



King's Oak Academy
Parkway, Gaywood, King's Lynn, Norfolk,
PE30 4QJ
Telephone: 01553 774587
Office: office@kgo.unity-ed.uk
www.kingsoakacademy.co.uk
Executive Headteacher: Mrs C Kirby

Consultation on change of age range to allow spaces for Under 2's at Kings Oak Academy from September 2026

Introduction

The purpose of this document is to discuss proposed changes to the provision at Kings Oak Academy for under 2's, which requires a lowering of the school's age range by 1 year. The Unity Education Trust Board wishes to receive the views and comments of stakeholders of the school regarding these proposed changes.

The consultation period will run for 4 weeks from **Wednesday 10th June** to **Wednesday 8th July 2026**. The Trust Board will consider all comments received during the consultation period. We are consulting with all relevant stakeholders as required by law when making changes to school age range arrangements.

What change is being proposed?

Currently the school takes children into the Nursery the term after their third birthday.

From September 2026 we are proposing lowering our school's age range to 2 years. This will make the schools age range 2-7 years, rather than the current 3-7 years.

Please note that there is no change proposed to our determined admissions arrangements. The school's determined admission arrangements for school entry in September 2026 remain unchanged and there is no change because a nursery place does not in any way guarantee a place at the school, as is documented on our admissions policy on our web site.

Why is the school making this change?

The school is situated in an area of high deprivation. Around fifty percent of the children that attend are eligible for free school meals. Many local families do not have cars and would find taking children to several different locations difficult. This means some may not therefore be taking up 2-year-old funded places at another setting. Most importantly, we know the importance of early education it boosts development, supports families, and gives all children, especially those who might be disadvantaged, a better chance to succeed in school and later life.



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Will the proposed change result in any impact on current provision?

The school has ample space and facilities to support additional children. During the Autumn term, whilst numbers of 3- and 4-year-olds are lower, we will include 2-year-olds within our current Nursery space. As numbers of both 2-year-olds and 3- and 4-year-olds grow, we will make use of additional spaces in the school.

Will the proposed change result in additional traffic near the school at drop-off and pick-up times?

There will be minimal impact on peak time traffic at the school, as most families will be walking and many are already coming to Kings Oak Academy or the school next door, Howard Junior School.

What will the impact be of providers of nursery provision locally?

We cannot foresee a large impact on other providers locally. Families tell us that other providers in the area have waiting lists for 2-year-old spaces and their child is not able to attend due to this. We have had several families who have eligible children not currently in Nursery that have expressed an interest in a place at the school. Our aim is to target those eligible two-year-olds in the area that are not taking up their funded 2-year-old entitlement.

How can you ask questions, get more information on the proposal?

Parents can contact Cheryl Kirby, Headteacher, with any questions or comments via email office@kgo.unity-ed.uk alternatively visit the school and make an appointment to meet with Mrs Kirby to discuss the proposal or look around the Nursery.

How can you comment on the proposal?

We will be allowing 4 weeks to receive responses, so all responses must be received by **3.00pm** on 8th July to be considered by the Local Authority when making its decision. There are several ways to let us know your views:

- Via email to consultation@unityeducationtrust.uk
- Complete the attached form and hand it in to the office at King's Oak

Next steps

After the consultation ends, Unity Education Trust will review the responses and decide whether to lower the school's age range to 2 years.



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Consultation response form

Do you agree with the proposal to lower the age range for King's Oak Infant School to 2 years

Yes/No Delete as appropriate

Please give the main reasons for your answers:

We would like to hear from many different people as your views help us to decide whether we make this change. We will process your personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations, which means that we will not give your personal data to any third parties.

Your comments will be anonymous - your name or anything that could identify you will not be included in any report. However, we cannot guarantee that this information will be withheld if it is requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

Please tell us who you are:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Pupil Parent / Guardian | Member of the Parent Teacher Association |
| Member of staff | Local resident |
| Local business | Local sports group |
| Local community group | |
| Other (please specify) | |