

**ROCHDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
PROPOSED DISCONTINUANCE OF SOUTH STREET NURSERY
SCHOOL, ROCHDALE
STATUTORY PROPOSALS- PRESCRIBED INFORMATION**

Notice is given in accordance with Section 15(1)(c) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Rochdale Borough Council, Children's Services, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, ROCHDALE, OL16 1XU, intends to discontinue South Street Nursery School.

1. The name and contact address of the local authority or governing body publishing the proposals:

Local Authority: *Rochdale Borough Council*
Address: *School Organisation and Development Team, Early Help & Schools, Rochdale Borough Council, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, ROCHDALE, OL16 1XU*

Date of Publication of Proposals 27th January 2016.

2. The name, address and category of the school that is proposed to be discontinued:

Address: South Street Nursery School, South Street, Rochdale, OL16 2EP.
Category of school: Maintained Nursery School.

3. The date on which it is proposed to close the school

31st August 2016.

4. The place to which representations can be made, and by when:

Any person can make representations on the proposals by using the following link to the council consultation website at: <https://consultations.rochdale.gov.uk/council-wide/nursery-provision> or by sending them in writing, by 23rd February 2016 to: Robert Aspinall, by e-mail at robert.aspinall@rochdale.gov.uk or in writing to this address: Robert Aspinall, School Organisation & Development Team, Early Help and Schools, Rochdale Borough Council, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU.

5. What is proposed?

The proposal is to:

- (i) Make a significant alteration to Heybrook CP School to change the age range of the school from 4-11 to 2-11 and provide an additional site for the new nursery provision at South Street Rochdale OL16 2EP with effect from 1st September 2016;
and as a linked proposal
- (ii) Discontinue South Street Nursery School with effect from 31st August 2016;

6. School capacity and places- current pupil numbers and admissions- (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is currently made:

South Street Nursery School has a capacity of 78 Full-Time Equivalent places. There are currently (October Census) 106 part time children aged 2-4

7. Reason for closure, a statement explaining the reason why closure of the school is considered necessary.

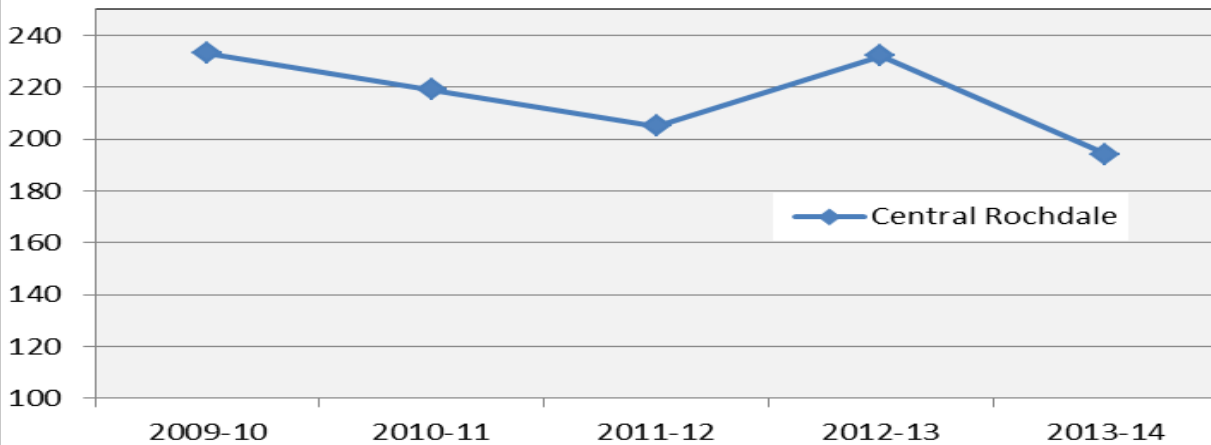
- 7.1 Rochdale Local Authority has undertaken a review of the Nursery Schools across the Borough, to assess their financial viability in both the short term and the long term. The need to do this is because there have been changes in recent years so that all funding for nursery places is allocated through the Early Years Single Funding Formula (SFF) under Designated Schools Grant. Funding is allocated for 570 hours per year per child attending (15 hours per week), 38 weeks of the year, and is calculated using a formula to ensure that equity of funding is applied across all settings. Nursery schools are one of a range of providers who provide funded, free entitlement places. Funding is paid according to the attendance of the child and is allocated termly. The SFF allocates sector specific funding rates and, because of the high overheads (staff structures etc.), nursery schools receive a much higher rate than other settings.
- 7.2 The hourly rate provided to nursery schools under this formula is significantly higher than other providers to recognise the higher fixed costs these schools face. Providers are funded on actual participation rates, therefore funding is not provided for empty places. South Street Nursery School has a capacity of 158 part-time places. The October 2015 School Census shows there were 106 children on roll (53fte).
- 7.3 The Governing Body of South Street Nursery School is finding it difficult to maintain a balanced budget and does not have high levels of reserves. It has been able to set a balanced budget for 2015-16 but will find it hard to continue to do so for future years without the use of reserves because of internal and external factors including a falling birth rate, and a national funding review of which the outcome is not yet known, there is a potential for this to have an adverse effect on funding rates for Nursery Schools.
- 7.4 The proposed establishment of this provision as a Nursery Class for Heybrook CP School would alleviate many of these financial pressures as the costs would be significantly lessened through decreased statutory staffing requirements and consolidated running and management costs whilst maintaining the overall level of current provision.

