

**Pembrokeshire County Council
Cyngor Sir Penfro**

CHILDREN & SCHOOLS



**REGULATED ALTERATION TO
TEMPLETON CP SCHOOL**

**PROPOSAL TO EXTEND AGE RANGE TO
ADMIT PART TIME THREE YEAR OLD PUPILS**

CONSULTATION REPORT

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Foreword

Pembrokeshire County Council is responsible for promoting high educational standards and for delivering efficient primary and secondary education. Having the right schools in the right places and ensuring that they are fit for the 21st century learner is a challenge facing councils across Wales.

Meeting this challenge involves reviewing the number and type of school the Council has in its area and assessing whether or not best use is being made of its resources and facilities.

The Council reviews its provision on the basis of:

- Quality and future sustainability of educational provision
- Sufficiency and accessibility of school places
- The condition, suitability and standard of school buildings
- Value for money

This Consultation Report sets out the statutory consultation undertaken regarding the case for change in relation to extending the age range of Templeton CP School in order to admit part time three year old pupils. In addition, all responses received during the consultation period are recorded, together with a summary of each of the issues raised by consultees. These are accompanied by a clarification or rejection (as appropriate) of any concerns.

Kate Evan-Hughes
Director for Children and Schools

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1. Introduction

Pembrokeshire County Council has a statutory duty to secure sufficient and suitable school places in its area and to determine whether it is making the best use of the resources and facilities to deliver the opportunities that children deserve.

At its meeting on 20 October 2016, Pembrokeshire County Council considered the report of the Director for Children and Schools in relation to a request from the governing body of the Federation of Tavernspite and Templeton Community Primary Schools of the merits of extending the age range of Templeton CP School in order to admit three year old pupils.

As a result of this report, the decision of the County Council was as follows:

That the Director for Children and Schools be authorised to undertake statutory consultation on the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Templeton Community Primary School in order to admit part time three year old pupils.

The subsequent statutory consultation was undertaken during the period 13th November 2017 to 15th January 2018.

This document represents the County Council's responsibility as part of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 to publish a Consultation Document. This document:

- Summarises each of the issues raised by consultees;
- Responds to these issues by means of clarification or rejection of the concerns with supporting reasons, and
- Sets out Estyn's view of the overall merits of the proposal.

2. Distribution of Consultation Report

This Consultation Report will be distributed to the following:

- The Governing Bodies, parents/carers/guardians and staff of the following schools: Templeton CP School, Tavernspite CP School, Narberth CP School, Stepaside CP School and St Oswald's VA School.
- The pupils/Schools Councils of the above schools.
- The Directors of Education for the Diocese of St David's and the Diocese of Menevia
- Assembly Members: Constituency – Angela Burns; Regional – Eluned Morgan, Neil Hamilton, Simon Thomas, Joyce Watson.
- Member of Parliament: Simon Hart.
- Teaching and support staff trade unions: NUT, NASUWT, UCAC, ATL, NAHT, ASCLE, UNISON, GMB.
- The Welsh Ministers
- Estyn
- ERW – Regional Education Consortium.
- Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion County Councils
- County Council transport unit
- Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner
- The following Community and Town Councils: Templeton, Narberth, Lampeter Velfrey
- Childcare & Young People's Partnership – Early Years, Childcare and Learning Group.
- Independent nursery providers, Registered Day Nurseries/Playgroups, Registered Childminders
- County Councillors: Cllr. EA Morse (Narberth Rural), Cllr. DJ Pugh (Kilgetty/Begelly), Cllr. D Simpson (Lampeter Velfrey)

In addition, this report will be distributed to all consultees who have specifically requested to be advised of its availability.

3. Consultation Arrangements

The Consultation Document was published on 13th November 2017; this date also represented the beginning of the statutory consultation period. The consultation period ended on 15th January 2018. The Consultation Document was distributed / links sent to all statutory consultees listed on Page 3 of that document.

The Consultation Document was made available on the County Council's website at www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/haveyoursay.

