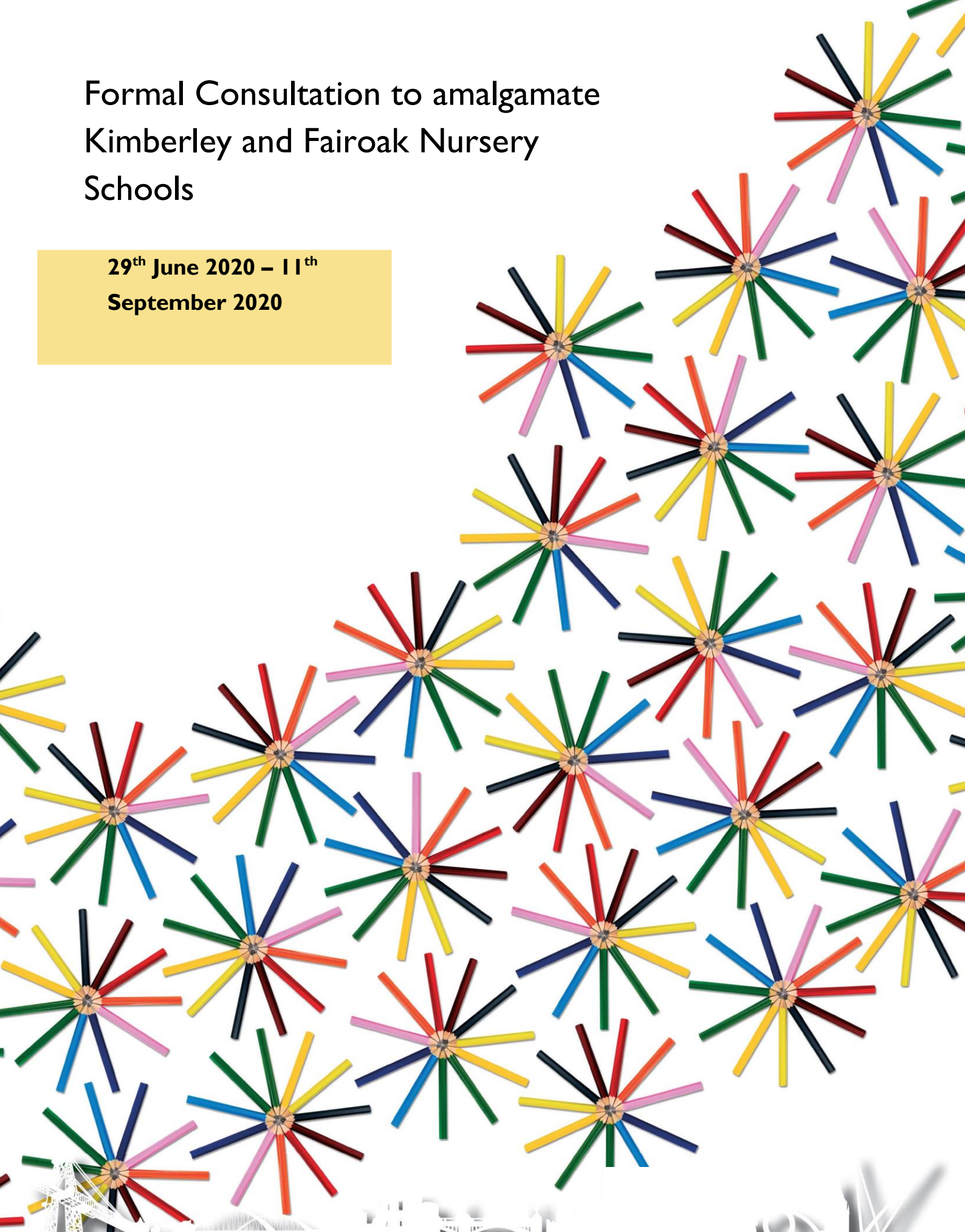


Formal Consultation to amalgamate Kimberley and Fair Oak Nursery Schools

**29th June 2020 – 11th
September 2020**



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English

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Polish

Se você quiser essa informação em qualquer outro formato, por exemplo braille ou impressão em letra grande, ou ajuda com a interpretação em um idioma diferente, entre em contato com a Câmara Municipal de Newport através do número 01633 656656 ou enviando um email para school.reorg@newport.gov.uk

Portuguese

Dacă doriți această informație în alt format, de exemplu Braille sau în format mare, sau ajutor cu interpretarea în alta limbă, vă rugăm să contactați Newport City Council la numărul de telefon : 01633656656 sau prin e-mail-ul: school.reorg@newport.gov.uk