8. The need or demand for nursery places- a statement and supporting evidence about the need for school places in the area including whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate additional pupils in the current schools:

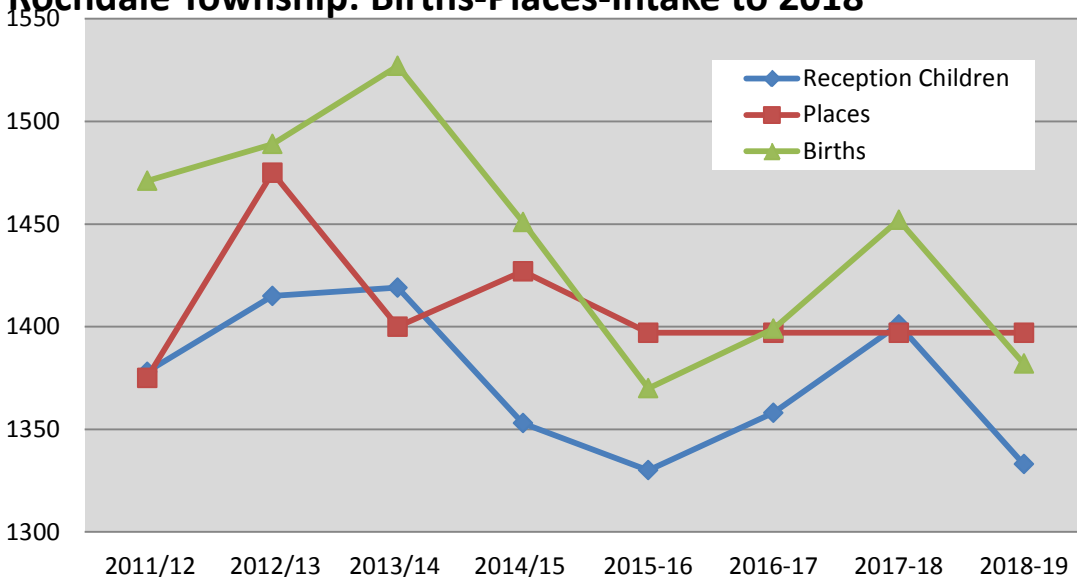
8.1 The level of demand for nursery places will change, because there has been a fall in the number of children born in the Township as a whole, and in Central Rochdale Ward. The table and graph below shows the number of children born in Central Rochdale Ward between 2009/10 and 2013/14. Maps to show the distribution of births are attached in Appendix 1.

ROCHDALE TOWNSHIP					
Birth Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
<i>Nursery 1 (2 year old+) Admission Year</i>				Sept 15	Sept 16
<i>Nursery 2 (3year old+) Admission Year</i>			Sept-15	Sept 16	Sept 17
<i>Reception Admission Year (4year old+)</i>	<i>Sep-14</i>	<i>Sep-15</i>	<i>Sep-16</i>	<i>Sep-17</i>	<i>Sep-18</i>
Norden	96	94	102	81	78
Bamford	113	99	115	105	132
Spotland and Falinge	178	179	172	182	152
Central Rochdale	233	219	205	232	194
Healey	126	123	112	118	114
Milkstone and Deeplish	275	211	238	243	209
Balderstone and Kirkholt	138	164	153	163	151
Kingsway	213	181	217	233	227
Castleton	117	114	124	129	125
<i>Township Total Births</i>	1489	1384	1438	1486	1382

Central Rochdale Ward Births



Rochdale Township: Births-Places-Intake to 2018



	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
Reception Children	1378	1415	1419	1353	1330	1358	1401	1333
Places	1375	1475	1400	1427	1397	1397	1397	1397
Births	1471	1489	1527	1451	1370	1399	1452	1382

*Data taken from January 2015 Census.

8.2 Consultation undertaken:

A period of 4 weeks public consultation was undertaken starting on 6th November 2015 and closed on 6th December 2015.

To bring the proposal to the attention of interested parties a Public Notice was published in the Rochdale Observer and the information was also published on the Rochdale Council Website. Additionally the following bodies and persons were circulated with the relevant information:

- parents, carers and children at South Street Nursery School;

- the governing body and staff at the school;
- Headteachers and governing bodies of all Rochdale Borough Schools
- Secretaries of Recognised trades unions
- Rochdale Borough Councillors
- MPs for Rochdale Borough
- Manchester Church of England Diocese
- Salford Roman Catholic Diocese
- The Methodist church
- Rochdale Youth MP and Children's Champion,
- Heybrook Children's Centre

8.3. A number of meetings were held to enable staff and parents to ask questions and put forward their views, in addition to being able to submit written responses and respond on line. The Local Authority arranged for two interpreters to be present at the Heybrook School Consultation meetings at the request of the Headteacher for parents who communicate in community languages. In view of representations made by the governing body of South Street Nursery School, the Authority extended the consultation period by 2 weeks to enable the school to submit alternative proposals.

Responses to the Consultation:

8.4 The proposals for consultation were:

- * to discontinue South Street Nursery School with effect from 31st August 2016; and as a linked proposal
- * to make a prescribed alteration to Heybrook CP school to change the age range from 4-11 to 2-11 with effect from 1st September 2016 through the provision of a new nursery class either on the site of Heybrook CP school or by retaining the current South Street Nursery School building.

8.5 The responses to the consultation, including notes of meetings held were presented to Cabinet on 25th January. There were 126 responses to the consultation of which 116 were against the proposal to close South Street Nursery School. 69 out of these 126 respondents expressed that they would prefer to have the nursery provision at the existing South Street Nursery School building under the leadership of Heybrook CP School. 9 respondents were in favour of closing South Street Nursery School and of these, 5 respondents expressed a preference for the provision to be provided at Heybrook CP School. The number of responses received is broken down as follows:

Source	Number of responses	Against South Street Closure + Nursery class for Heybrook	For South Street Closure and Nursery class for Heybrook
South Street NS consultation reply slips	84	84	0
Heybrook CP consultation reply slips	9	0	9
RBC On line consultation hub responses	24	23	1
Written submissions	10	10	
South Street written petition	666	666	
South Street on line petition	541	541	

8.6 The majority of responses received did not support the closure of South Street Nursery School. A very large number of those responding (although opposed to closure) would prefer a nursery class for Heybrook CP to be on the South Street site. The Governing Body of Heybrook CP (subject to infrastructure and investment) would agree to extending their nursery provision on the Heybrook site.