4. Consultation Correspondence

4.1 Volume and Profile of Responses Received

A total of 55 responses were received, as follows:

Community Responses	51
The Headteacher and governing body of the Federation of Tavernspite and Templeton Community Primary Schools	2
School Council	1
Estyn	1
TOTAL	55

The profile of respondents is given below and reflects all descriptions given. This profile indicates respondents' role as part of the consultation and may indicate multiple roles, e.g. parent, staff and local resident; as a result the total does not equal the total number of responses received.

Pre-school parent	15
Parents	26
Governors	7
Residents	21
Staff	7

4.2 Response from Estyn

The County Council has received a detailed response to the proposal from Estyn. Its overall conclusion of the proposal is as follows:

It is Estyn's opinion that the proposal is likely to at least maintain the current standards of provision in the area.

The full response to the proposal from Estyn is attached in **APPENDIX A**.

5. Consultation Responses

Where respondents chose to utilise the online or hard-copy form provided, they were asked to respond to three questions in order to establish their view on the proposal.

5.1 *Please indicate which of the following reflects your views on the proposal to extend the age range to admit part time three year old pupils at Templeton CP School.*

The findings were as follows:

	Total	
	Number	%
I do not feel strongly one way or the other	1	2%
I support the proposal	31	61%
I do not support the proposal	18	35%
Left blank	1	2%
TOTAL	51	

5.2 *Please provide your comments on the proposal:*

The following tables provide a summary of the main themes of the responses received. A list of all comments received during the consultation period is attached as **Appendix B**.

Comments / Observations (In support of the proposal)
The proposal provides a firm foundation for children to thrive in a school environment
The proposal ensures that Templeton and Tavernspite are treated equally in terms of admission of nursery pupils.
The proposal provides equality with most other primary schools in Pembrokeshire in terms of admission of nursery pupils.
Provides an opportunity for Templeton CP School to grow further and to ensure its longer term sustainability.

Concerns / Comments (Against the proposal)	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
The proposal would have a detrimental effect on the Templetots Playgroup and the community in general.	The concern is acknowledged. However it should be noted that the proposal is to establish school early years provision in collaboration with the Templetots Playgroup, not at its expense. In common with the relationship that exists with many other schools and independent providers, Templeton CP School and Templetots will share the early years provision with pupils continuing at Templetots in the first two terms following
The proposal will result in the demise of the Templetots Playgroup	

Concerns / Comments (Against the proposal)	Authority Response to Concerns Raised
	their third birthday before commencing at Templeton school in the third term on a part time basis.
Concern at there being insufficient space at Templeton CP School to accommodate this provision unless Templetots is relocated elsewhere.	<p>On the basis of current and projected pupil numbers at the school, there is sufficient space for Templetots to remain at the school. Furthermore, there is no evidence of any significant housing developments which may impact on this during the next five years.</p> <p>Templetots' use of the school is based on an annual agreement with the governing body. Negotiations are ongoing with regards to maintaining this occupancy.</p>
This is an unnecessary proposal. The current provision is good and serves parents and children well. This is evidenced by recent Estyn and CSSIW inspection reports.	<p>The judgements of Estyn and the CSSIW are acknowledged and have been documented in the Consultation Document (Para. 3.7). The Council acknowledges that if the proposal proceeds, Templeton CP School will need to work closely with Templetots to ensure that provision is shared in the best interests of children and their families.</p>
The loss of funding to Templetots as a result of the proposal will have a detrimental effect.	The proposal is that children will continue to attend Templetots for the first and second school terms following their third birthday. This mirrors the current and successful arrangements at Templeton's nearest neighbours, i.e. Tavernspite and Narberth CP schools.
Starting school at 3 years 9 months is too early for many children.	In Pembrokeshire, children are eligible to attend school on a part-time basis from the first term after their third birthday, and on a full-time basis from the first term after their fourth birthday. It should be noted, however, that parents can opt to defer their child's start date anytime up until the child is of compulsory school age, i.e. at the beginning of the term following their fifth birthday.

5.3 *Please provide any alternatives you have to the proposal*

Suggested alternatives
Maintain status quo, i.e. maintain Templetots Playgroup provision and the school as 4-11.
Ultimately, if Templetots Playgroup is forced to re-locate from the school, either Templeton CP School or the County Council should cover re-location costs, etc, or provide additional accommodation.

