

Have your say on the proposed closure of Countesthorpe Nursery School and the opening of a new nursery (Governor run) at Greenfield Primary School



Tell us how this might affect you

We are seeking views from parents/carers and other members of the public from **3 January to 12 February 2017**.

During this period we will be holding 'drop in sessions' in Greenfield Primary School to provide you with the opportunity to ask questions about the proposals and have your say.

Please visit www.leicestershire.gov.uk/countesthorpenursery to submit your comments

Leicestershire County Council, working with the governing body of Greenfield Primary School, is proposing to:

- Close Countesthorpe Nursery School on The Drive, Countesthorpe; and
- For that provision to be replaced by a new purpose built facility at Greenfield Primary School, to open in September 2017, which will operate as a Governor run pre-school.

Introduction

Countesthorpe Nursery (“the nursery”) is located on The Drive, Countesthorpe and occupies a Grade II listed building alongside large residential properties.

The nursery is designated as a maintained establishment, which means funding and oversight of the service is through the local authority. On a day to day basis, the nursery is run by an Executive Head Teacher and Governors, who also undertake those same roles at Greenfield Primary School, Countesthorpe, which is a large 630 place, maintained school located nearby.

There are currently 30 nursery places at Countesthorpe Nursery.

What are we consulting on?

The County Council, working with the Governing Body of Greenfield Primary School, is proposing to:

- Close the current nursery provision at The Drive, Countesthorpe;
- Construct a purpose built facility at Greenfield Primary School to open in September 2017; and operate as a governor run pre-school. The new facilities will replace and expand the provision currently available at the nursery;
- Support Greenfield Primary School to establish a Governor run pre-school using those new facilities to replace and expand the provision currently available at the nursery.

Why change?

The number of children attending the nursery has risen in the last two years. At present there are sufficient places at the nursery to meet Free Early Education Entitlement (FEEE) places of 15 hours per week. However, from September 2017 the Government intends to increase FEEE to 30 hours per week for eligible children. This will place greater demands on the need for space within the nursery. There are also new housing developments in the area that will bring additional demand for nursery places in future years. The council has a responsibility to ensure there are sufficient childcare places available in the area.

The current building is Grade II listed, meaning it is not suitable for further expansion and requires significant maintenance. Additionally, recent changes and works at the neighbouring high and upper school have restricted access to the nursery, causing concerns about road safety and traffic issues.

This proposal is to close the nursery and for that provision to be replaced by a governor run pre-school which will be located in a new, larger, purpose built facility at Greenfield Primary School. Funded through the council's capital programme, the new facility will be bright, modern and flexible, ensuring compliance with disability access requirements and offering greater capacity for more childcare places.

