



BEARWOOD Primary and Nursery School

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Learning, Enjoying & Succeeding Together

Bearwood Primary and Nursery School – Pre-School Consultation Document

Proposal

From September 2025, Bearwood Primary and Nursery School is proposing to change their lower age limit at the Primary School from 3 years to 2 years enabling the school to expand their nursery provision by taking over Bearwood Pre-School, who are wanting to join the school.

History

Bearwood Primary & Nursery School is a 1-form entry infant school situated in the north of Poole, bordering Bournemouth. The school was originally built in 1994 with regular investment in the site to ensure the school offers its pupils a wide-ranging curriculum. The school makes use of the spacious outside areas, including a field and large forest school area.

In October 2016, Bearwood Primary & Nursery School joined Hamwic Education Trust, and the Hillary partnership of schools. Hamwic Education Trust was established in 2011, which incorporates Primary and secondary education.

Bearwood Primary & Nursery School was last inspected by Ofsted on September 2019, where the school continued to be graded as 'Good'.

Rationale

Bearwood Pre-School (URN EY397878) is a private Pre-School (PVI) that currently operates within Bearwood Primary and Nursery School. The Pre-School was initially established in 1984 and has been operating on the Bearwood Primary & Nursery School Site since 2009.

The Pre-School currently have a 'Good' Ofsted rating following their last inspection on the 25th January 2023. Bearwood Primary & Nursery School approached Bearwood Pre-School to explore the opportunity of them joining the school to ensure the best continuation of the provision in the long term, including the transfer of all staff to the employment of the school.

Bearwood Pre-School currently offers 30 places per session, with morning and afternoon sessions which can include a lunch club. The Pre-School operates term time for 38 weeks of the year.

Bearwood Pre-School offer places for children between the ages of 2 and 4 years, with all children based in the same space.

Bearwood Pre-School currently have 52 children on roll, with the majority of children being fully funded.



Bearwood Primary and Nursery is a founding school of The Hillary Partnership. Registered in England and Wales –
Number 10286967

Registered office Unit E, The Mill Yard, Nursling Street, Nursling, Southampton, England, SO16 0AJ
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In September 2024, 33% of the children allocated a place at Bearwood Primary & Nursery School were received from Bearwood Pre-School.

This proposal will mean that for the children and their families who remain non-school aged, from September 2025, will be able to continue at their current setting with familiar staff and in a familiar environment. It will also ensure the job security of existing members of the Pre-School staff.

Aims

The aim of Bearwood Primary & Nursery School will be for Bearwood Pre-School to join the existing Nursery provision as part of the school, replicating the provision of care currently offered by Bearwood Pre-School, providing morning and afternoon sessions for children aged 2 – 4 years, term time only. The school will support those children who are funded by the government with additional sessions above funded hours being available at a chargeable rate. Parents will also be asked to make a small contribution for consumables/additional activities as is the current practice.

The Pre-School will work collaboratively with the school EYFS team, under the Early Years Foundation stage and schools strategic plan, to ensure best and consistent practice and enabling children attending to begin early preparations for beginning school.

Bearwood Primary & Nursery School will be accredited with the Early Years Alliance (EYA) and will work with the recommended staff ratios of:

- For children aged two:
 - There must be at least one member of staff for every five children
 - At least one member of staff must hold an approved level 3 qualification
 - At least half of all other staff must hold an approved level 2 qualification.
- For children aged three and over in registered early years provision where a person with Qualified Teacher Status, Early Years Professional Status, Early Years Teacher Status or another suitable level 6 qualification is working directly with the children:
 - There must be at least one member of staff for every 13 children
 - At least one other member of staff must hold an approved level 3 qualification.
- For children aged three and over in registered early years provision where a person with Qualified Teacher Status, Early Years Professional Status, Early Years Teacher Status or another suitable level 6 qualification is **not** working directly with the children:
 - There must be at least one member of staff for every eight children
 - At least one other member of staff must hold an approved level 3 qualification
 - At least half of all other staff must hold an approved level 2 qualification.

Early Years Foundation Stage statutory framework, Published December 2023, Effective from January 2024.



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Where appropriate, the established policies and practices of the school will be adopted by the Pre-School (child protection, safeguarding, health and safety etc). Other more specific policies would be reviewed to ensure they encompass both the EYFS provision and the pre-school. Staff would also receive annual training such as safeguarding updates.

In summary, the aim of Bearwood Primary & Nursery School is to continue their Nursery provision, expanding this to take on the Pre-School Team and children, enhancing the provision by ensuring that all of the Pre-School and EYFS staff work as a collaborative team, providing children from as young as two years, the preparation and self-development to be successful at school. The ethos being that every child will be able to learn, enjoy and succeed together, whilst also building early relationships with parents/carers that will develop as the children move through the school to the end of Year 6.

Bearwood Primary & Nursery School current early years provision benefits from the support, advice and challenge of Hamwic Education Trust enabling the children to be well supported by a well-trained team of adults. Adults are trained in developing meaningful relationships enabling the children to feel confident and ready for the next stage of their education. All children are exposed to a well-planned and sequenced curriculum, with a range of key activities planned to enrich children's social, moral and cultural development.

Need

There is an existing need for this provision at Bearwood Primary and Nursery School as there are already children using the current Bearwood Pre-School provision on site.

Bearwood Primary & Nursery School is located in the locality of Bearwood, situated in the North of the town of Poole, BH11 9UN.

Within a 2-mile radius of Bearwood Primary & Nursery School there are 6 providers including Bearwood Pre-School. The closest providers are as follows:

Provider	Distance
Bearwood Pre-School	0 miles
Tops Day Nursery	0.7 miles
Little Oaks Nursery	1.6 miles
The Orchard Nursery	1.6 miles
The Lantern Pre-School	1.7 miles
Muddy Boots Nursery	1.8 miles

There is a total of 4 childminders in a 1 mile radius of Bearwood Primary & Nursery School who offer early years places.



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Consultation

This document will be provided to the following stakeholder groups to seek their views from 16th October 2024 until 27th November 2024:

- Parents/carers of the school
- Staff at the school
- Current Bearwood Pre-School staff
- Parents/carers of children that currently attend Bearwood Pre-School
- Other schools in the local area
- Other childcare providers in the local area
- Childminders in the local area
- Bournemouth, Christchurch & Poole Council
- The Local Governing Body of the school
- Hamwic Education Trust

If you wish to respond to this consultation, please do so in writing via email - school@bearwood.poole.sch.uk.



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