APPENDIX A

Estyn response to the proposal to make a regulated alteration to Templeton CP School in order to extend the age range to admit part time nursery pupils.

This report has been prepared by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education and Training in Wales.

Under the terms of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated Code, proposers are required to send consultation documents to Estyn. However, Estyn is not a body which is required to act in accordance with the Code and the Act places no statutory requirements on Estyn in respect of school organisation matters. Therefore as a body being consulted, Estyn will provide their opinion only on the overall merits of school organisation proposals.

Estyn has considered the educational aspects of the proposal and has produced the following response to the information provided by the proposer and other additional information such as data from Welsh Government and the views of the Regional Consortia, which deliver school improvement services to the schools within the proposal.

Introduction

This is a proposal by Pembrokeshire City Council to make a regulated alteration to Templeton CP School in order to extend the age range to admit part time nursery pupils.

Summary

The proposal by Pembrokeshire City Council is to extend the age range in Templeton CP School in order to admit three-year-old pupils. Templeton C P School is one of the few schools in the county not able to admit three –year-old pupils. If this proposal is successful, it would result in aligning the age range of Templeton CP School with that of Tavernspite CP School. The two schools are federated and the proposal would provide a consistent admissions and early years' provision within the federation.

In the context of this proposal and in view of the necessary collaboration with Templetots Playgroup, it is proposed that children will continue to attend Templetots for the first two terms following the third birthday before transferring to Templeton CP School for the third term. During the third term, it is proposed that children would attend Templetots during the mornings and the nursery class at Templeton CP School during the afternoon session. The children would become full time pupils of Templeton CP School in the term following their fourth birthday, subject to parental preference.

It is Estyn's opinion that the proposal is likely to at least maintain the current standards of provision in the area.

Description and benefits

The proposer has given a clear rationale for the proposed expected benefits in relation to offering a continued education provision from Nursery to Year 6.

The proposer notes appropriately the advantages of the proposal, which include, increasing nursery provision for 3 year olds in the area thereby providing an opportunity to increase pupil numbers at Templeton. The proposer considers appropriately that the education provision from Nursery to Year 6 would ensure continuity to teaching and learning approaches and improved curriculum planning.

The proposer has identified suitably the disadvantages of the current proposal, which focuses on the potential detriment to other early years' settings in the area.

Templeton CP School currently teaches Welsh as a second language but does not provide education through the medium of Welsh. This arrangement will continue under the proposal. In relation to quality and standards in education, it is unlikely that the proposal will have an effect on other local primary schools.

This proposal does not change the current provision of home to school transport and it is anticipated that there will be minor changes to current classroom arrangements. However, the proposal can be implemented with the current facilities at the school. The school is graded as "B" (Satisfactory) for both condition and suitability as part of the 21st Century Schools Programme.

The provider likely to be most affected by the proposal is Templetots Playgroup. This pre-school setting caters for children between the ages of two and four years old. It meets for five days a week in a classroom in Templeton CP School having been established in 1981.

Educational aspects of the proposal

The proposer makes appropriate reference to the outcomes of the schools' most recent Estyn inspection in 2009. It notes that the school had good features and no important shortcomings. Templetots Playgroup was inspected in May 2016 and Estyn judged both the setting's performance, and prospects for improvement, to be good.

The proposer also refers briefly to the schools' categorisation within the National School Categorisation System. Templeton CP School is currently in standards group 1. The proposer's summary of outcomes for the school is concise and clear and compares performance with similar schools based on entitlement to free school meals.

The proposer has undertaken an appropriate assessment of the area and notes that there is no evidence of significant housing growth in the area and this the proposer that this is unlikely to have an impact upon pupil numbers during the next 5 years.