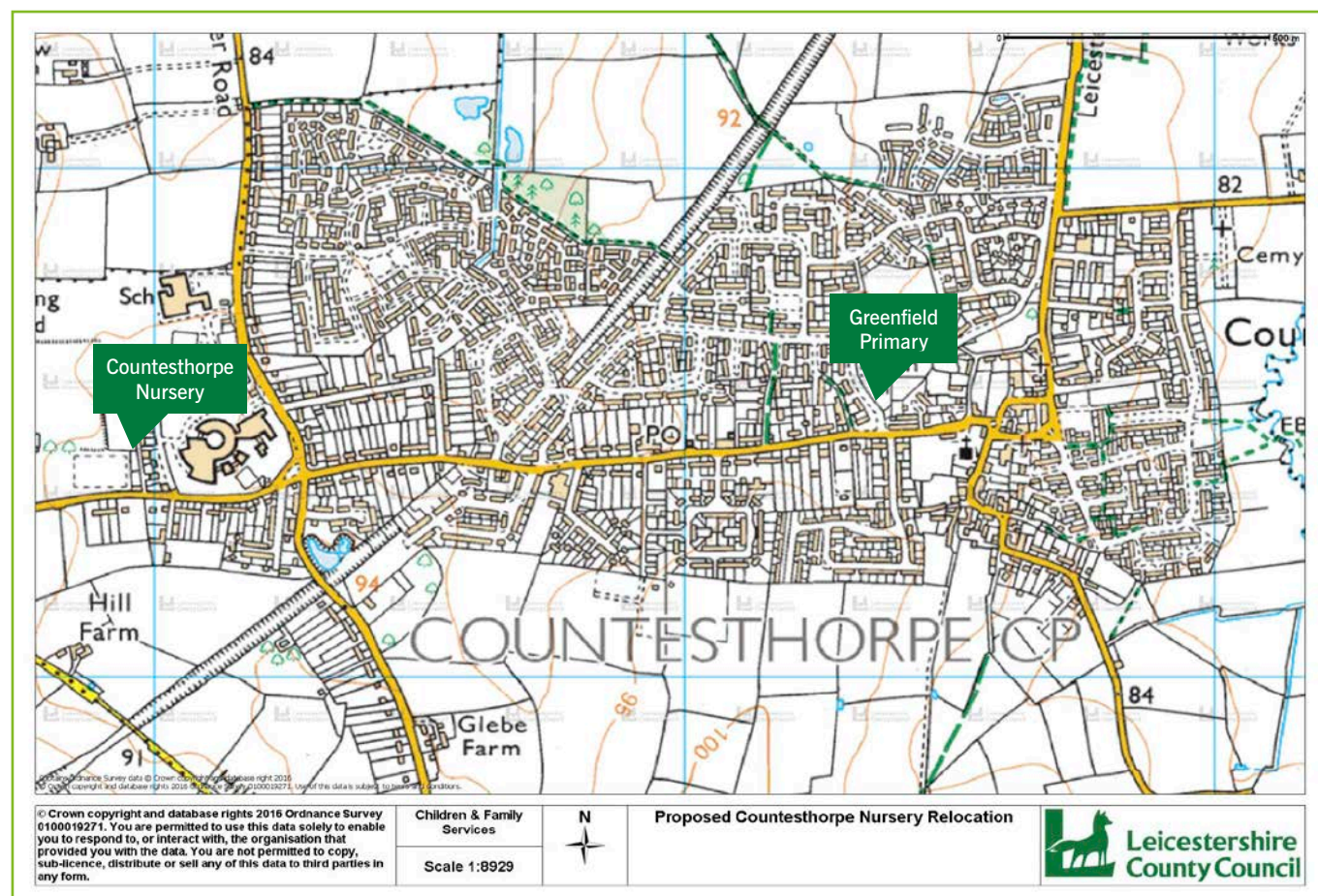
The Head Teacher, Governing Body and staff at the nursery are keen to improve the provision available and the council is supporting the implementation of this scheme. All parties involved see this as a positive step towards safeguarding the future of the provision within the area.

Further, the council considers that this is the most cost effective way of increasing the availability of childcare provision within the area and of maintaining the quality and standards of the existing provision, particularly given the crossover of management personnel between the nursery and Greenfield Primary School.



The proposals in detail

The plan provided below indicates the existing location of the nursery in relation to Greenfield Primary School the distance between the two is approximately one mile.



It is proposed that the new provision will open as a governor run pre-school and not as a nursery school maintained by the council.

To achieve this the existing Countesthorpe Nursery which is currently maintained by the local authority (this means that the council is responsible for the running and maintenance of the nursery) would close, subject to the outcome of the consultation, and be replaced by a governor run pre-school which will be located in a new, larger, purpose built facility at Greenfield Primary School.

The council would no longer have any responsibilities in the running of the nursery. Greenfield Primary School would be responsible for the running of its new pre-school provision.

The new provision would be offer space for 45 nursery places to meet the demands of new housing and government changes to FEEE.

Co-location of the nursery provision with the primary school would ensure better transition into school and better progression in terms of children starting their schooling.

The quality of education, care and learning currently provided by the nursery would be preserved in the new provision as the existing staff and ethos are proposed to transfer.

