



CHELLASTON INFANT & JUNIOR SCHOOLS

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Proposal to Change the Age Range of Chellaston Infant School

Consultation Document – 23rd June 2026

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Local Providers and Stakeholders,

Proposal to Change the Age Range of Chellaston Infant School

The Governing Body of **Chellaston Infant School** is consulting on a proposal to change the age range of the school from **4 years – 7 years** to **2 years -7 years** with effect from **1st September 2027**.

The purpose of this proposal is to enable the school to provide additional early years education and childcare places for younger children, helping to meet local demand and improve access to high-quality education and care within the community.

In developing this proposal, the Governing Body has considered:

- Local Authority advice regarding the sufficiency of childcare places for two-year-olds.
- The Government's expansion of funded childcare entitlements.
- The availability of surplus accommodation within the school.
- The potential educational benefits of continuity from age two through to Key Stage 1.
- The likely impact on existing pupils, staff, neighbouring childcare providers and the local community.

Why is this proposal being made?

The Governing Body has identified a need to increase the availability of high-quality early years education and childcare places for two-year-old children within the local area. At the same time, a sustained reduction in local birth rates has resulted in a significant decline in the number of pupils on roll at Chellaston Infant School, leaving surplus classroom accommodation that can be repurposed without affecting the school's existing provision for children aged 4 to 7. Working with Derby City Council's Early Years and Place Planning teams, the school has reviewed local sufficiency data, which indicates that additional childcare capacity will be required as the Government's funded childcare entitlement expands. The proposal would enable the school to make effective use of its available accommodation by extending its existing early years provision and providing high-quality education and care from the age of two.



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This development aims to:

- Enable children able to start education at the age of 2 without needing to move to another setting after their early years and nursery education
- Establish a smooth transition through the school for children starting from the age of 2.
- Create a closer working relationship between the staff working across the age range.
- Enable further access to early support and interventions for those children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND), and children from Disadvantaged backgrounds.

What is being proposed?

If approved, the school would:

- Lower the school's age range from 4–7 to 2–7 years from 1 September 2027.
- Repurpose two currently unused classrooms and adjacent outdoor space to create a purpose-designed early years environment.
- Provide a 15-place provision for two-year-olds and a 15-place nursery for 3-year olds, increasing local childcare capacity by 30 places.
- From the term following their third birthday, children will be able to access the school's extended childcare provision, including funded and extended-hour places where eligible, ensuring continuity of education and childcare within one setting.
- Maintain the existing number of Reception to Year 2 places with no reduction in current teaching accommodation.
- Continue to operate the provision under the school's existing leadership, safeguarding and governance arrangements.

What impact will this have on current pupils?

The proposal has been carefully considered to ensure that:

- There will be no reduction in the number of school places available for children aged 4–7.
- There will be no loss of teaching space currently used by Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 pupils.
- The proposal will improve transition into Reception for children who attend from the age of two.
- Children will benefit from earlier identification and support, particularly those with SEND or from disadvantaged backgrounds.
- Start and finish times for the new provision will be staggered to minimise traffic and parking impacts.

What impact will this have on staff?

There will be no adverse impact on existing staff. Existing employees will continue in their current roles and job descriptions. Additional staff required for the new provision will be recruited in accordance with the school's normal recruitment procedures and statutory safeguarding requirements.

Consultation Process

The Governing Body is committed to seeking the views of all interested parties before making a final decision.

The consultation period will run from:

Start Date: 23rd June 2026

Closing Date: 24th July 2026

All comments received during this period will be carefully considered by the Governing Body before a final decision is made.

How to Share Your Views

Your views are important to us.

Email: admin@chellastoninfants.org with the subject header - CONSULTATION

Post: Chellaston Infant School, School Lane, Chellaston, Derby, DE73 6TA

Digital Response – [click here to complete the consultation response form.](#)

Closing Date: 24th July 2026 – 12 pm

Following the consultation period, the Governing Body will review all responses and communicate the outcome to parents, carers, staff, local stakeholders and the Local Authority.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this proposal and share your views.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Turner-Rowe

Head Teacher

On behalf of the Governing Body of Chellaston Infant School

Consultation Response Form

Proposal to Change the Age Range of Chellaston Infant School

We would welcome your views on the proposal outlined in this consultation document.

Do you support the proposal to change the age range of Chellaston Infant School from 4–7 years to 2–7 years?

Yes – I support the proposal

No – I do not support the proposal

Undecided

Please provide any comments, suggestions or concerns:

Your relationship to the school (optional)

Parent/Carer

Staff Membe

Governor

Local Resident

Childcare Provider

Other: _____

Name (optional)

Date

Please return this form to Chellaston Infant School by 24th July 2026.