Proposal to Extend Age Range to Admit Part Time Three Year Old Pupils

Correspondence received as part of statutory consultation

Ref.	Comments
2	Children starting school formally aged 3 sets a firm foundation for their educational life. My children started mainstream school aged 3 under RCT LEA and I believe the earlier a child starts their 'school life' the easier the transition is for them and their families.
3	<div style="background-color: black; height: 1.2em; width: 600px; margin-bottom: 5px;"></div> <i>(comments redacted for the purposes of this document - respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</i>
4	<p>I feel very strongly that this proposal will have a detrimental effect on Templetots & Templeton community. It will see staff out of work, 2 year olds with no playgroup to attend & will leave a void in the village. Templetots has been in the village for over 35 years & is a great start for children & their parents, it is invaluable to us as parents</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i> Wrap around care with the playgroup.</p>
5	I feel it is important for our children's development to start school at a younger age. They learn to socialise, share and play.
6	I feel it is easier for children to transition into school at a younger age. They learn to be social and sets the foundation for their future education.
7	Will be good for the school and the children.
8	I support this proposal, it is important that children within the Templeton cluster have the same opportunities that those in the flying start areas have and should not be discriminated against for the area in which they live. Starting school at a younger age is important for their all round development.
9	Children in other areas of Pembrokeshire can attend school at the age of 3. I believe Children in our community should have the same opportunities. It would be brilliant for Templeton School.
11	I feel that this addresses something that is really needed at Templeton. My partner and I wholeheartedly support this proposal which is progressive and well thought out.

	<i>(Suggested alternative)</i> none needed.
12	<p>I do not feel there is space within the school to accept more pupils, the school is full. The only way i see that they could accommodate more children is by using the current space occupied by templetots, which would leave templetots with no where to set up.</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i> Wrap around care, leaving Templetots where they are.</p>
13	Starting school at a younger age is not only important for the child but has a financial benefit for working parents who do not receive extra support from the government.
14	Completly support this proposal. Other children in the county can attend school at 3 and I have always felt this should be open to every child in pembrokehire not just those in selected areas. Templeton school has gone from strength to strength in the past few years, will be lovely to see the children transition earlier and thrive off their education.
15	I think Part Time Three Year Old places should be offered in all Pembrokeshire schools. I believe transitioning to school part time before having to attend full time would be beneficial to our children.
16	Starting school at a younger age will help aid transition, build confidence and social skills. Learning through play in foundation phase has worked so well in the disadvantaged areas of Pembrokeshire. I don't see why all schools are not able to offer this provision.
17	<p>I believe that 4 years is young enough for a child to go to school and as a parent with past and present children in the settings, I think that Templeton School and Templetots Playgroup both provide the perfect combination of care and learning for children, at the right age. Not all children are the same and although some might benefit to start at 3 years and 9 months, others might not. This should be a decision that a parent should have. As a parent I want to choose where and when my child goes to nursery and feel it's totally unfair to take that choice from us, since the 10 hours funded Early Years Provision will be lost if the child doesn't start in the school nursery. Parents who cannot afford to pay for their child to carry on in Templetots will have no choice but to either send their child to Templeton School Nursery or keep them home until they either start in Reception Class or in YR1. At present, children attend Templetots Playgroup and the transition into school is met with ease, this is due to the care and involvement that Templetots has had with the school since moving into the setting in 2007. There is also the issue of where the nursery will actually be located. A child of 3 years and 9 months, would feel completely out of place in a classroom with other children up to the age of 5 years. If Templetots would need to move, it would be a real loss to most parents, who rely on high care for young children from 2 years of age and special care to children with 1 to 1 learning requirements and needs. It would also be a huge loss to our community after 37 years in place in Templeton Village. Templetots provides a good knowledge and understanding of the Foundation Phase which is taught to the children via a number of ways which they enjoy. They also look after the children like a parent would do, making them snacks, changing nappies and taking them to do the toilet. Would Templeton School staff be</p>