8.7 Summary of main points from consultation in respect of the proposed closure of South Street Nursery School: The main points raised highlighted that South Street Nursery School was an outstanding nursery school and that it had recently set up provision for two year olds and improved the premises , and so respondents queried why this had happened given these proposals. Respondents raised concerns regarding the closure of the South Street Nursery School as many parents have had lifelong connections to the nursery school and it is held in high regard within the community. Many parents from South Street Nursery were against the proposal to close the nursery school and also had concerns that if the nursery provision came under Heybrook CP School, that the standards would be less than the current Ofsted rating of South Street Nursery which is ‘outstanding’. Further concerns were that Heybrook CP was already overcrowded, and where would the nursery class be based. Some respondents pointed out that South Street was a purpose built nursery whilst the accommodation at Heybrook would be in demountable units. Additionally concerns were raised about the increase in traffic around Heybrook School.

8.8 Heybrook CP School Governing Body response: The governing body resolved: “Governors would not wish to comment on the closure of another school. However, subject to infrastructure and investment the Governing Body agree to extending our current nursery provision at Heybrook school”.

8.9 Notes of Meetings held, petitions and Other Responses: A considerable number of comments have been received, largely opposing the closure of South Street Nursery School. All are attached in **Appendix Two**. The minutes of Rochdale Township Committee (25th November) and the Health, Schools and Care Scrutiny Committee (3rd November) are also attached in that Appendix.

8.10 Consultation Meetings were held as follows:

South Street Nursery School	Open drop-in 12th November 11.00am-12pm Open drop-in 12th November 3pm-4pm Staff meeting 10th November 11.45am
Heybrook CP School	Open drop-in 18th November 3.30-700pm Staff meeting 18th December 3.20pm Student Council 2nd December 1.30pm

9. Interim arrangements - details of the schools or further education colleges, taking the following into consideration:
- any temporary arrangements;
 - the provision that is to be made for those pupils who receive educational provision recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs; and
 - in the case of special schools, the alternative provision made by local authorities other than the local authority which maintain the school:

Not applicable.

10. Details of any other measures to be taken to increase the number of school or further education college places available in consequence of the proposed alterations:

Not applicable.

11. Impact on the community- a statement and supporting evidence about the impact on the community and any measures proposed to mitigate any adverse impact, e.g. during the build period:

11.1 An EIA has been completed and the main conclusion is that the closure of South Street Nursery School and the establishment of equivalent alternative provision under Heybrook CP School on the South Street site would not be a disadvantage to the community, and to people from socio-economically disadvantaged groups.

12. Rural primary schools- where proposals relate to a rural primary school designated as such by an order made for the purposes of Section 15, a statement that the Local Authority or the governing body (as the case may be) has considered section 15(4):

Not applicable.

13. Balance of denominational provision- where the school has a religious character, a statement about the impact of the proposed alterations on the balance of denominational provision in the area and the impact on parental choice:

Not applicable.

14. Maintained Nursery Schools- where the proposals relate to the discontinuance of a maintained nursery school, a statement setting out:

- a) the LA's assessment of the quality and quantity of the alternative provision compared to the school proposed to be discontinued and the proposed arrangements to ensure the expertise and specialism continues to be available; and
- b) the accessibility and convenience of replacement provision for local parents:

14.1 South Street Nursery School has a current OfSTED grade of Outstanding (2013). The OfSTED report for Heybrook in 2012 states that Heybrook is a Good school and it further states that "On entering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) -the Reception year group- children's skills and knowledge are extremely low in relation to expectations for this age " and "Children are provided with a good start in the EYFS and this is built on effectively throughout the rest of the school".

14.2 An analysis of Early Years Foundation Stage Profile (EYFSP) scores for children starting at Heybrook CP Reception class 2015 shows:

The on-exit EYFSP scores for children in Heybrook Reception Cohort 2015 show that 47 children attended South Street Nursery School and 15 attended Heybrook Playgroup, of the remaining; 5 attended 3 other settings, and 3 were unplaced asylum seekers.

67% of Heybrook's Reception children accessed their Nursery year at South Street.

26 out of 47 from South Street (55%) achieved a Good Level of Development (GLD) in Reception at Heybrook 9 out of 15 (60%) from Heybrook Playgroup achieved a GLD in Reception at Heybrook

14.3 Further analysis of those children with EYPT scores for the nursery year who went on to complete Reception at Heybrook shows:

Of the 44 children from South Street 50% achieved an on-exit from Nursery score of 5B or above, of these 22 children 17 achieved a GLD at end of Reception – 77%

Of the 14 children from Heybrook Playgroup 42% achieved an on-exit Nursery score of 5B or above, of these 6 children 5 achieved a GLD at end of Reception – 83%

14.4 In conclusion Rochdale's average GLD score 2015 at the end of Reception was 57% against a national average of 66%. Of the total cohort at Heybrook 70 children, 39 achieved a GLD this is 55% Therefore the children who attended South Street Nursery are in line with the school average (55% GLD) and the children attending Heybrook are above by 5% (60% GLD) (lower numbers of children need to be considered). Each of these two nursery provisions have enabled children to make accelerated progress to achieve a GLD from a 5B on exit from nursery starting point (5A or 6C would be a more definite predictor of GLD at end of Reception)

14.5 There is little significance (5%) between the GLD scores of children from South Street and Heybrook, there are far greater numbers of children who access their nursery provision at South Street. There could be a difference on how children present on entry to Reception class due to the greater transition experience of children from South Street, the Heybrook Playgroup children having the advantage of already being familiar with the school building, the early years staff and some of the school expectations and routines.

14.6 The alternative provision proposed will be in the current nursery school premises, so there are no changes to the accessibility and convenience of this replacement provision.

14.7 Should both the Nursery School and its associated day care service close, provision will transfer to Heybrook CP School. The current OfSTED judgement for South Street is Outstanding. The current Ofsted judgement for Heybrook CP school is Good. Other maintained school settings have a current Ofsted grade of good or requires improvement. This means there is alternative provision of a comparable quality within a reasonable and accessible distance from South Street should parents want an alternative early years provider to Heybrook CP. All providers and their current OfSTED grade are detailed in the following table:

Setting	Sector	Grade	Maximum Places p/t
Howard Street	Nursery School	Requires Improvement	52
South Street	Nursery School	Outstanding	156 (* Capacity)
Heybrook	Pre School Playgroup	Good	52
Heybrook CP	Primary School	Good	0
All Saints CEP	Primary School& Nursery Class	Good	52
Greenbank CP	Primary School& Nursery Class	Good	52

A further provider will shortly be opening in this ward offering a further minimum of 90 places for 3&4 year olds.