Romanian

Если вы хотите получить вышеуказанную информацию в других форматах, таких как шрифт Брайля и большой шрифт, или если у вас есть необходимость в устном переводе, обратитесь в управление города Ньюпорт. Тел: 01633 656656 Электронная почта : school.reorg@newport.gov.uk

Russian

V prípade, že potrebujete tieto informácie v inom formáte, ako napríklad Brajlove písmo alebo veľká tlač alebo potrebujete pomoc s prekladom alebo tlmočením do iného jazyka, prosím kontaktujte Newport City Council na telefónnom čísle 01633 656656 alebo mailom na school.reorg@newport.gov.uk

Slovak

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Spanish

اگر آپ یہ معلومات کسی دوسری شکل میں حاصل کرنا پسند کریں گے مثال کے طور پر بریل (نابینا اشخاص کے لئے) یا بڑے پرنٹ میں یا دوسری سے اس نمبر پر رابطہ کریں Newport City Council school.reorg@newport.gov.uk یا اس پتہ پر ای میل کریں 01633 656656

Urdu

Information can also be arranged in other community languages if needed. Please contact us on 01633 656656 to arrange.

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Introduction

The purpose of the consultation is to seek views on the following proposal:

- To amalgamate Kimberley Nursery School and Fair oak Nursery School into a single school on the current Fair oak Nursery School site from September 2021.

This is your chance to ask questions and make comments that will be considered when the Council decides how to proceed.

This formal consultation period:

- **Begins on Monday 29 June 2020**
- **Ends at midnight on Friday 11 September 2020**

Background

Kimberley Nursery School is a community maintained standalone nursery school located off the Malpas Road, in the Shaftesbury ward. It has a published admission number of 80 pupils, equivalent to 40 pupils per morning and afternoon session, with an age range of 3-4 years. The school also hosts a 16-place Communication Class for children aged 3-4 years with additional learning needs specifically associated with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Fair oak Nursery School is a community maintained standalone nursery school located in the St. Julian's ward, on the border with the Victoria ward. It has a published admission number of 144 pupils, equivalent to 72 pupils per morning and afternoon session, with an age range of 3-4 years.

Since September 2018, the substantive Headteacher of Fair oak Nursery School has managed both Kimberley and Fair oak Nursery schools under an Executive Headteacher arrangement. Take-up of places at the schools over recent years has been around 50% of the published admission numbers. Kimberley Nursery School has been operating with a deficit budget for the last four years. The current projected deficit is £157,000 at the end of the 2020-21 financial year. Fair oak Nursery School is forecast to end this financial year with a small surplus budget.

The Consultation Process

The consultation process represents an opportunity for people to learn about the proposal, ask questions and make comments that will be recorded and summarised in a consultation report. This report will be published on the Council's website and will be considered when the Council decides on the way forward.

Due to the ongoing public health situation there will be no face-to-face consultation events arranged for this consultation. Questions concerning the proposal can be submitted to school.reorg@newport.gov.uk and council officers will provide a timely reply to ensure that informed responses can be submitted during the consultation period.

Consultation responses and comments can be submitted using the online response pro-forma available at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation. Responses can also be returned by email to: school.reorg@newport.gov.uk. Alternatively, the pro-forma enclosed can be returned to the Education Information and Development Officer, Room 425w, Newport City Council, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR.

Information will also be posted on Social Media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook.

Please note that negative responses made to the proposal at this stage will not be counted as objections to the proposal, they will be recorded as adverse comments. Objections can only be registered following the publication of a statutory notice. **The deadline for all responses is midnight on Friday 11 September 2020.**

Following consultation, Newport City Council's Cabinet Member for Education and Skills will consider the views expressed and then decide whether to proceed with the proposal. If the decision is taken to proceed, a statutory notice will be published on the Newport City Council website and notices posted on the school gates at all affected schools¹. The statutory notice period will last for 28 days following the date of publication and enables people to express their views in the form of supporting or objecting to the proposals. If no objections are received following the publication of the statutory notice, the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills will make the final decision as to whether to proceed. If any objections are received and not subsequently withdrawn during this notice period, the Council's Cabinet will determine the final decision.

Arrangements for the participation of children and young people

A Children and Young People's Everyday Summary Version of this consultation has been produced. Both this and the full version are available via the NCC website www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation, from the Civic Centre, and the Information Station. Copies can also be requested by emailing school.reorg@newport.gov.uk or by telephoning 01633 656656.

Who will we consult with?