	<p>able to offer any of these requirements? The consultation talks about a wraparound service which has not yet been agreed with CSSIW, committee, staff and parents from both settings. Three separate conversations and two meetings with Mr Phelps and another member of his staff, have been taking place in which I was involved as a former playgroup secretary and reassured, time and time again, that Templetots would remain in the school building. A wraparound service would be a great service to parents, but can only work if Templetots would remain within the school building. Templetots staff have always been in favour of providing this service with Templeton School and I really hope that this will be the case.</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep things as they are now with children starting Reception the term after their 4th birthday. • If the proposal should go ahead, parents should be able to decide whether their child is ready to attend the school nursery at 3 years and 9 months or remain in Templetots Playgroup. If parents want to keep their children in Templetots Playgroup, the funding should remain with the setting and not lost because they have declined a place in the school nursery! • Wrap around service is a great idea but only if Templetots is kept in the school. If Templeton School is planning, at any stage, to take the classroom currently used by Templetots then either Pembrokeshire County Council or Templeton School should cover moving costs, set up and loss that Templetots might face. • Alternatively, the Council should look at ways to extend the current school to provide the extra room which will be required either by the school nursery or Templetots.
19	I support the proposal because it would be very good practice to align with Tavernspite School since they are federated. Also, it would improve provision and learning experiences for the pupils by starting school earlier.
20	Templeton school is one of only 4 schools in the County which does not accept part time pupils. As such, I feel that this massively disadvantages the school when it comes to parents looking for wraparound care for their children. For example, Tavernspite, Narberth and Stepside (3 closest schools) all have facilities where a local childcare/nursery provider can provide care in the morning with the children attending school in the afternoon, meaning that parents have the option to return to work for a relatively small cost.
22	<div></div> <p><i>(comments redacted for the purposes of this document - respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</i></p>
23	<div></div> <p><i>(comments redacted for the purposes of this document - respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</i></p>
24	I am fully supportive of this proposal, it makes sense to have Templetots children come to school, it's seems the correct way forward.
26	With the school expanding in numbers with the school, I believe that this will strengthen the school even more by providing possible incoming pupils additional time for them to settle in to the school environment and the teachers to gain an earlier understanding of any

	additional support required for the pupil. This will also bring Templeton school in line with the majority of other schools within Pembrokeshire by offering this provision.
27	I believe the Federation of Tavernspite and Templeton schools has been a great success and extending the age range would allow Templeton school to build on that success, not being able to admit part time three year old pupils may disadvantage the school when compared to other schools in the area and would allow the children to have a cohesive education experience all the way through from nursery to year 6. The extension of age range would incur no capital investment and would allow the children from Templeton village and environs to get used to the school environment from an early age.
28	I fully support the proposal as it provides continuous education from nursery to year 6 in the same location and aligns the school with Tavernspite in the federation. Other schools in the area also have this provision. I do not have an alternative to the proposal.
29	This is a fantastic opportunity for Templeton School. Pupils will thrive from starting school earlier. There is already provision on site with Templetots. Would be great for the school to be able to take over this area and provide free childcare for families. No Alternative I support this proposal 100%
30	<div></div> (comments redacted for the purposes of this document - respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)
31	<div></div> (comments redacted for the purposes of this document - respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)
32	I support the proposal as I feel it is in the best interest of the school to enhance the provision that is already in place. It would bring Templeton School in line with it's federated partner Tavernspite. As I understand it, it is one of only a few in the county that still do not admit for nursery places. I have a 5 year old already in Year One in Templeton, and a 2 year old currently attending Templetots playgroup, on site, however feel he will benefit greatly from being able to start Templeton School on a part-time basis, which wasn't available for my daughter.
33	I am happy with my children starting at 4 years. I do not wish for my child to start earlier.
34	I do not agree with the proposal because there is no need to change the current provision. Templetots provide excellent estyn registered cssiw registered early years provision being on the school site for 10 years and established for 38. I feel that my child would not be ready for the school setting at such an early age however this proposal will take away my choice of keeping her at Templetots. They offer a higher