14.8 The nursery school currently has an acting headteacher (seconded from Heybrook CP School), and subject to agreement of final proposals, staff required for the replacement nursery provision on the site under Heybrook's management will be appointed by the governing body of Heybrook CP school. The Local Authority will work with Heybrook Governing Body to ensure continuity of quality and expertise.

15. Travel requirements and provision of travel costs- details of the length and journeys to alternative provision and the proposed arrangements for travel for pupils to other schools including how the proposed arrangements will mitigate against increased car use:

The alternative provision proposed will be in the current nursery school premises, so there are no changes to the accessibility and convenience of this replacement provision. The walking distance between the two sites is less than half a mile.

16. Capital

16.1 There are no capital implications arising from this proposal.

17. Implementation of the Proposals

Rochdale Borough Council as promoter has responsibility for implementing the proposals.

18. Public Sector Equality Duty

A full Equality Impact Assessment has been completed as part of this statutory proposal.

Sandra Bowness
 Assistant Director early Help and Schools
 27th January 2016

APPENDICES:

APPENDIX ONE:- Birth Distribution Maps at Locality & Ward Level

APPENDIX TWO:- Equality Impact Assessment

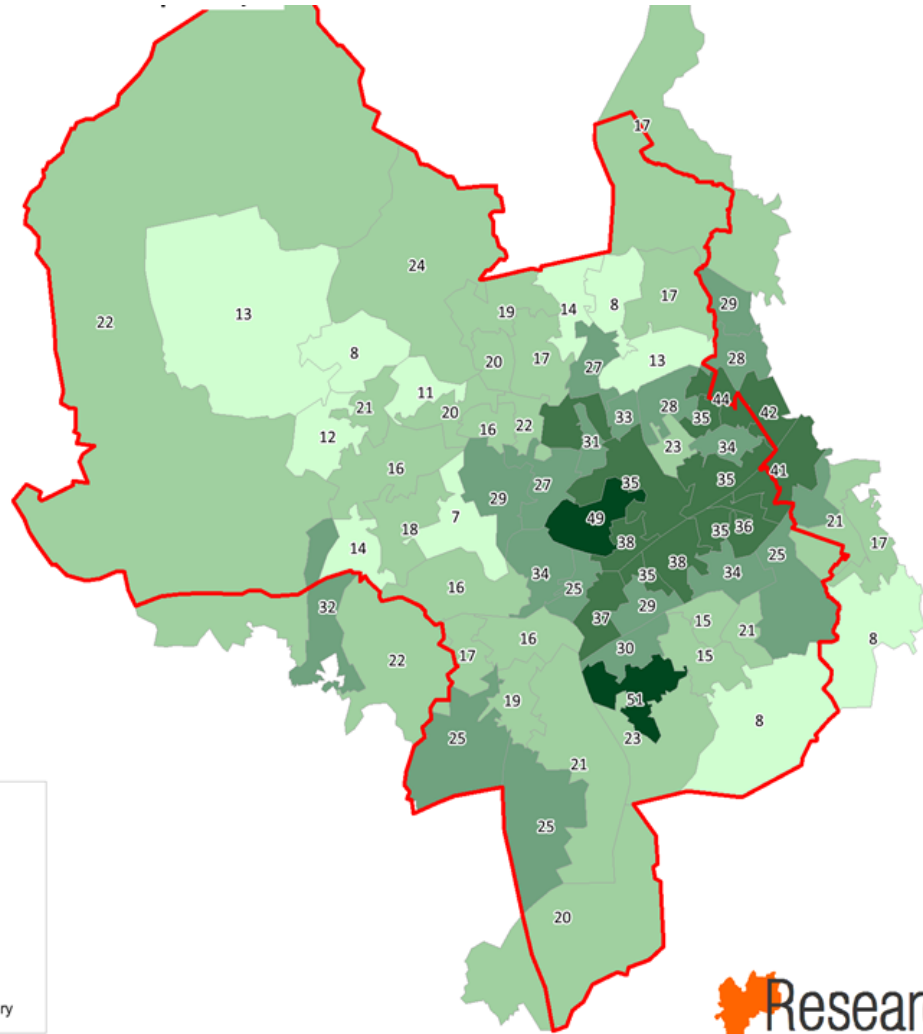
APPENDIX THREE – List of Persons Consulted:

