

# Aspiring to live life in all its fullness

compassion hope courage respect



## Lowering of age range consultation

John Mayne C of E Primary is at the heart of the village community and prides itself on its culture of high expectations and values. We are passionate about ensuring every child is known and nurtured regardless of their cultural, social and academic background and given the opportunity to reach their full potential.

John Mayne C of E Primary School and the Local Governing Board are seeking views on the proposal to expand the school by lowering the age range from 4-11 to 2-11 at the start of the academic year in August 2025. John Mayne joined the Tenterden Schools Trust in April 2023 and works closely with the 5 other schools in the group. The trust already has popular provision of a pre-school and nursery on two of their other school sites. John Mayne is advocating this proposal to forge closer ties with the pre-school in order to: develop greater certainty around pupil numbers to improve future planning for the school, and help achieve the vision of Tenterden Schools Trust to provide seamless learning from 0-19

Biddenden Playschool was established on the school site in 2007 and all staff work closely with the teaching team at John Mayne to ensure a supportive and familiar experience for our local families. The playschool currently provides funded places for up to 24 children on a daily basis and has over 40 children on their books, with several waiting for places to become available.

In support of the proposal to extend the age range at John Mayne C of E Primary and offer a Pre-school provision the following have been considered.

- Lowering the age range at John Mayne C of Primary, would secure the future of the provision as several playschools/nurseries within the local proximity have closed in the past few years.
- The playschool is already a valued part of the community and join the school for significant events throughout the school year.
- School and playschool leadership work closely together having established a collaborative approach working with our children and families.
- Wrap around care from 7.30 – 5.15pm is provided on the school site for the primary children and is already staffed by members of the Playschool team. With this proposed expansion the offer of wrap around care could also be extended.
- By extending the age range, children from 2 years of age will be able to access the full facilities of the school.
- Shared staffing would allow transition into the primary setting to be supported by familiar adults.
- Amalgamating both provisions would also allow closer working together to support children with additional needs and access to specialist support services e.g., Speech and Language therapy, SENCO.
- Enhancing the educational offer. E.g shared approach to early phonics and reading.



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John Mayne Church of England Primary School is a trading name for Tenterden Schools Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales (registered No. 07736448). Registered office: Ashford Road, Tenterden, Kent TN30 6LT



The consultation opens on Wednesday 12th June and will close at midday on Wednesday 3rd July. This consultation period allows for all stakeholders to view the proposal and make any comments they would like to within the consultation period.

If you would like to make any comment, please do so through the email address below  
[office@john-mayne.kent.sch.uk](mailto:office@john-mayne.kent.sch.uk)