	<p>ratio of staff with a nurturing education environment. No details of staffing at school have been outlined in do not know what the school is providing. I do not understand the proposal because it does not provide anything better. Financially it is going to be a detrimental to Pembrokeshire County Council at times where we are facing loss of vital services and rises in council tax.</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i> Keep it with Templetots</p>
35	<p>I do not agree with the proposal because there is no need to change the current provision. Templetots provide excellent estyn registered cssiw registered early years provision being on the school site for 10 years and established for 38. I feel that my child would not be ready for the school setting at such an early age however this proposal will take away my choice of keeping her at Templetots. They offer a higher ratio of staff with a nurturing education environment. No details of staffing at school have been outlined in do not know what the school is providing. I do not understand the proposal because it does not provide anything better. Financially it is going to be a detrimental to Pembrokeshire County Council at times where we are facing loss of vital services and rises in council tax.</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i> Keep it with Templetots</p>
36	<p>There are enough local schools trying to survive along with private nurseries with people trying to make a living!! Stop pushing these flag ship schools that are no better than any others.</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i> Use spaces available in nearby schools</p>
37	<p>It's a good proposal providing the local playgroups aren't put in an unfair position.</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i> Allow/encourage playgroups to extend their hours or allow staff from playgroups to assist in a transition phase in cooperation with the school.</p>
38	<p>I think accepting children at 3 will make the school a more attractive choice for parents</p>
39	<p>I support this proposal as I feel the children will benefit by starting school at the age of three, providing care from 3 to 11. It also means that the school will have to offer what most schools in Pembrokeshire now already offer.</p>
40	<p>Why is there a need to change to what is currently a successful well organised run tots playgroup? I am concerned to hear about these proposals as I do not feel there will be sufficient staffing to provide one to one care which a child at this age requires. How would the school</p>

	<p>be able to support play development at this age in a classroom environment,the current tots playgroup have the training and experience to provide this as they are highly qualified!! Not all toddlers have been toilet trained at this age so I am concerned as to what effect this may have on a toddler who is slow to develop in this area.The current playgroup can give the attention to this! I am also concerned in terms of how the school could support speech development to the high standard currently offered from the playgroup.Some toddler require one to one support and the playgroup even do sign language as well as speech! I feel this would hinder a child's development by putting them in a classroom to early and as a father of two toddlers who have got certain needs, I have seen that they have progressed and come on with the assistance of the staff in playgroup and with support of S&L therapists coming in to work with them,I do not feel the school can offer the same support!! i feel this is a money making exercise by the school and not looking at the issues which if this proposal Goes through will create!!What would happen to the staff in playgroup? How will the school support this proposal with staffing it too,I just don't feel this is a right option but I do fear that the decision by the board have already been made and this is just a tick box exercise??</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i></p> <p>Need to focus and improve the current facilities which are there and provide more space,to have more pupils at Tots and help maintain the high quality staff which are there! To improve the facilities by giving funding to develop this and to see how the current team of staff who are there feel they could improve the services as they are the experts in this area!! There could be an option if a child's parent wants them to start school earlier that this is an option but I do not feel it needs to be a requirement!</p>
42	<p>My response to the consultation, as School Nurse Team Leader, is as follows; I support Templeton School with the planning proposal to extend the school to accommodate 3 year old pupils. The School has a positive ethos and promotes a high standard in delivery of Primary education. The provision will provide future sustainability with seamless educational provision for this age group transitioning within the same educational environment. The School building appears to be in good condition and appears suitable to extend providing inclusive value for money.</p>
43	<p>I think Templetots playgroup should remain the provider for this age group. It provides qualified staff who follow The Foundation Phase and prepare the children for school, while at the same time being able to provide a happy, nurturing environment where the children get individual attention. I don't believe this will be achievable under the current proposal. I also think 3yrs 9months is far too early for some children to enter reception, and this would impact these children's transition into school. As it stands, Templetots has been providing children with a seamless transition for over 37 years. If children are unable to make this transition at this time, there will be no viable option for parents.</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i></p> <p>I believe Templetots should continue to provide the Early Years learning as they have been doing.</p>
44	<p>We provide estyn inspected, foundation phase education to 3 years currently. A risk to sustainability at templetots. I may lose my job and the children i currently look after 1:1 will have no support. I believe it will have a detrimental effect on the community as a whole. People will send their children to other schools which has a provision for younger children which will leave templeton with no intake.</p>