- Parents, carers and guardians of pupils attending all schools affected by this proposal¹
- Pupils attending all schools affected by this proposal¹;
- Members of staff currently employed at all schools affected by this proposal¹;
- The Church in Wales, Diocese of Monmouth;
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese;
- Neighbouring Local Authorities across the South East Wales Consortium area;
- The Headteacher and Governing Bodies of all Newport schools;
- All Newport City Council elected members;
- All Newport City Council Heads of Service;
- All Community Councils across Newport;
- The Welsh Ministers;
- Assembly Members (AMs) and Members of Parliament (MPs) representing the area served by the schools subject to the proposals;
- Estyn;
- Teaching and staff trade unions representing teachers and staff employed at all schools affected by this proposal¹;
- The South East Wales Education Achievement Service;
- The Police and Crime Commissioner for Gwent;
- The Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership;
- All non-maintained registered nursery education providers across Newport;
- Aneurin Bevan Health Board;
- Public Health Wales;
- Newport Serennu Centre;

¹ The schools affected by this proposal are listed on page 7 of this document

- SNAP Cymru;
- Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations;
- Preventative Services.

What do you have to consider?

The remainder of this document sets out the rationale for the proposal. We would like you to consider the information contained within the document and to hear your views as to whether or not you support the proposal.

The Proposal

This is a proposal to:

- Amalgamate Kimberley Nursery School and Fairoak Nursery School into a single school on the current Fairoak Nursery School site from September 2021.

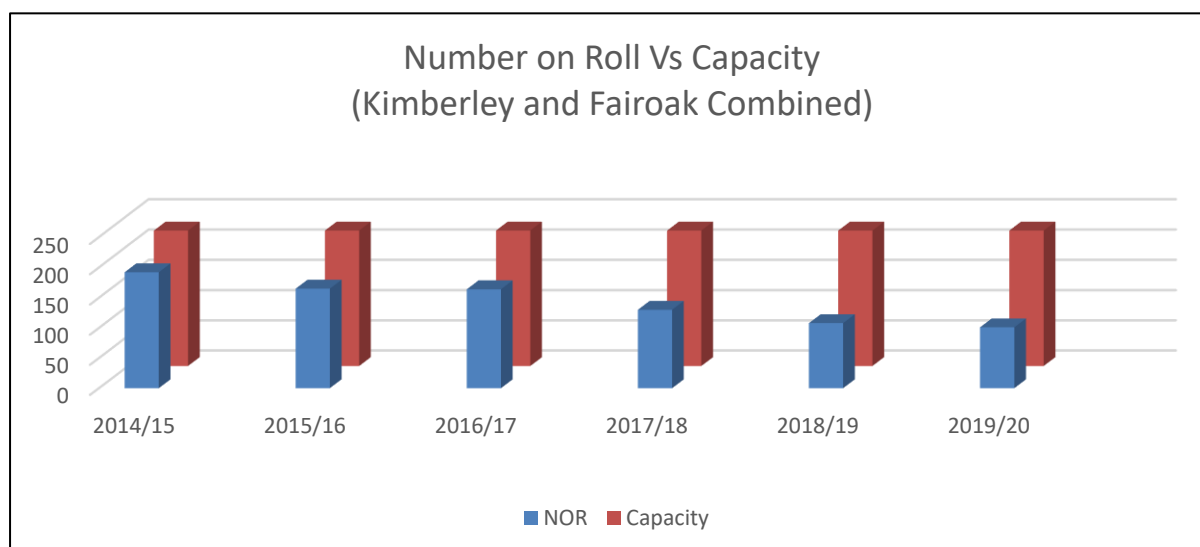
Kimberley Nursery School is a community maintained standalone nursery school located off the Malpas Road, in the Shaftesbury ward. It has a published admission number of 80 pupils, equivalent to 40 pupils per morning and afternoon session, with an age range of 3-4 years. The school also hosts a 16-place Communication Class for children aged 3-4 years with additional learning needs.

Fairoak Nursery School is a community maintained standalone nursery school located in the St. Julian's ward, on the border with the Victoria ward. It has a published admission number of 144 pupils, equivalent to 72 pupils per morning and afternoon session, with an age range of 3-4 years.

Kimberley and Fairoak are Newport's only two community maintained standalone nursery schools (meaning they are not attached to a primary school). Since September 2018, the substantive Headteacher of Fairoak Nursery School has managed both schools under an Executive Headteacher arrangement. Take-up of mainstream places at the schools over recent years has been around 50% of the published admission numbers, with approximately 50 places being allocated at Kimberley each academic year. In September 2019, only 39 places were taken up at this school, which is less than half the published admission number. Although further 'rising 3' places have been allocated in January and April 2020, this uptake indicates a further decline in pupil numbers. Kimberley Nursery School has been operating with a deficit budget for the last four years. The current projected deficit is £157,000 at the end of the 2020-21 financial year. Fairoak Nursery School is forecast to end this financial year with a small surplus budget.

