



## Penpol School Nursery Consultation

Thank you for taking the time to read and respond to this statutory proposal for **Penpol School, Cornwall**, to make a prescribed alteration.

### **Overview**

We hope to create a **forest school nursery** here on our site at Penpol School.

We are very proud of our onsite forest school provision here at Penpol. We have the opportunity to create a nursery provision on our school grounds, catering for up to 25 three and four-year-olds each session. We would plan to host children funded for 15 hours and those funded for 30 hours. The nursery will be housed in an existing classroom with access to our forest school and to a dedicated outdoor area.

Initial surveys of our current parents/carers and of staff have demonstrated unanimous support of the proposals so far. They also demonstrated a significant level of need for spaces amongst our current families and we are now very keen to hear from the broader community.

### **Objectives**

- We aim to provide parents with an additional level of choice in the town by establishing a teacher-led provision which benefits from extensive and rich outdoor experiences.
- Penpol is a school steeped in oracy at every level and we aim to provide our nursery children with the strongest starts in terms of vocabulary and, therefore, readiness for onward learning.
- The setting would be led by experienced and qualified early-years practitioners, also drawing from the range of expertise and resourcing available from across a large school team.
- In supporting children to feel comfortable and happy in the school environment, we expect to provide them with the strongest start to school in Reception.

## Impact Upon Other Providers

As a community school, the admissions criteria for our Reception intake adheres to the Local Authority Admissions Policy (found below). Therefore, parents choosing our nursery would do so on the merits of the nursery offer itself rather than in order to gain a place for Reception. We feel that this is important in avoiding any unfair impact upon the other excellent providers in the area. <https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/5lpjh3fw/admission-arrangements-community-vc-primary-schools-2022-23.pdf>

We have informally consulted with other providers and are keen to hear further thoughts on these proposals. Our assessment, and that of the Local Authority, is that there is a need for nursery spaces in the area, particularly as providers seek to accommodate the increased demand of 2-year-olds following recent government announcements.

## Financial Sustainability

Initial start-up costs will include the following:

Area Of Spend	Estimated Cost	Availability of Funds
Limited building enhancements	£26895	Devolved Capital Funding
Staffing Costs	£106684	To be covered by per-pupil nursery funding.
Resourcing of Nursery Classroom	£7350	To be covered by per-pupil nursery funding.
Overheads and Administration Costs	£3850	Some covered within existing school commitments with the remaining covered by per-pupil nursery funding.

Our intake will be relatively small, allowing children to enjoy a spacious indoor provision alongside their outdoor environment. Given this, we anticipate running at or close to capacity throughout the year, with per-pupil nursery funding meeting these costs. With our broader school staff team, we are afforded a level of additional flexibility to meet any changes in numbers.

## Summary of Implementation Plan and Timescales

Time	Actions
January 2023	Initial enquiries and advice sought from Local Authority.
Early March 2023	Information consultation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Existing parents</li><li>Current providers</li><li>Staff</li></ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Governors</li> </ul>
27 <sup>th</sup> March 2023	Following approval to proceed from Local Authority, Statutory Proposal for Prescribed Alteration Published
April 2023	Four-week statutory period of representation
Late April 2023	Proposed nursery admissions policy to be agreed with governors Local Authority to review statutory consultation and agree a decision Provisional staffing plans identified Room and outdoor spaces plans drawn up with resourcing needs identified and costed
If decision is made to proceed:	
May 2023	Applications invited for places Places offered in accordance with ratified nursery admissions policy Nursery policies agreed
Late May 2023	Staffing confirmed Training and development begins Nursery policies ratified
June 2023	Home visits carried out New nursery pupils invited to visit Penpol
July 2023	Continued communications with families Building adaptations made Room and outdoor spaces set up
August 2023	Final preparations
September 2023	Phased start for initial intake of nursery pupils
January 2024	Phased start for January intake of nursery pupils
April 2024	Phased start for April intake of nursery pupils

Paper copies of this statutory proposal can be obtained from the school site upon request.

We would love to hear your views, whether in support of this proposal or otherwise:

- The easiest way to get in touch is via our dedicated email address: [nursery@penpol.cornwall.sch.uk](mailto:nursery@penpol.cornwall.sch.uk).
- If you would prefer to speak on the phone, please call 01736753472.
- Any postal responses should be addressed to: Chris Chislett, Penpol School, Hayle TR27 4AH.

Thank you for your time and consideration.