	<p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i></p> <p>Full provision to stay with templetots which will provide continuity for the children that attend and a smooth transition in to school.</p>
45	<p>[REDACTED]</p> <p><i>(comments redacted for the purposes of this document - respondent does not want their comments to be made publically available)</i></p>
46	<p>We as a Play Group provide Estyn Inspected Foundation Phase Education to 3yr olds. We have 3 terms of funding from the time the children turn 3 (Term after). To lose any of the funding would have a detrimental effect on running the playgroup, staffing and wages. The playgroup has run for over 35yrs and has allways promoted the school, and supported the school. 1 term of funding is nothing for the school but a big loss for us. We have worked hard to get to where we are.</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i></p> <p>If its not broken don't try and fix it.</p>
47	<p>As parent and grandparent I have never been resistant to any change in education if it improves the situation, but question if this proposal is simply change for change sake with no added value being achieved, and simply an empire building expertise. Some 37 years ago I was founder member of the Templeton Play School in the Church Hall. From those early days in varying guises, formats and locations to the present Templetots it has developed into a very successful organisation serving the needs of the children within the Community very well. I have had three daughters and two eldest grandchildren go through Templetots and enter the primary school at the age of 4 years and non have found the transition at this age a problem or detrimental to their development. I have three further grandchildren attending Templetots and with current arrangements being a great success, I would not want their development challenged by this proposal. I would point out that no one size situation fits all and some children will not be ready or capable with moving at 3 years 9 months and could definitely have a detrimental effect on those not ready for early move in having to sit and intergrate with older children. Whilst 3 months may seem a short period, child development at this young age can be huge and therefore should not be taken for granted by those behind this proposal. Templetots has a an excellent reputation which cannot be questioned and the way they develop the children through good practices in preparation for the move to Primary School Foundation Phase cannot be challenged. As stated we have had a Pre-School organisation in the village for 37 years and would question if accommodation in the school is sufficient to ensure the room currently occupied by Templetots will not be required and absorbed into the school, the younger children find the transition very easy and with a move to new premises within or outside the village would be a retrogrademove. I note a statement in the Report that there would be no increase in staff in this proposal but a table in the Report contradicts this statement, so clarification is required, this would obviously impact on school budgets. The potential loss of Early Years Provision Funding again could be a problem for some parents and could cause a problem for some early years education. The performance, standards, excellent care and attention given by Templetots to the children should be well known to the Primary School and County Council. I must point out the excellent achievements attained by many former pupils in further education simply goes to prove the existing transition method works and again question this proposal. I have taken time to put forward my views and</p>

	<p>concerns at length and hope these will be read and noted. I hope the decision has not already been taken and this Consultation process is not purely an academic exercise to meet Council policy and procedures requirements,</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1). Status Quo should remain as result of current arrangement working so well. 2). If proposal goes ahead, which I fear will be the case, Templetots should remain on same site. If Templeton School intends to use the current classroom used by Templetots, PCC should totally review the use of accommodation available and if necessary provide an additional room through extension of existing school. 3). If Templetots are forced to leave school campus both Templeton School and PCC should cover all relocation costs incurred. 4) No funding should be lost through pupil premium being transferred to the school over this proposal. 5) Final decision to move children at 3 years 9 months must be left to parents or guardians as each child's ability and development varies so much at this young age.
50	<p>Supporting this proposal would mean the closing down of Templetots Playgroup which I do not support, my son currently attends Templetots two days a week and absolutely loves his time there, he is coming on leaps and bounds with his social skills and comes home after every session having learned something new, he has started speaking welsh which I am very proud to hear as I don't speak it myself and also signs on some words as this is encouraged with everything that is spoken. The ladies who run Templetots are fantastic and as I can see they are doing a wonderful job and I hope to be sending my second son to the playgroup once he turns 2.</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i></p> <p>3 years and 9 months seems to me to be a very young age to start mainstream school. Children at this age learn through play, fun activities and creative play. The alternative is to keep Templetots open so our children can attend and keep thriving in the appropriate environment.</p>
51	<p>Fantastic provision is already in place within the school grounds in the form of Templetots playgroup.</p> <p><i>(Suggested alternative)</i></p> <p>Templetots continue to provide</p>
TMP1	<p>As the Headteacher of the federation of Tavernspite and Templeton Schools I wish to offer my support for the proposal to extend the age range to admit part time three year old pupils at Templeton School.</p> <p>There are many reasons why I think this would be a good idea:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It aligns practices within the two schools of the federation so that they can both operate on a 'level playing field' in so far as admissions and early years provision is concerned. This provision is already successfully implemented in Tavernspite School and