Pupil numbers at Fairoak Nursery School have also declined with only 51 places taken up in September 2019. Across the two sites there are 224 half day places available, with take-up declining from 72% in January 2017, to just 48% by January 2020.

At the January pupil census in both 2019 and 2020, the number of pupils on roll (relating to September and January intakes) across the two sites could have been accommodated in the Fairoak building. The number of places taken up in September 2019 indicates a continuation of this trend with only 90 of the 224 mainstream half-day places taken (equivalent to 40%). The declining pupil numbers at the two schools is illustrated below.



The council therefore considers that the current operating model of Kimberley and Fairoak Nursery Schools operating across two sites with approximately 50% surplus places is not economically viable and, having considered a range of options, proposes to amalgamate the two schools on the Fairoak Nursery School site.

The Communication Class currently hosted at Kimberley nursery is believed to be a valuable and beneficial service which provides specialist nursery education for children from across Newport. The council intends to continue to offer this service, however, under the proposal this provision will be relocated to Fairoak Nursery School.

It is anticipated that children who would normally access nursery provision at Kimberley Nursery School will be offered places at other local school nursery classes or at Fairoak Nursery School. Nursery places are also available in non-maintained (private nursery) settings. Further detail of alternative community maintained nursery provision is provided below.

Affected Schools

The schools directly affected by this proposal are Kimberley Nursery School and Fairoak Nursery School.

Kimberley Nursery School is a community maintained nursery school for 3-4 year-olds. The school is located in the Shaftesbury ward of Newport and offers 80 half-day places plus 16 half-day places in the Communication Class. This school will be affected due to the proposed amalgamation with Fairoak Nursery School.

Fairoak Nursery School is a community maintained nursery school for 3-4 year-olds, offering 144 half day places. This school is located on Church Road in the city centre, approximately 2 miles from Kimberley Nursery School, and will be affected due to the proposed amalgamation with Kimberley Nursery School.

This proposal would see the nursery and Communication Class places currently operating from Kimberley Nursery School relocated to Fairoak. This may not be a suitable, local offer for all families, and as such the following schools and non-maintained settings may be indirectly affected by this proposal as the number of applications for nursery places may increase.

Table 1 - other affected schools and settings			
School name	School category and age range	Language medium	Distance from Kimberley Nursery School
Crindau Primary School	Community maintained 3-11	English	0.95 miles
Malpas Court Primary School	Community maintained 3-11	English	1.44 miles
Malpas Park Primary School	Community maintained 3-11	English	1.05 miles
Millbrook Primary School	Community maintained 3-11	English	0.95 miles
Monnow Primary School	Community maintained 3-11	English	1.29 miles
Chuckles Nursery	Private day nursery 0-4	English	1.20 miles
Tiny Tots Nursery	Private day nursery 0-4	English	0.60 miles

The following pages provide further information on each of the affected and possibly affected schools and settings.

Past and Present Pupil Numbers – Nursery

Children are eligible for Nursery and pre-school provision beginning the term after their third birthday. As such there are three nursery class intakes, at the beginning of each term in September, January and April. The January and April intakes are referred to as 'Rising 3' places and are offered to children who will progress to statutory education in Reception a full school year later than those who access the provision the previous September. As such these children represent a different school cohort group. In the interests of clarity, Nursery pupil numbers are therefore shown separately for September intakes (Autumn Census) and the January 'Rising 3' intakes.

Table 2 - Nursery School pupil numbers 2014-2020

Nursery School
Mainstream Pupil Numbers 2015-2019 - Autumn Term Census (Oct)
Rising 3 January intake Pupil Numbers 2015-2019 – Spring Term (Jan)

School	PAN (2019)	2014 - 2015		2015 - 2016		2016 - 2017		2017 - 2018		2018 - 2019		2019 - 2020		Surplus Places 2019/20	
		Oct	Jan	Oct	Jan	Oct	Jan	Oct	Jan	Oct	Jan	Oct	Jan	Oct	Jan
Kimberley Nursery	80	74	18	37	16	40	14	42	14	34	13	33	7	47	24
Fairoak Nursery	144	86	19	81	29	83	26	74	9	50	8	49	12	95	83
Crindau Primary	80	51	9	66	12	48	8	37	11	46	6	36	8	44	35
Malpas Court Primary**	39	39	0	25	8	29	5	23	11	37	1	27	9	12	3
Malpas Park Primary	32	N/A	N/A	21	5	31	0*	31	2	25	5	20	7	12	5
Millbrook Primary	32	27	5	27	4	28	2	31	1	31	2	32	1	0	-1
Monnow Primary	60	30	11	42	9	35	10	34	14	41	17	39	15	21	7
Chuckles Nursery [#]	24	16	4	14	11	19	2	16	11	21	18	28	8	-4	-12
Tiny Tots Nursery [#]	16	12	8	8	3	10	6	11	6	18	8	13	1	3	2

*Pupil numbers are October Pupil Census and N1 number from January Pupil Census.

