**Public Consultation Communication: Proposed Change to Calton Primary and Pre-School Age Range**

January 2025

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Members,

**Re: Consultation on Proposed Change to Calton Primary and Pre-School Age Range**

We are writing to inform you of a proposed change to the age range at **Calton Primary and Pre-School.**  Currently, the school provides education for children aged **2 to 11 years**, but we are proposing to change this to **3 to 11 years**. This letter provides details on the proposed change and invites you to take part in a public consultation to share your views.

**Proposed Change**

We propose to adjust the lower age limit at **Calton Primary and Pre-School** from **2 years** to **3 years**, meaning that the school would no longer offer places for 2-year-olds, but would continue to serve children from ages 3 to 11.

**Current Age Range**: 2 to 11 years  
**Proposed Age Range**: 3 to 11 years

**Rationale for the Change**

The decision to propose this change follows a review of the school’s early years provision and its resources. Several factors have contributed to this proposal:

* **Educational Alignment**: Shifting the starting age to 3 years aligns with our commitment to ensuring high-quality early years provision. Research shows that many children benefit from starting structured education at age 3 when they are developmentally ready to engage in more formal learning environments.
* **Resource Allocation**: By focusing our early years resources on children aged 3 and above, we will be better able to enhance the quality of education and care for this group, ensuring that they receive the support and attention needed for a strong start to their educational journey.
* **Financial Sustainability**: The reduction in age range is intended to support the long-term financial sustainability of the early years provision at the school by focusing on the age group for which we are best resourced.

**Consultation Process**

We recognise the importance of gathering input from our school community, including parents, carers, staff, and local stakeholders. As such, we are holding a formal consultation period from **7th January 2025** to **21st January 2025**, during which we invite you to share your thoughts and feedback on the proposed change.

**How to Participate:**

1. **Online Feedback Form via this link**: <https://forms.office.com/e/ecFxx35TX6>
2. **Online Feedback Form**: Please visit our website at [www.calton.sandmat.uk](file:///C:\Users\amy.gable\Downloads\www.calton.sandmat.uk) to fill out a short online feedback form.
3. **Email Feedback**: You may also send your comments or questions to our dedicated consultation email address: [caltonconsultation@sandmat.uk](mailto:caltonconsultation@sandmat.uk)
4. **Public Consultation Meeting**: We will host a consultation meeting where you can discuss the proposal in person with school leaders. The meeting will take place on:
   * **Date**: 13th January 2025
   * **Time**: 5pm
   * **Location**: Calton Primary and Pre-School, Calton Road, Gloucester GL1 5ET
5. **Written Submissions**: A hard copy of the feedback form can be collected from the school office. Written feedback can be delivered to the school office in a sealed envelope, marked “Age Range Consultation.”

**Next Steps**

At the conclusion of the consultation period on **21st January 2025**, all feedback will be reviewed and considered by the Trust. The Trust will then submit a Tier 1 application to the DfE. A decision on the proposed change will be made and communicated to the school community.

A decision on the proposed change will be made and communicated to the school community by **14th February 2025**

If the proposal is approved, the new age range will come into effect from **September 2025**, andCalton Primary and Pre-School will no longer admit children aged 2 years from that date forward.

**Contact Information**

If you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us:

* Email: admin@calton.sandmat.uk
* Phone: 01452 527689
* School Office: Calton Road, Gloucester, GL1 5ET

Yours sincerely

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Jane Barker-Doe

Head Teacher

Tracy Millard

Chair of Local Advisory Board