



THE POCHIN SCHOOL
SCHOOL LANE
BARKBY
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10 May 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you regarding the questionnaire which has been sent out in relation to the possibility of establishing a Pochin Pre-school. It has come to my attention that some parents have concerns about the proposed pre-school having an impact on our existing provision for our current children.

I would just like to remind all parents that I am always more than happy to discuss any concerns or queries they have regarding any aspects of school face to face, via email or over the telephone.

I would also like to reassure parents and families that I would never knowingly make a proposal which would have a detrimental impact on our children. It is my ethos to strive to provide our pupils, families and the community with the best possible school experience.

As the letter accompanying the questionnaire outlines, at the moment we are in the stages of investigating the viability of establishing a pre-school. The main reason for considering establishing such provision is in order to 'to better meet the needs of the children, families and community that the schools serves.'

Careful consideration has been given to the fact children who might attend 'The Pochin Pre-School' would have a more effective and easier transition into Class 1 (should they secure a place through the usual admissions procedure), as they would already be a part of The Pochin School family. Children would be familiar with the school and staff would have a deeper knowledge and understanding of the children's needs, preferred learning styles etc. as they move into Class 1. This could have considerable benefits in enhancing the children's readiness for school, giving them the best possible start to their educational journey.

A pre-school could also benefit parents of existing children in school, who have siblings in other pre-school settings. Being able to have all children in one setting I believe would ease the logistics of transport and communication.

I understand that parents have raised concerns about the impact on our already tight physical space. It is proposed that the Jubilee Room/Village Hall would accommodate the pre-school as both these spaces sit empty for the vast majority of the school day. We would ensure through effective timetabling that there was little if any impact on PE, lunch and break times, school plays, assemblies and the Before and After School club (with whom I have already spoken).

I would like to offer parents the opportunity to discuss this matter with me further and ask any questions. I will therefore be in the school hall after assembly on Friday 18th May. If however, this time isn't convenient and you still wish to discuss the matter please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

I look forward to continuing working with parents, carers, families, staff, governors and the local community to ensure that The Pochin School goes from strength to strength.

Yours sincerely,

Michelle O'Dell
Head Teacher

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'm. o'dell', written over the printed name.