**Malpas Court Primary School currently operates a 'morning only' nursery.

[#]Non-maintained settings increased their offer from 2018-19 to meet demand

Table 3 – Communication Class

Kimberley Communication Class numbers (January)

Capacity (2019)	2014 -2015	2015 - 2016	2016 - 2017	2017 - 2018	2018 - 2019	2019 - 2020
16	5	9	9	12	12	16

*Pupil numbers are January PLASC submission except 2019-20 which is the September allocation figure.

Past and present pupil numbers - Reception to Year 6

Table 4 – Pupil numbers							
Primary School Pupil numbers 2016-2020 - Reception to Year 6* (excluding nursery)							
School	Capacity (2020)	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020	Surplus places 2020
Crindau Primary School	315	301	303	300	288	292	23
Malpas Court Primary School	210	155	177	182	188	184	26
Malpas Park Primary School	210	198	203	200	205	202	8
Millbrook Primary School	270	206	216	230	250	256	14
Monnow Primary School	420	311	316	315	320	322	98
*Pupil numbers are January PLASC submission for Reception to Year 6							

Projected pupil numbers – Reception to Year 6

Pupil projections are not produced for nursery classes. This section therefore only provides information relating to mainstream provision for Reception to Year 6 year groups.

Table 5 – Pupil projections							
Primary School Pupil projections 2021-2025 – Reception - Year 6 (excluding Nursery)							
School	Capacity (2021)	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025	Surplus places 2025
Crindau Primary School	315	284	281	277	274	277	38
Malpas Court Primary School	210	184	182	179	174	174	36
Malpas Park Primary School	210	207	209	211	204	205	5
Millbrook Primary School	285	272	290	294	300	303	-18
Monnow Primary School	420	311	296	297	290	290	130
Forecasts do not include impact of future housing developments							

Building Condition

All existing Newport schools have recently been subject to a Building Condition survey.

The schools directly and indirectly affected by the proposal have been judged to be in the following condition on a scale of A (excellent) to D (poor):

Table 6 – Building condition summary	
School	Current Condition
Kimberley Nursery	C
Fairoak Nursery	B
Crindau Primary School	B
Malpas Court Primary School	C+
Malpas Park Primary School	C+
Millbrook Primary School	C-
Monnow Primary School	C

Nursery and Primary Education - Standards

Quality and standards in schools in Newport are monitored by Estyn and the Local Authority (LA). Estyn is the office of Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education and Training in Wales. It is a Crown body, established under the Education Act 1992. Estyn is independent of the National Assembly for Wales but receives its funding from the Welsh Government under Section 104 of the Government of Wales Act 1998. Estyn inspects quality and standards in education and training providers in Wales. The most recent inspection results of each school directly and indirectly affected by this proposal are outlined below:

Table 7a – Estyn Inspections						
School	Inspection Date	Outcomes	Provision	Leadership & Management	Overall Summary	
					Performance	Prospects for improvement
Crindau Primary School	May 2013	Adequate	Good	Good	Adequate	Good
Fairoak Nursery	Dec 2014	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Malpas Court Primary School	Jan 2017	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Millbrook Primary School	Nov 2016	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Monnow Primary School	Feb 2015	Good	Excellent	Good	Good	Good
Chuckles Nursery	Apr 2015	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Tiny Tots Nursery	Sep 2015	N/A*	Good	Good	Good	Good
*Due to low numbers of applicable age children at the time of inspection, Estyn were unable to report on standards						

A revised Common Inspection Framework was introduced in September 2017, and two of the affected schools (directly or indirectly) have since been inspected in line with this. The findings of these inspections are shown below.

Table 7b – Estyn Inspections						
School	Inspection Date	Inspection Area				
		Standards	Wellbeing & attitudes to learning	Teaching & learning experiences	Care, support & guidance	Leadership & management
Kimberley Nursery	Apr 2019	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Malpas Park Primary School	Jun 2018	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good

Consideration of the potential impact of the proposal on quality and standards is aligned with the Estyn Inspection framework:

Standards –

Kimberley Nursery School and Fairoak Nursery School are currently managed by the same Executive Headteacher, and under this proposal the specialist staff in the Communication Class will transfer with the provision, to Fairoak. As such the benefits of having an experienced and competent leadership team and staff will continue to ensure standards are maintained when the Communication Class is relocated to Fairoak Nursery School.

