

## Sir Edmund Hilary Academy

Consultation on proposal to change the  
age range of the academy



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## **Consultation proposal to change the age range of Sir Edmund Hilary Academy from September 2025**

Consultation period: 13 May 2025 – 9 June 2025

### **Introduction**

Sir Edmund Hilary Academy is proposing to make an application to the Department for Education to change its age range from 2 - 11 years to 3 - 11 years from September 2025.

As part of the consultation process and as part of the statutory requirements, we are consulting parents and carers of Sir Edmund Hilary Academy, parents in the area, the Local Authority, other local primary schools and nurseries to seek feedback regarding the proposed change. The consultation process will run from Tuesday 13 May 2025 to Monday 9 June 2025. L.E.A.D. Academy Trust will then consider comments received during the consultation period.

### **Proposal**

Sir Edmund Hilary Academy currently has a pupil admission number of 60 and capacity for 420 pupils, plus 39 nursery pupils in a morning and 39 nursery pupils in an afternoon. In addition, we have provision for 15 pupils in a morning and 15 pupils in an afternoon in our 2 year old provision. We currently admit children from the term after their second birthday as part of our 2 year old provision. Under the proposed changes, we will no longer offer 2 year old provision and will only admit pupils into our nursery in the term after their third birthday and into reception as part of the normal admissions process.

### **Rationale**

Our 2 year old provision has 15 places in a morning and 15 places in an afternoon, offering parents morning or afternoon sessions for a total of 15 hours a week, or both sessions for a total of 30 hours per week. It is open only during academy term-times.

The existing 2 year old provision does not offer the flexibility that many parents need, and the enrolment numbers have been decreasing in recent years, impacting the academy's budget.

In spring term 2025, only 16 out of 30 places are occupied, an occupancy rate of 53%. This is expected to reduce further in September 2025, with only 6 out of 30 available places occupied an occupancy rate of 20%.

In our local area, there are several private nurseries offering the flexibility parents require.

Nottinghamshire County Council's Childcare Sufficiency Assessment Report 2024 indicates there were 1970 vacant 2 year old places in the County. Therefore, we do not expect an increase in demand sufficient to sustain our 2 year old provision in the future.

The academy's funding largely depends on pupil attendance. Excessive 2 year old vacancies reduce revenue while costs remain high. Adjusting the age range will ensure long-term stability and enable us to offer high-quality education.



- What do I need to do?
  - If you have any questions or would like to comment on the proposal then please contact the using the following methods
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- In writing to D Eccles, Sir Edmund Hillary Academy, Kingsway, Worksop, Notts, S81 0AN
  - or by email to [office@siredmundhillaryacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@siredmundhillaryacademy.co.uk)

Following the consultation period L.E.A.D Academy Trust will consider any comments received and a decision will be made on how to proceed.