The nursery would close once the new facility is ready for use. It is intended this would happen in order for the new provision to be in place for the start of the 2017 – 2018 academic year.



How will the proposals impact my child's nursery provision?

If your child currently attends the nursery, it is proposed that you will be able to request they transfer to the new provision at Greenfield Primary School without the need to apply for a place.

In addition to FEEE hours, further childcare may be available, at additional cost to the parent/carer.

If you are applying for the first time for a place for your child at the nursery from September 2017 then you will be able to apply to the new provision directly in accordance with their admission arrangements.

How will the consultation work?

The consultation will take place in line with the 'Statutory Guidance relating to Opening and Closing Maintained Schools' published by the Department for Education in April 2016.

For more details about this process, please see the link below.

www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/514556/16-04-06_FINAL_SO_Guidance_ED_Regs.pdf

We will be holding an initial six weeks period of pre-consultation from 3 January to 12 February 2017. This will be led by Greenfield Primary School.

To support the consultation we will be holding drop in sessions at Greenfield Primary School, Countesthorpe on:

- Wednesday 18 January 2017 between 3.00 – 4.00pm
- Tuesday 31 January 2017 between 3.00 – 4.00pm

You can tell us what you think by filling out the survey – the simplest way to do this is online at www.leicestershire.gov.uk/countesthorpenursery

You can also post your survey in the box provided in the reception area of the nursery or the primary school or send it to:

Countesthorpe Nursery Consultation
Leicestershire County Council
Have Your Say
FREEPOST NAT 18685
LE3 8XR

Your feedback is important and will be used to inform decisions about this proposal.

Please submit your response before midnight on Sunday, 12 February 2017

If you need help to complete this questionnaire or have any questions about the consultation, please call 0116 305 6661 or email SchoolOrgService@leics.gov.uk.

Alternatively you may call Mr Colin Bowpitt, Head Teacher Greenfield Primary School.

What happens next?

Following the informal pre-consultation period the council will consider all responses received and will make a decision on the publication of a 'Statutory Notice' to progress the proposals.

Following publication of the Statutory Notice there would be a period of four weeks for parents/carers and any other members of the public to make representations to inform a decision by the council as to whether to proceed or not with the proposals.

If the proposals are agreed they would be implemented by the council so that new arrangements can be in place for September 2017.

You can view the latest information in a number of ways

Visit us online at www.leicestershire.gov.uk/countesthorpenursery

Our web pages will be kept up-to-date with the latest information and developments. You'll also be able to access the survey here.

Send an email to SchoolOrgService@leics.gov.uk to register for the latest news and updates.



Follow us [@leicscountyhall](https://twitter.com/leicscountyhall) for general updates from the council, including the developments on the budget.

Alternatively, you can telephone **0116 305 6661** to ask for information in printed or alternative formats.

જો આપ આ માહિતી આપની ભાષામાં સમજવામાં થોડી મદદ
ઈચ્છતાં હો તો 0116 305 6661 નંબર પર ફોન કરશો અને
અમે આપને મદદ કરવા યવરથા કરીશું.

જેકર તુહાનું ઇસ જાણકારી નું સમજાવિલ રુઝ મદદ ચાહીદી
તૈ તાં કિરપા કરકે 0116 305 6661 નંબર કે ફોન કરે અકે
અસીં તુહાડી મદદ લઈ કિસે દા પૂર્ણ કર દવાંગો.

এই তথ্য নিজের ভাষায় বুঝার জন্য আপনার যদি কোন
সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয়, তবে 0116 305 6661 এই নম্বরে
ফোন করলে আমরা উপযুক্ত ব্যক্তির ব্যবস্থা করবো।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات سمجھنے میں کچھ مدد درکار ہے تو براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر کال کریں
0116 305 6661 اور ہم آپ کی مدد کے لئے کسی کا انتظام کر دیں گے۔

假如閣下需要幫助，用你的語言去明白這些資訊，
請致電 0116 305 6661，我們會安排有關人員為你
提供幫助。

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tej informacji
w Twoim języku, zadzwoń pod numer 0116 305 6661,
a my Ci pomożemy.