Mainstream pre-school provision will continue to be provided, under the management of the existing Executive Headteacher, from the Fairoak Nursery School site. Eight of the nine nursery providers in the Malpas and Bettws areas identified as potentially being indirectly affected by the proposal have received judgements of 'Good' or better in all key inspection areas. Crindau Primary School, which received an 'Adequate' judgement for performance and standards in May 2013 was deemed to have made good progress in these areas by Estyn following a visit in October 2014. This indicates that the high standard of educational care will be maintained if the proposal is implemented.

Wellbeing and attitudes to learning –

As set out above, all alternative provision in the area is considered to be high quality. It is expected that Wellbeing and Attitudes to Learning will be at least as good if the proposal is implemented. The possible increase in children taking places in school nursery classes could be expected to improve attitudes to learning and aid transition into statutory education. Although the amalgamation would represent a reduction in provision, the reduction in nursery places available is not expected to significantly impact the wellbeing of children who might otherwise have attended provision at Kimberley. The experienced and competent leadership team and staff will continue to ensure that wellbeing and attitudes to learning are maintained to a high level when the Communication Class is relocated to Fairoak Nursery School.

Teaching and learning experiences –

Following the implementation of the 3-11 vision for community maintained primary schools across Newport, nursery classes are now included in all community maintained primary schools. Alternative provision for children who would have accessed mainstream provision at Kimberley Nursery School will therefore be available at Fairoak and across a number of schools and non-maintained settings where teaching and learning experiences are age-relevant and, in schools, aligned with the pedagogy of the whole school. We therefore consider that, under this proposal, teaching and learning experiences for pre-school children will be at least as good, or, better, than they are under the current model. Teaching and learning experiences in the Communication Class will be at least maintained at current levels when the class is relocated.

Care support and guidance –

Care, support and guidance will be provided by experienced teaching staff at the amalgamated Nursery School or in community maintained schools that will be able to maintain pastoral relationships with the children as they grow and progress through the school, providing an improved continuity of care. Where parents choose pre-school places in non-maintained settings, they can do so confident that their children are placed with quality providers who are subject to the same inspections as schools, and give due consideration to the need to provide a high level of care, support and guidance. The level of care support and guidance provided in the Communication Class will not be affected by the proposed amalgamation.

Leadership and management –

Bringing the provision of the two nursery schools together on one site is expected to make the day to day management of the nursery classes easier for the leadership team. The current Headteacher will remain in post following amalgamation thereby providing continuity of leadership. The current leadership and management of the Communication Class will not be affected by the proposed amalgamation.

All of the identified providers which may be affected by this proposal have been judged to be 'good' in terms of leadership and management.

School Categorisation

The National School Categorisation system gives us a clear and fair picture of how well a school is performing compared with other schools across Wales and helps us to identify the schools that need the most help, support and guidance to improve. The system has been developed collectively between regional education consortia and Welsh Government. Its primary function is to identify, across Wales, the schools that need the most support.

Newport has an excellent track record of delivering quality primary education, with 96% of our 45 primary and nursery schools being in either Green or Yellow categories as at January 2020. A green category indicates that the school has good standards and very good capacity for improvement with an ability to support other schools.

In the latest (January 2020) categorisation for primary schools, the affected schools were aligned to the following categories (in the range Green, Yellow, Amber, or Red):

Table 8 – School categorisation	
School	Category
Crindau Primary School	Green
Malpas Court Primary School	Green
Malpas Park Primary School	Green
Millbrook Primary School	Green
Monnow Primary School	Green
Fairoak Nursery School	Green
Kimberley Nursery School	Yellow

The Council firmly believes therefore that this proposal will enable the current high standard of provision to at least be maintained.

What Will the Proposal Provide?

The proposal will provide a single amalgamated stand-alone nursery school with capacity for up to 140 half-day sessions for mainstream pupils plus a dedicated Communication Class for 16 pupils on the current Fairoak nursery school site.

The Fairoak Nursery School building offers the following facilities:

- Four dedicated nursery classrooms.
- Designated staff and pupil toilets
- Secure and covered outdoor play facilities
- Secure entrance lobby
- Pupil cloak areas
- Staff room and kitchen/utility area

Once vacated, the Kimberley building will remain an Education Service asset, and consideration is currently being given as to its preferred future use. If the building is left vacant for any period of time it will be appropriately secured to prevent the risk of damage and antisocial behaviour.

When Will This Be Effective?