	<p>offers equal opportunities to families. Templeton is currently one of the very few schools in the county that is unable to admit three year old pupils.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. It will provide seamless education provision from Nursery to Year 6 thereby ensuring continuity to teaching and learning approaches and better curriculum planning. This is already being done very successfully at Tavernspite and it would be very beneficial to see the same process happening at Templeton. 3. It will provide enhanced curriculum planning opportunities for teaching staff in the foundation phase, to build successfully on meaningful learning experiences and impact positively on overall school standards. 4. It will allow pupil performance to be able to be monitored and tracked more effectively from Nursery to Year 6, with the interventions implemented where they are known to have the greatest effect in narrowing achievement gaps, in the earliest years. I also feel the emotional needs and wellbeing of pupils, and the positive relationships with their families, will be further enhanced by earlier engagement and collaboration. 5. This proposal can be achieved without capital investment. 6. It will allow for increased nursery provision for 3 year olds in the area thereby providing an opportunity to increase pupil numbers at Templeton and bring Templeton in line with other local schools. 7. It will provide an effective 'wraparound' provision with Templetots. Three year old pupils, in the term before their fourth birthday would attend Templetots in the morning and Nursery at Templeton school in the afternoons creating a 'wraparound' arrangement. <p>Thank you very much for considering my reasons for supporting this proposal.</p>
TMP2	<p>The Templeton School Council discussed this consultation in their meeting this week. Here are their thoughts/comments/ideas:</p> <p>One pupil felt that it is a good idea to start when you are three so that you can get to know the teachers and the other people sooner. Another added that you can get to know the class and learn more when you are younger. You can start writing earlier. Another mentioned that you would spend two years in the Early Years Class like the other classes and will have opportunities to do things earlier.</p> <p>Pupils agreed that it is important to be like the other schools in the county. They felt that it was important to be the same as Tavernspite because we are in a federation and do things together. Another added that we don't always have to be the same as Tavernspite because we are our own school. Although with this it is better to be the same. Pupils did not want children to have to go to another school because Templeton school does not start until 4 years old. They thought Templeton should be just like the other schools.</p>

	<p>The School Council felt that if children in other schools cope well with starting at 3 years old then Templeton children would do as well. They did not want Templeton children to be behind children from other schools because they start later.</p>
TMP3	<p>As the Chair of Governors of the federation of Tavernspite and Templeton Schools I wish to offer my support for the proposal to extend the age range to admit part time three year old pupils at Templeton School.</p> <p>I've outlined a few reasons here below why I think this would be a good idea:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It aligns practices within the two schools of the federation so that they can both operate on a 'level playing field' in so far as admissions and early years provision is concerned. This provision is already successfully implemented in Tavernspite School and offers equal opportunities to families. Templeton is currently one of the very few schools in the county that is unable to admit three year old pupils. 2. It will provide seamless education provision from Nursery to Year 6 thereby ensuring continuity to teaching and learning approaches and better curriculum planning. This is already being done very successfully at Tavernspite and it would be very beneficial to see the same process happening at Templeton. 3. It will provide enhanced curriculum planning opportunities for teaching staff in the foundation phase, to build successfully on meaningful learning experiences and impact positively on overall school standards. 4. It will allow pupil performance to be able to be monitored and tracked more effectively from Nursery to Year 6, with the interventions implemented where they are known to have the greatest effect in narrowing achievement gaps, in the earliest years. I also feel the emotional needs and wellbeing of pupils, and the positive relationships with their families, will be further enhanced by earlier engagement and collaboration. 5. This proposal can be achieved without capital investment. 6. It will allow for increased nursery provision for 3 year olds in the area thereby providing an opportunity to increase pupil numbers at Templeton and bring Templeton in line with other local schools. 7. It will provide an effective 'wraparound' provision with Templetots. Three year old pupils, in the term before their fourth birthday would attend Templetots in the morning and Nursery at Templeton school in the afternoons creating a 'wraparound' arrangement.