**Leicestershire
County Council**

Have your say on the proposed relocation and expansion of Countesthorpe Nursery

Please read the supporting information provided before completing the questionnaire. Thank you for your assistance. Your views are important to us.

Please note: Your responses to the main part of the survey (Q1 to Q4), including your comments) may be released to the general public in full under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Any responses to the questions in the 'About you' section of the questionnaire will be held securely and will not be subject to release under Freedom of Information legislation, nor passed on to any third party.

Q1 In what role are you responding to this consultation? Please select one option only.

- ☐ Parent/carer of a child attending the nursery
- ☐ Local resident
- ☐ Parent/carer who is considering sending their child to the nursery
- ☐ School/nursery staff
- ☐ Other (please specify below)

Please specify 'other'

Q2 The proposal is to close the existing nursery and relocate to a new, larger building on the Greenfield Primary School site as a Governor-run preschool registered with Ofsted. To what extent do you agree or disagree with this proposal?

- Strongly agree

☐
- Tend to agree

☐
- Neither agree nor disagree

☐
- Tend to disagree

☐
- Strongly disagree

☐
- Don't know

☐

Why do you say this?

Q3 How much, if at all, would the proposals affect your ability to access nursery provision for your child/children?

The proposals would...

- ☐ ... make it much easier
- ☐ ... make it a little easier
- ☐ ... make little difference overall
- ☐ ... make it a little more difficult
- ☐ ... make it much more difficult
- ☐ Don't know

Why do you say this?

Q4 Do you have any other comments?

About you

Leicestershire County Council is committed to ensuring that its services, policies and practices are free from discrimination and prejudice and that they meet the needs of all sections of the community.

We would therefore be grateful if you would answer the questions below. You are under no obligation to provide the information requested, but it would help us greatly if you did.

Q5 What is your gender identity?

- ☐ Male
☐ Female
☐ Other (e.g. pangender, non-binary etc.)

Q6 Is your gender identity the same as the gender you were assigned at birth?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Q7 What was your age on your last birthday? (Please enter your age in numbers not words)

Q8 What is your full postcode?

This will allow us to see how far you live from the nursery. It will not identify your house.

Q9 Are you a parent or carer of a young person aged 17 or under?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Q10 If yes, what are the ages of the children in your care? Please tick all applicable

- ☐ 0-4 ☐ 5-10 ☐ 11-15 ☐ 16-17

Q11 Are you a carer of a person aged 18 or over?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Q12 Do you have a long-standing illness, disability or infirmity?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Q13 What is your ethnic group? Please tick one box only.

- ☐ White ☐ Asian or Asian British ☐ Other ethnic group
☐ Mixed ☐ Black or Black British

Q14 What is your religion?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> No religion | <input type="checkbox"/> Jewish |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christian (all denominations) | <input type="checkbox"/> Muslim |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buddhist | <input type="checkbox"/> Sikh |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hindu | <input type="checkbox"/> Any other religion |

Q15 Are you an employee of Leicestershire County Council?

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Q16 Many people face discrimination because of their sexual orientation and for this reason we have decided to ask this monitoring question. You do not have to answer it, but we would be grateful if you could tick the box next to the category which describes your sexual orientation.

- | | |
|--|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bi-sexual | <input type="checkbox"/> Lesbian |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gay | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Heterosexual / straight | |

Thank you for your assistance. Your views are important to us.

Please return your completed survey to: Countesthorpe Nursery Consultation, Leicestershire County Council, Have Your Say, FREEPOST NAT 18685, LE3 8XR. No stamp is required.

Data Protection: Personal data supplied on this form will be held on computer and will be used in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. The information you provide will be used for statistical analysis, management, planning and the provision of services by the county council and its partners. Leicestershire County Council will not share any information collected from the 'About you' section of this survey with its partners. The information will be held in accordance with the council's records management and retention policy. Information which is not in the 'About you' section of the questionnaire may be subject to disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.