It is proposed that the amalgamation will be effective from September 2021.

Staffing

There would be staffing implications for both nurseries for teaching and support staff if Kimberley Nursery amalgamates with Fair Oak Nursery. There will be no implications at leadership as the substantive post of Headteacher of Kimberley Nursery is vacant and the substantive post of Headteacher of Fair Oak Nursery is currently acting as Executive Headteacher for both nurseries. This arrangement is time limited and is scheduled to end on 31st August 2021.

The amalgamation of the two nursery schools will require the dissolution of the existing governing bodies as of 31st August 2021 and the creation of a new governing body from 1st September 2021. In advance of the implementation date, a temporary governing body will be established to support the opening of the new school.

The temporary governing body will be required to approve a staffing structure for the new nursery school. The local authority will recommend that the governing body agrees to ring-fence recruitment for the nursery school staff currently employed at both Kimberley and Fair Oak nurseries. If there are any potential staffing reductions as a result of the proposal, these will be dealt with in accordance with the council's Job Security Policy. The council will work with two existing Governing Bodies to redeploy any unplaced staff to other vacancies across the city, either in schools or elsewhere in the council. The council will ensure that the schools and staff receive appropriate advice and support during the amalgamation process. Any costs of redundancies as a result of the amalgamation process will be met by the authority.

Benefits

The key benefits of the amalgamation proposal are:

- 1) The amalgamation will enable a consolidation of standalone nursery provision onto one site, thereby reducing the cost burden of running two separate establishments.
- 2) The consolidation of provision on one site will also enable the implementation of a more efficient staffing structure thereby achieving cost savings.
- 3) Relocation of the provision will support a successful continuation of the current Communication Class provision.
- 4) Vacation of the Kimberley building presents an opportunity for alternative use.

Risks

The key risks to the proposal and proposed mitigation measures are outlined below.

Table 9 - Risks	
Risk	Mitigating factor
Demand for pre-school nursery provision increases	There are a significant number of surplus places for 3 year-olds across the maintained and non-maintained sectors.
Demand for standalone nursery provision further reduces	The proposed amalgamation will provide greater flexibility to accommodate changing demands, and the council will continue to monitor demand for pre-school places.

Cost of the Proposal

There is no capital expenditure associated with this proposal. The Fair Oak Nursery School building is in good condition and is sufficiently large enough to accommodate the projected pupil number at both schools without the need for physical expansion.

In taking forward this amalgamation, both of the affected schools will be closed and a new school will be established in its place. Under the authority's formula funding arrangements, a lump sum payment of up to £35,000 is made available to all new and amalgamating schools in the first financial year of opening to support any additional costs specifically arising from the amalgamation. The financial balances of the two schools at the point of amalgamation (either surplus or deficit) will be passed back to the Education Service and will not be allocated against the budget of the new school.

Alternative Options Considered

a) Reduce Kimberley Nursery School provision

This would result in the admission number for the school being reduced to 40 half-day placements, which would be provided in the morning only.

Advantages

- This would enable a reduction in the school running costs as staff would only be required to work for half day sessions.
- Nursery places would continue to be offered at this location.
- The Communication Class provision would remain unchanged.

Disadvantages

- The building would need to be open for the full day to support the Communication Class although two of the three rooms would be vacant for half of that time.
- This may not enable a significant improvement to the deficit budget position.
- There would be a reduction in the availability of funded nursery places in the area.
- A potential reduction in staff hours and redundancies.

b) Close Kimberley Nursery School and relocate the Communication Class to Fair Oak Nursery

Advantages

- A reduced risk of future financial pressures associated with running the school.
- A potential for alternative use of the building or capital receipt for the Council from any sale.
- Continuation of the Communication Class provision.

Disadvantages

- There would be a reduction in the availability of funded nursery places in the area
- Staff redundancies due to closure.

c) Close both Kimberley and Fairoak Nursery Schools

Advantages

- Would relieve the cost pressure of running stand-alone nursery schools
- Buildings would be available for alternative use or sale

Disadvantages

- Reduction in nursery provision across the city
- Loss of the Communication Class
- Staff redundancies

Following consideration of the alternative options, the council has identified that amalgamation of Kimberley and Fairoak Nursery Schools on the Fairoak site is the preferred option.

Admissions

Newport City Council is the admission authority for all community-maintained schools across the city. Parents wishing for their children to attend a non-maintained pre-school setting are required to apply directly to the provider.

Applications for admission to all community-maintained schools will be assessed in accordance with the Council's School Admissions Policy. In accordance with this policy, parents can express a preference for any school, but there is no guarantee of admission to the chosen school, even if it is the catchment school. Admission to the school will be made in accordance with parental preference, subject to availability. Where a school is oversubscribed, preference requests will still be considered, but the Council's over-subscription criteria will be applied to determine priority.