APPENDIX FOUR – Consultation Letter

APPENDIX FIVE – Statutory Notice

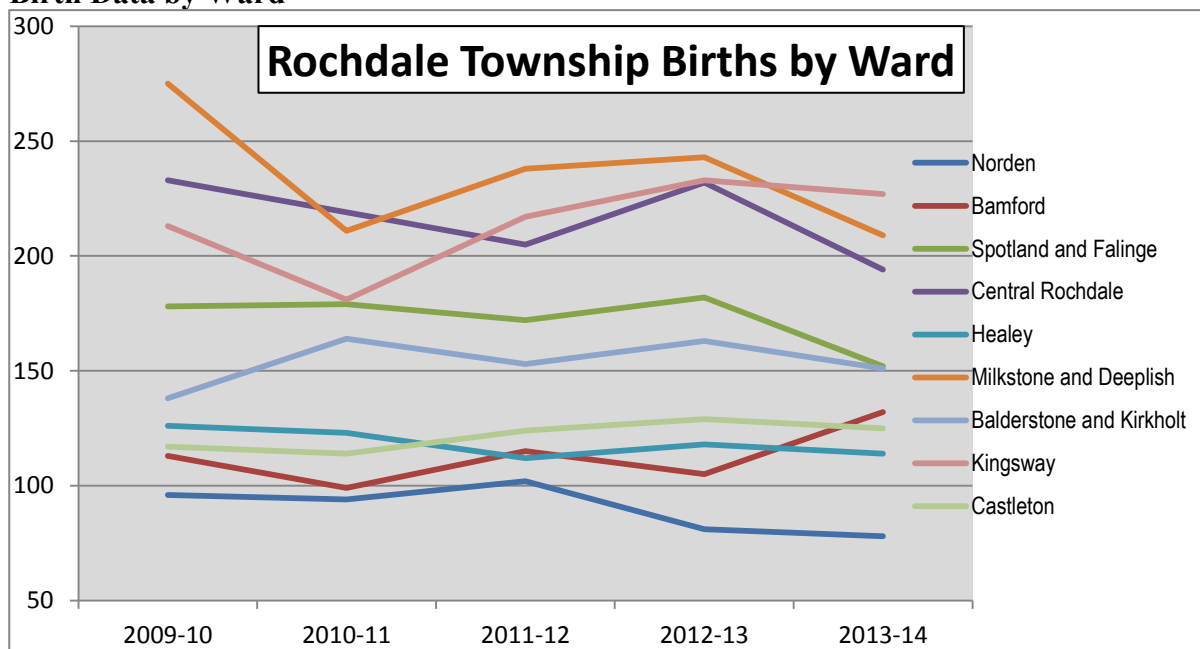
APPENDIX ONE:- Birth Distribution Maps at Locality & Ward Level

APPENDIX 1A: Rochdale Birth Distribution Map 2011-12
(Births in 2011-12 for Admission Year 2016-17)



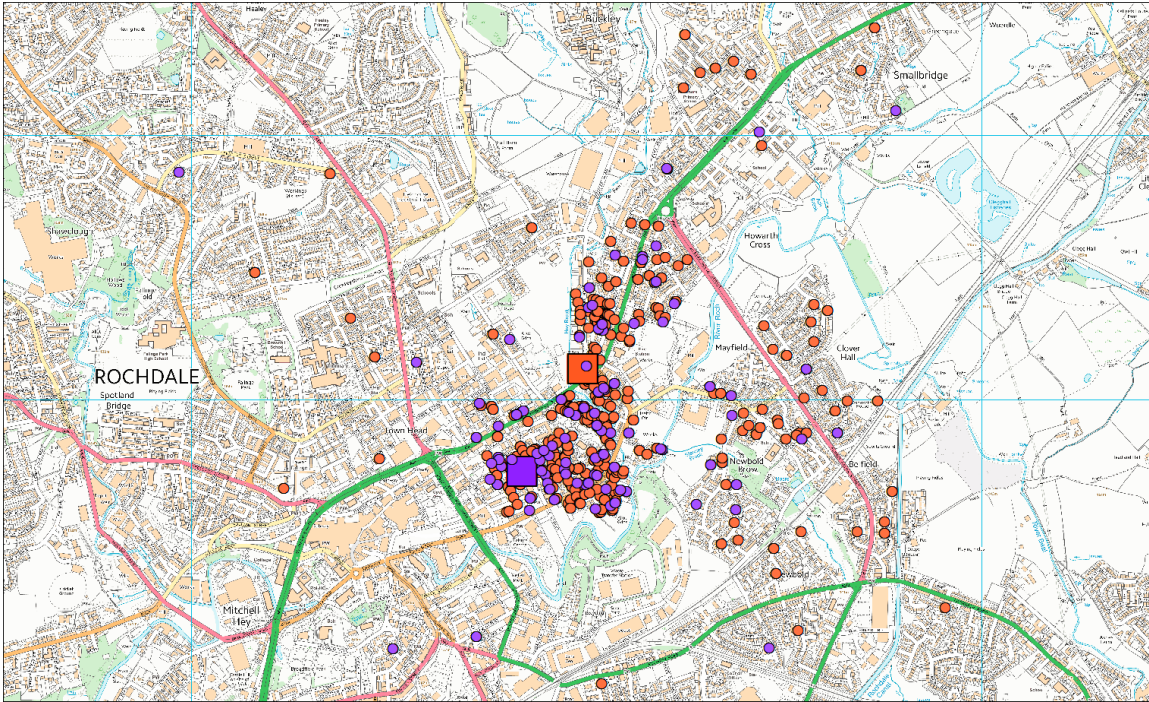
APPENDIX 1B:- Births at Ward Level 2009/10-2013/14

Birth Data by Ward



ROCHDALE TOWNSHIP					
Birth Year	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
R Admission Year	<i>Sep-14</i>	<i>Sep-15</i>	<i>Sep-16</i>	<i>Sep-17</i>	<i>Sep-18</i>
Norden	96	94	102	81	78
Bamford	113	99	115	105	132
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<i>Township Total Births</i>	1489	1384	1438	1486	1382

Appendix 1C - Distribution of Children attending South Street Nursery School (marked purple) and Heybrook Primary School (marked red)



