future viability of Castle Nursery, but recognise that there are issues with the low numbers of children on roll and concerns about a deficit budget.

7.0 What are the implications for staff?

- 7.1 There are eight teaching and non-teaching members of staff at Castle Nursery who will be at risk of redundancy if there is approval to close the nursery. The Council will work closely with these members of staff to look for redeployment opportunities in other maintained nurseries and schools. The required consultation procedures will be followed, including communication and consultation with Trade Unions.

8.0 What are the implications for children attending the nursery?

- 8.1 Most of the children who currently attend the nursery will not be affected by the closure, as they will move on to mainstream schooling by September 2015. However, should proposals move forward and it is agreed to close the nursery school, action would be taken to ensure no further children are admitted into the nursery after Spring term 2015.

- 8.2 There are other maintained nursery units close to Castle Nursery that are able to provide high quality maintained provision. Rosehill Infant, St Chad's CE Infant and St James' CE Infant, which are closest to Castle Nursery, all have funded places available.
- 8.3 It is important to note that the children who attend Castle Nursery live across the whole city, so could access their funded place in maintained nursery units or private, voluntary and independent provision close to where they live. Only four of the 17 children currently on roll at the nursery live in the Arboretum or Normanton wards of the city. Should the proposal be to close Castle Nursery, the Council will work very closely with parents and families affected to find alternative places.
- 8.4 The Council's Childcare and Families Information Team will provide an individual childcare brokerage service for any parents affected by this proposal. The team can provide early support with sourcing alternative nursery provision.

9.0 How can I give the Council my views and comments on the proposal?

- 9.1 We are very interested in your views and comments on this proposal. Please respond to us, in writing, by using the Consultation Response Form attached to this paper, or by using the online consultation response form at www.derby.gov.uk/castlenursery . There is a six week period for people to respond to this consultation. The closing date for responses is **Monday 12 January 2015**.
- 9.2 There will be a consultation meeting for **staff** on Tuesday 2 December at 4pm at Castle Nursery School.
- 9.3 There will be a consultation meeting for **parents of children attending the nursery** on Wednesday 3 December at 6pm at Castle Nursery School.
- 9.3 If you would like to discuss any specific aspects of the proposal or need more information, please contact:

School Organisation and Provision Team
Children and Young People's Directorate
Telephone: 01332 642723
Email: yourcityyoursay@derby.gov.uk

10.0 What are the next steps?

- 10.1 Please use this consultation as an opportunity to give us your views and comments on our proposal to consider the future viability of Castle Nursery School.
- 10.2 After the closing date, we will gather all the responses that we have received and report them to the Council Cabinet (the group of Councillors who make decisions) in February 2015 to consider and decide about progressing to the

next stage of the consultation process. If Council Cabinet approves moving to the next stage, a formal public notice will be published in March 2015 with a further four week consultation period, as required by law. Following that, consideration will be given to the responses received and a final decision will be taken on the proposal by Council Cabinet in April 2015.

Appendix 2 - Three Year Summary of Take Up of Part Time Places at Castle Nursery School

| | Spring | | | | | | Summer | | | | | | Autumn | | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|------|------|-------------|------|------|-------------------------------------|------|------|-------------|------|------|-------------------------------------|------|------------------|-------------|------|------|
| | number of funded part time children | | | Occupancy % | | | number of funded part time children | | | Occupancy % | | | number of funded part time children | | | Occupancy % | | |
| Maximum Number of part time nursery places | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 (Estimated) | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 |
| 52 | 32 | 21 | 31 | 62% | 40% | 60% | 36 | 30 | 34 | 69% | 58% | 65% | 16 | 22 | 17 | 31% | 42% | 33% |
| 80 | 32 | 21 | 31 | 40% | 26% | 39% | 36 | 30 | 34 | 45% | 38% | 43% | 16 | 22 | 17 | 20% | 28% | 21% |

Proposal to consider the future viability of Castle Nursery School

CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM

We would like your views on the future of Castle Nursery School. Please complete this short form to give your views and comments on this proposal.

Please tell us if you do or do not support the Council's proposal to close Castle Nursery School as shown in the consultation document? Please select one response.

Yes - I support the proposal

No - I don't support the proposal

I'm undecided about the proposal

Please use the space below to give your comments on the proposal to close Castle Nursery School.



All information provided will be treated in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. We will only use this information to help in the decisions made on the future of Castle Nursery School.

Date.....

Status.....

(For example, a parent, governor, school, member of staff, local resident, other)

Please return your completed form to: School Organisation and Provision Team, Children and Young People's Directorate, Derby City Council, Council House, Corporation Street, DE1 2FS.

Email: yourcityyoursay@derby.gov.uk

Please return this form by **Monday 12 January 2015.**