Pupils are not able to apply for a place in the Communication Class. Admission to the Communication Class is based on individual learner need following an assessment undertaken by the Education Inclusion team.

Admission to Nursery – September 2021

Applications can be made using the Council's on-line admissions facility between 8th July 2020 and 16th September 2020. Decision notifications for on-time applications will be issued on 2nd December 2020.

Further information on the School Admissions policy and process can be found on the Newport City Council website at www.newport.gov.uk/schooladmissions

Home to School Transport

Safe walking routes to the existing school sites are already established. Under the Council's policy, free home to school transport is provided to all primary aged pupils of statutory school age who live 2 miles or more from their catchment school, or nearest available school. Free home to school transport is not provided for pupils attending nursery classes. This proposal will not affect this arrangement.

It is acknowledged that families from the Malpas and Bettws areas choosing stand-alone nursery provision will have further to travel to access the amalgamated nursery school.

More information with regards to the local authority's school transport policy can be found here: <http://www.newport.gov.uk/en/Schools-Education/Schools/School-transport/School-transport.aspx>

Governance

There would be staffing implications for both nurseries for teaching and support staff if Kimberley Nursery amalgamates with Fairoak Nursery. There will be no implications at leadership as the substantive post of Headteacher of Kimberley Nursery is vacant and the substantive post of Headteacher of Fairoak Nursery is currently acting as Executive Headteacher for both nurseries. This arrangement is time limited and is scheduled to end on 31st August 2021.

The amalgamation of the two nursery schools will require the dissolution of the existing governing bodies as of 31st August 2021 and the creation of a new governing body from 1st September 2021. In advance of the implementation date, a temporary governing body will be established to support the opening of the new school. The new governing body will be required to approve a staffing structure for the new nursery school. The local authority will recommend that the governing body agrees to ring-fence recruitment for the nursery school staff currently employed at both Kimberley and Fairoak nurseries. There will be no changes to school governance arrangements at any other schools as a result of this proposal.

Impact Assessments

A fairness and equalities impact assessment has been conducted for this proposal and is available on the council website.

Consultation Response Pro-forma

This response relates to a proposal to:

- Amalgamate Kimberley Nursery School and Fair oak Nursery School into a single school on the current Fair oak Nursery School site from September 2021;

Your views matter. Please tell us what you think about the proposal by completing this questionnaire and returning it to the Education Information and Development Officer, Newport City Council, Room 425W, Civic Centre, Newport NP20 4UR. Alternatively, you can complete this form online at www.newport.gov.uk/schoolreorganisation or email your response to school.reorg@newport.gov.uk. **The closing date for the submission of responses to this consultation is midnight on Friday 11 September 2020.** Please note that negative responses made to this consultation will not be counted as objections to the proposal, they will be recorded as adverse comments. Objections can only be registered following the publication of a statutory notice.

1) Do you support the proposal to:

Amalgamate Kimberley and Fair oak Nursery Schools into a single school on the Fair oak site.

Yes ☐ No ☐ In part ☐

Please use the box below to provide comments or explain which element of the proposal you do not support

2) Do you believe that the proposal will have a positive or negative effect on opportunities to use the Welsh language?

Positive ☐ Negative ☐ No effect ☐

3) If you think it will have a negative effect, what steps could we take to lessen or remove this and improve positive effects?

4) Do you believe that the proposal will treat the Welsh and English languages equally?

Yes ☐ No ☐

Please indicate who you are (e.g. parent/carer of a child attending a local nursery)

Please select your Ethnic group			
White British		Asian-Bangladeshi	
White Irish		Asian-Indian	
Any other White background (please state): _____		Asian-Pakistani	
		Any other Asian background	
Gypsy or Irish Traveller		Black Caribbean	
White and Asian		Black African	
White and Black African		Any other Black background	
White and Black Caribbean		Arab	
Any other Mixed background (please state): _____		Chinese	
Asian-Bangladeshi		Any other ethnic group (please state): _____	
Asian-Indian		Prefer not to say	
Asian-Pakistani			

Welsh language					
Do you consider yourself a Welsh speaker?					
Yes		No		Prefer not to say	

Caring Responsibilities					
Do you care for children of school age?					
Yes		No		Prefer not to say	
Do you care for children of pre-school age?					
Yes		No		Prefer not to say	
Do you care for a dependent adult or child above school age?					
Yes		No		Prefer not to say	

If you wish to be notified of the publication of the consultation report, please supply your contact details:

E-mail: _____

Postal address: _____