APPENDIX TWO:- Equality Impact Assessment

Function	Strategy	Policy	Project	Other, please specify below
X				
Service: Early Help and Schools			Section: Schools Organisation & Development Team	
Responsible Officer: Chris Swift			Name of function/strategy/ policy/ project assessed: South Street Nursery School- Proposed Discontinuance and Heybrook Community Primary (CP) School establishment of a nursery class	
Date of Assessment: 26th January 2016				
Officers Involved: Chris Swift				
1. What is the purpose of the function/strategy/policy/project assessed? <i>(Briefly describe the aims, objectives and purpose of the function/strategy/policy/project)</i>				
To discontinue South Street Nursery School from 31st August 2016 and change the age range of Heybrook CP to add a new 78 FTE place nursery class				
2. Who are the key stakeholders?				
South Street Nursery School and Heybrook CP- Residents of Central Rochdale Ward and governors of the two schools				
3. What is the scope of this equality impact assessment? That is, what is included in this assessment.				
This Equality Impact Assessment covers the proposed discontinuance of South Street Nursery School, and the establishment of a nursery class at Heybrook CP School.				
4. Which needs is this function/strategy/ policy/ project designed to meet?				
To ensure that the resources of the Local Authority are used effectively in the provision of school places. In this case there are expected to be more places available for nursery age children in the Central Rochdale Ward than children to fill them, and the Governing Body of South Street Nursery School would be unable to set a balanced budget which it is required to do. To continue with the nursery school would not represent an efficient use of resources whereas the establishment of nursery provision at Heybrook would be more financially sustainable in the longer term.				
5. Has a needs analysis been undertaken?				
Yes. The Local Authority undertook a Review of Nursery School provision in the Borough which was reported to Cabinet on 29th September 2014.				
6. Who is affected by this function/strategy/ policy/ project?				
The residents of Central Rochdale ward, parents of children at the schools, staff and governors at the two schools, other schools in the Township, Early Years and Childcare providers, Diocesan Authorities, Secretaries of recognised Trades Unions, elected members and the local MP.				
7. Who has been involved in the review or development of this function/strategy/ policy/ project and who has been consulted? State your consultation/involvement methodology.				
Cabinet on 2nd November 2015 considered a report on the future of the nursery school and the possible change in age range at Heybrook CP school and authorised public consultation on the proposals. The arrangements for consultation on proposals such as these are set out in statutory guidance published by the Department for Education (DfE). There was a 4 week consultation period which was extended by 2 weeks. This involved publicising the proposals on the council website and sending out letters to parents and staff of the schools concerned. This is detailed in section 8 of the prescribed information. All the information is published in the				

Cabinet report of 25th January on the Council website through the following link:
<http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/documents/g3401/Public%20reports%20pack%2025th-Jan-2016%2018.15%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>

8. What data have you considered for this assessment and have any gaps in the data been identified. What action will be taken to close any data gaps?

3.1 THE RECENT TREND IN TAKE UP OF PLACES AT SOUTH STREET NURSERY SCHOOL compared to other maintained settings in Central Rochdale Ward.

South Street Nursery School has a capacity of 78 Full-Time Equivalent places. The following table below shows the number of children on roll at the Nursery School and in neighbouring maintained nursery class settings in schools between October 2013 and October 2015:

(a) Take up of places October 2013- October 2014

School	Capacity (FTE places)	Oct 2013			Jan 2014				May 2014				Oct 2014			
		N 2	FTE	Occupancy %	N 1	N 2	FTE	Occupancy %	N 1	N 2	FTE	Occupancy %	N 1	N 2	FTE	Occupancy %
South Street Nursery	78	74	37	47	28	71	50	64	46	72	59	75	0	63	32	41
Greenbank	26	28	14	53	10	29	20	76	16	29	23	88	0	30	15	57
All Saints	26	32	16	61	12	32	22	84	14	33	24	92	0	32	16	61
Howard Street Nursery	26	50	25	96	0	53	27	104	1	55	28	107	0	37	19	73

(b) Take up of places January 2015 to October 2015

School	Capacity (FTE places)	Jan 2015				May 2015				Oct 2015			
		N 1	N 2	FTE	Occupancy %	N 1	N 2	FTE	Occupancy %	N 1	N 2	FTE	Occupancy %
South Street Nursery School	78	41	62	52	66	41	64	53	68	37	69	53	68
Greenbank	26	7	35	21	80	16	35	26	100	2	27	15	55
All Saints	26	5	35	20	76	4	36	20	76	0	25	13	48
Howard Street Nursery School	26	22	36	29	115	20	39	30	115	0	40	20	77

3.3 THE LEVEL OF PROVISION and TAKE UP OF NURSERY PLACES IN CENTRAL ROCHDALE WARD

The last Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (April 2014/15) identified the levels of take-up of free entitlement places across the Borough. Overall within Central Rochdale Ward (location of the Nursery School) the level of take up of places was 91%, This is across all types of setting.

In Central Rochdale Ward there were 501 children eligible for the free nursery entitlement in the Summer Term 2015. 405 children resident in the ward access their free entitlement that is 81% take up. 96 children resident in the ward access their entitlement in other wards.

LSOA	Ward	Children Accessing	Maintained School	Maintained Class	Playgroup	Private Day Nursery	Child minder	Independent
E01005482	Central Rochdale	26	5	16	0	5	0	0
E01005486		64	10	45	0	7	0	2
E01005580		61	10	37	7	7	0	0
E01005581		49	9	27	4	9	0	0
E01005582		62	21	25	9	7	0	0
E01005583		35	23	10	1	1	0	0
E01005584		55	13	26	3	12	0	1
E01005585		53	17	24	2	10	0	0

3.4 THE QUALITY OF ALTERNATIVE PLACEMENTS IN THE AREA

Should both the Nursery School and its associated day care service close, provision will transfer to Heybrook CP School. The current OfSTED judgement for South Street is Outstanding. The current Ofsted judgement for Heybrook CP school is Good. Other maintained school services have a current Ofsted grade of good or requires improvement.

This means there is alternative provision of a comparable quality within a reasonable and accessible distance from South Street should parents want an alternative early years provider to Heybrook CP. All providers and their current OfSTED grade are detailed in the following table:

Setting	Sector	Grade	Maximum Places p/t
Howard Street	Nursery School	Requires Improvement	52
South Street	Nursery School	Outstanding	156 (* Capacity)
Heybrook	Pre School Playgroup	Good	52
Heybrook CP	Primary School	Good	0
All Saints CEP	Primary School& Nursery Class	Good	52
Greenbank CP	Primary School& Nursery Class	Good	52

It is worth noting that a further provider will shortly be opening in this ward offering a further minimum of 90 places for 3&4 year old's.

3.5 DEPRIVATION IN CENTRAL ROCHDALE WARD Central Rochdale Ward is an area which experiences high levels of multiple deprivation. South Street Nursery School is sited one of 3% most deprived LSOA nationally, and Heybrook CP is sited in Central Rochdale

9. Are there any other documents or strategies which are linked to this assessment? If so, please include hyperlinks to these documents below, where available.

no

10. What impact will this function/strategy/policy/project have on all the protected groups? This includes both positive and potentially negative impacts.

