



Kymbrook and Thurleigh Primary Schools Federation
Executive Headteacher: Mrs Kathy Augustine

Statutory Notice Consultation – Full Proposal:
Kymbrook Primary School and Thurleigh Primary School Federation to merge
with Kymbrook Pre-School

Introduction

This paper sets out the proposal for the Kymbrook Primary School and Thurleigh Primary School Federation to merge with Kymbrook Pre-school from September 2025. It is written for parents, carers, governors, staff, pupils, and other people who have an interest in the school and in the proposal. The local authority (LA) will consider your views and responses before taking the proposal forward.

Both the Governing Board for The Kymbrook and Thurleigh Federation and The Kymbrook Preschool Committee are in agreement with this proposal to merge.

Background to the proposed changes of age range, expansion of school

In order to support early years in the community, Kymbrook Primary School would like to help develop and continue the growth of the pre-school. By sharing access to Kymbrook Primary's facilities and expertise we can create an even better seamless link between the two settings so children have a smoother Early Years' experience.

We would like to combine the expertise of Kymbrook Pre-School and Kymbrook Primary School to build on the strength and achievements of the pre-school.

Providing a safe, caring and fun environment for children to learn and grow, and ensuring their ongoing development in a secure and sustainable way without anxiety for families about transitioning to a whole new setting environment.

Even closer liaison between the staff of the two organisations will allow a focus on outcomes for the children supported by a consistent and professional management structure

The school and pre-school are situated close to each other on the same land (the pre-school children routinely use the schools facilities such as the grounds).

In order to expand Kymbrook Primary School to include a pre-school for children aged 2+ years, the Department for Education requires the Council to publish proposals to change the age range, as set out in the guidance [\(Making significant changes \('prescribed alterations'\) to maintained schools\)](#).

Demand for Early Years Provision

Bedford Borough is a great place to live and work – and recent census results show it to be one of the fastest growing local authority areas in England. We expect the number of residents and homes to grow in the coming years. New homes are being built in many areas and there are good transport links by road and rail for many centers of employment.



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In addition to general population growth, the increase to childcare funding announced in 2023, is expected to continue to create additional demand for early year's provision. The proposal to expand the age range at Kymbrook Primary School will ensure the school is able to support with this additional demand.

Kymbrook Primary School are keen to be sustainable into the future and feel the best approach would be to further develop the early year's capacity. Opening the school to early year's children could improve outcomes at the end of Reception, particularly for disadvantaged pupils and pupils who do not speak English as a first language.

Kymbrook Primary School is rated good across all categories by OFSTED (last inspection 16th July 2024) and the Council feels that the school are in a strong position to open an early year's nursery provision.

The effect on other educational institutions within the area

There would be no adverse effect on other similar provisions within the area as both settings are already established.

The proposal

The proposal is to offer 44 places (22 AM sessions/22 PM sessions), using the current building spaces both organisations already have. The school's governing body has given its support to this proposal to increase the age range of the school to include 2+ year olds.

Bedford Borough Council will consult from **28/04/2025 to 23/05/2025** to enable us to fully engage with all stakeholders and consultees and provide plenty of opportunities to respond.

Consultation timeline

The timeline below details the key steps in the consultation process.

Action	Timescale **consultation must run for 4 weeks**
Consultation commences	28/04/2025
Staff consultation meeting	TBC
Parents and pupils consultation meeting	If requested this will facilitated.
Consultation ends	23/05/2025



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Responses collated and considered	2 nd June 2025
Consultation report and recommendations submitted to be determined by the Executive Committee	TBC

Responding to the consultation

If you wish to respond to this consultation with your views or comments, please complete the online consultation questionnaire via: [School organisation changes for Kymbrook Primary School consultation | Bedford Borough Council](#)

If you wish to reply via a hard copy form, please email the Kymbrook Primary School office: kymbrook@ktfederation.co.uk or call on 01234 376266.

Would you like to discuss this proposal with us in person?

If you would like to speak with representatives of Kymbrook Primary School and the Council's Early Years Family Support Team about the proposals, please contact the school office at: kymbrook@ktfederation.co.uk and a convenient time to go through this could be arranged.