Race Equality

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessments, using 2008 ward profile data, identified that in Central Rochdale Ward (location of the School) 48.58% of the overall population is white, and 51.42% from ethnic minorities, the largest being Pakistani 31%. Across all the central Rochdale Ward Primary schools just over 83% of children are from ethnic minorities. There is no data held by the Authority which would give an accurate representation of the Refugee and Asylum seeker community. Data was not available at the time of writing this report on the numbers of asylum seeker families in the Township.

The proposed changes do not have an adverse impact on race equality considerations.

Disabled People

In the 2011 census 21% of the population of the Borough indicated that they were disabled or had their activities were limited due to health related issues. The number and distribution of alternative providers in the Ward, and the establishment of the same level of provision at Heybrook means that the proposed change would not have an adverse impact on disabled people.

Carers

There is sufficient high quality alternative provision in the area to mitigate any adverse effect of access to provision by carers.

Gender

The scheme as proposed would not particularly impact on residents and their gender in either a positive or negative way.

Age
<i>The proposed changes do not particularly impact on age considerations of residents in either a positive or negative way.</i>
Armed Forces and Ex-Armed Forces Personnel
<i>The proposed changes may have an adverse impact on returning armed services personnel in reducing preference for a nursery school setting, rather than a nursery class setting</i>
Sexual Orientation
<i>The proposed changes do not particularly impact on the sexual orientation of residents in either a positive or negative way.</i>
Gender Reassignment
<i>The proposed changes do not particularly impact on residents undergoing gender re-assignment in either a positive or negative way.</i>
Religion or Belief
<i>The proposal to discontinue provision in a community nursery school will not reduce the number of places in faith based maintained settings. As such the proposed changes would not have an adverse impact on religion or belief considerations.</i>
Pregnant Women or Those on Maternity Leave
<i>The proposed changes may have an impact on pregnant women or those on maternity leave. The effect of the proposed closure of the nursery school is mitigated by the establishment of the same volume of provision under Heybrook CP</i>
Marriage or Civil Partnership
<i>The proposed changes do not particularly impact on marriage or civil partnership considerations in either a positive or negative way.</i>
11. What are your main conclusions from this analysis?
The closure of the Nursery School would be a disadvantage to the school itself. However the continuation of the level of provision mitigates this disadvantage.
12. What are your recommendations?
Following consultation, the published proposal is to close South Street Nursery School and establish replacement provision under Heybrook CP school in the South Street buildings. This will ensure the continuation of the scope and quantity of the current provision.
13. What actions are you going to take to address the findings of this assessment? Please attach an action plan including details of designated officers responsible for completing these actions.
<i>Statutory consultation process to be followed with a view to discontinuance of the school and the change in the age range of Heybrook CP school to 2-11 through the establishment of a new nursery class. In respect of the potential adverse effect on people from socio-economically disadvantaged groups, because there are a large number of alternative providers graded good or better, and there will be replacement provision, no specific actions are required.</i>

Signed (Completing Officer): _____ Chris Swift _____ Date: 26th January 2016

Signed (Head of Service): _____ Date: _____

Equality Impact Assessment Action Plan 2015/16

Action	Outcome	Target Date for Completion	Resource Implications	Lead Officer
Public Consultation starts November 2015	Consultees and interested parties able to express their views about the proposals	November 2015	Preparation, distribution & dissemination of consultation documents. Attendance at Township Committee meeting and open drop in meetings for parents and interested parties	C.Swift
Consideration of outcomes of consultation, and decisions on whether to publish statutory proposals.	Report to Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet with recommendation on whether to proceed to publish statutory proposals	December 2015	Preparation of Report for Cabinet and Overview & Scrutiny Committee	C.Swift
Public Representation on statutory proposals	Interested parties able to make representation on proposals	January & February 2016	Preparation, distribution & dissemination of consultation documents. Attendance at Township Committee meeting and open drop in meetings for parents and interested parties	C.Swift
Determination of proposals	Cabinet considers representations and determines proposals	March 2016	Preparation of Report for Cabinet and Overview & Scrutiny Committee	C.Swift
Implementation of Proposals	Discontinuance of South Street Nursery school and change in age range of Heybrook CP	31st August 2016/1st September 2016		C.Swift

APPENDIX THREE – List of Persons Consulted:

**Parents, Pupils Governors and Staff of South Street Nursery School and Heybrook CP School
All Nursery, Primary and Secondary Maintained Schools and Academies in the Rochdale Borough:
All Rochdale Borough Councillors:
Manchester Church of England and Salford Roman Catholic Diocesan Authorities, The Methodist
Church- Rochdale and Littleborough Circuit (06/04)
Recognised Trade Union Representatives:
Rochdale Borough MPs:
Member of Youth Parliament & Children’s Champion:
Rochdale Early Years and Childcare Partnership/ Schools HR Team / Schools Finance Team:
Sure Start Children’s Centre:**

Responses to the consultation are published in the Cabinet report of 25th January and can be accessed at:

<http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/documents/g3401/Public%20reports%20pack%2025th-Jan-2016%2018.15%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10>



Children's Services
Early Help and Schools Service
Sandra Bowness
Assistant Director of Children's Services
Number One Riverside, Smith Street,
Rochdale, OL16 1XU
Phone: 01706 925152
www.rochdale.gov.uk
6th November 2015

To: Parents/Pupils/Staff and Governors of South Street Nursery School, Parents/Pupils/Staff and Governors of Heybrook Primary School, Headteachers and Governing Bodies of all Rochdale Borough Schools, Secretaries of Recognised Trades Unions, Diocesan Authorities, the Methodist Church, MPs for Rochdale Borough, Youth MP, Heybrook Children's Centre, Early Years Childcare Providers and Rochdale Borough Councillors.

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSED CLOSURE OF SOUTH STREET NURSERY SCHOOL, ROCHDALE AND PROPOSED CHANGE IN AGE RANGE OF HEYBROOK CP SCHOOL, ROCHDALE TO SET UP REPLACEMENT NURSERY PLACES.

The reason for this letter is to tell you that the Local Authority is considering the need to close South Street Nursery School with effect from 31st August 2016, and to set up replacement nursery places at Heybrook CP School with effect from 1st September 2016. The Local Authority wants to hear your views before it takes the decision to publish legal proposals.

What is being proposed?

The proposal is to:

- Permanently close South Street Nursery School from 31st August 2016; and
• Set up new nursery places at Heybrook CP School by changing the age range to 2-11 years from 1st September 2016. These places could either be on the site of Heybrook CP School or by keeping the current South Street Nursery School building.

Why does the Local Authority want to do this?

The reason for considering the proposal to close South Street Nursery School is because of the long term financial viability of the Nursery School. The Local Authority believes that the provision of nursery places at Heybrook CP School would provide a more cost effective option without losing available places. The Local Authority also recognises that many children attending South Street Nursery School have siblings at Heybrook Primary School and this proposal would help many parents.

What would happen and when?

The proposal for South Street Nursery is to close from 31st August 2016. To enable the new nursery provision to be set up at Heybrook CP School, a feasibility study will be undertaken to show how the places can be provided either on the Heybrook site or the South Street site. The proposal for the new nursery provision is with effect from 1st September 2016.

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CONSULTATION REPLY SLIP - PLEASE SEE OVERLEAF

... Continued...

How is my child affected?

Older nursery children at South Street Nursery School, who will be moving to Reception classes next September, are not affected. Younger children at South Street Nursery School will be offered places at the new provision at Heybrook CP School for September 2016.

Further information & Consultation

The full consultation paper and other documents are available on the Local Authority Website at <https://consultations.rochdale.gov.uk/council-wide/nursery-provision>

There is a 4 week consultation period starting on 6th November 2015. This ends at midnight on 3rd December 2015.

Who takes the decision?

After the close of the consultation, Rochdale Council's Cabinet will consider all responses received. It will decide whether to publish statutory proposals to close South Street Nursery School and set up replacement provision at Heybrook CP School. If Cabinet decides to publish proposals, at the end of a further 4 week statutory representation period it will then make the final decision in accordance with Statutory Guidance and Regulations.

How can I make my views known?

You can make your views known by completing the reply slip below or by writing to the Local Authority by letter or e-mail at the address below. If you want to ask questions about the proposals, meetings have been arranged as follows-

South Street Nursery School	Open Drop-in for Parents, and Interested Parties	EITHER Thursday 12 th November 2015 @ 11am-12pm OR Thursday 12 th November 2015 @ 3pm-4pm
	Meeting for Staff	Tuesday 10 th November 2015 @ 11:45am
Heybrook CP School	Open Drop-in for Parents, and Interested Parties	Wednesday 18 th November 2015 @ 3:30pm-7pm
	Meeting for Staff	Wednesday 18 th November @ 3:20pm
	Meeting for Student Council	Wednesday 2 nd December 2015 @ 1.30pm

The closing date for comments is midnight on 3rd December 2015

Comments should be sent to robert.aspinall@rochdale.gov.uk, or in writing to Robert Aspinall, School Organisation & Development Team, Rochdale Borough Council, Schools Service, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU.

Yours Faithfully

Sandra Bowness
Assistant Director of Children's Services
Early Help and Schools

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South Street Nursery & Heybrook CP School - CONSULTATION REPLY

I SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL TO CLOSE SOUTH STREET NURSERY SCHOOL AND SET UP NEW NURSERY PLACES AT HEYBROOK CP SCHOOL	YES	
	NO	
IF A NURSERY CLASS IS SET UP AT HEYBROOK CP SCHOOL I WOULD PREFER IT TO BE LOCATED AT	Heybrook School site	
	South Street site	
COMMENTS:		
NAME- _____ CONNECTION TO THE SCHOOL:- _____		

Please return this slip to: Robert Aspinall, School Organisation & Development Team, Schools Service, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU.

Rochdale Borough Council Proposed Closure of South Street Nursery School and Change of Age Range at Heybrook Primary School

Rochdale Borough Council intends to ensure the continuation of nursery provision at South Street through the legal mechanism of closing South Street Nursery School and extending the age range of Heybrook Community Primary School.

Part 1: Closure of South Street Nursery School

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Rochdale Borough Council, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU intends to discontinue South Street Nursery School, South Street, Rochdale, OL16 2EP on 31st August 2016. Alternative provision will continue on the same site as part of Heybrook Community Primary School, where it is intended to extend the age range to include 2-year-olds (see below). As provision will continue on the same site, no transport arrangements for displaced pupils are required.

Part 2: Change of age range at Heybrook Community Primary School to add a nursery unit

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Rochdale Borough Council, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU intends to make a prescribed alteration to Heybrook Community Primary School from 1st September 2016.

It is proposed to extend the age range of Heybrook Community Primary School to 2 - 11, to make provision for children displaced if South Street Nursery School closes (see above). The proposed alteration will make provision for 156 part-time equivalent nursery places (78 full-time equivalent places). This will be on an additional site at South Street, Rochdale. The current capacity of the school is 630 (Reception to Y6) and the proposed capacity will be 630. The current admission number (into Reception) for the school is 90 and the proposed admission number will be 90.

Rochdale Borough Council will implement the proposals as linked proposals.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposals can be obtained from robert.aspinall@rochdale.gov.uk, or by writing to Robert Aspinall, School Organisation and Development Team, Early Help and Schools, Rochdale Borough Council, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU. The proposals can be accessed on the Council website at:

<https://consultations.rochdale.gov.uk/council-wide/nursery-provision>

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may make representations by writing to Robert Aspinall, School Organisation and Development Team, Early Help and Schools, Rochdale Borough Council, Number One Riverside, Smith Street, Rochdale, OL16 1XU. You may also complete the on-line response form on the Council website.

The closing date for representations is midnight on 23rd February 2016.

Publication Date: 27th January 2016



Sandra Bowness
Assistant Director Early Help & Schools

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