

## APPENDIX N

### **PRE-SCHOOL, EXTENDED SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PROVISION**

#### **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 This appendix sets out the pre-school provision, Extended School expectations and community provision within the proposed primary and secondary school organisation.
- 1.2 In establishing the new school organisation the Authority wish to build upon the success and quality which exists within the independent pre-school provider sector. Although there will be change there is not a desire to significantly reduce overall provision.
- 1.3 Similarly the success of the Extended Schools programme in primary and some middle schools has been a significant strength of the Authority's and the schools' partnership with their communities. This work will be sustained and extended fully into the secondary sector, if Cabinet approve the proposal to move to a primary and secondary school organisation.
- 1.4 The Authority will also appropriately work with communities where schools are closing to ensure that community provision is sustained. Where appropriate, and the community can meet the expected conditions, the Council will consider asset transfer under its Community Asset Strategy.

#### **2.0 Pre-School Provision**

- 2.1 Where a school is enlarging and there is pre-school provision in place, this provision, providing it is viable and provides a quality early years experience for children, will remain. Where schools are closing the Authority, subject to the needs determined by the childcare sufficiency audit which is a return to the DCSF determining the need in an area for provision, will support the retention of provision within the community.
- 2.2 For those pre-schools using school premises or site on the school grounds a new a generic Authority contract will operate as part of the new school organisation. To meet fair trading legislation and to remove the risk of hidden subsidy from the Direct Schools Grants (DSG) this contract must be at true costs. The process of contract renewal will be discussed with all providers and put in place for the financial year 2010/2011.
- 2.3 As part of the new contract all pre-school providers using school premises or based on the school site will be required to offer the full child care offer from September 2010.
- 2.4 New funding arrangements for early years provision are due to start from April 2009. However, to support pre-schools during the period of transition the Authority has been able, with DCSF agreement, to suspend this funding implementation until April 2010. The Pre-School Provider representatives on the Schools Forum will be key in the negotiation of the local formula to operate from April 2010.

### **3.0 Extended Schools**

- 3.1 From September 2010 all schools will have a duty to provide extended services to their pupils and community.
- 3.2 Where new schools are to be let by competition this new duty will form part of the specification. For secondary schools whilst there will be generic Extended School activity there will also be an expectation of specific activity built around the schools declared specialism, as outlined in Appendix L.
- 3.3 The Authority will continue to support the Extended School provision in primary schools and ensure that there is appropriate extension for the enlarged age range of the proposed schools.
- 3.4 Where a school is to be discontinued in a community with numbers of children that would make pre-school provision viable, for example St Helen's, Yarmouth and Lower Ventnor that officers bring forward plans for extended service provision linked to these pre-schools.

### **4.0 Community Asset Strategy and Community Provision**

- 4.1 Under the 2007 regulations the Council may also wish to consider commissioning extended services and some of the core children's centre services in order to support the community. This will be especially applicable in rural areas (e.g. St Helen's, Yarmouth and Ventnor).
- 4.2 Where a school is lost to its community, particularly in the rural areas, the Authority will seek to ensure that facilities such as pre-school provision, adult learning, youth club and/or youth service provision are maintained alongside the wider community activities.
- 4.3 The Authority will have in place a Community Asset Strategy in accordance with the 2007 Local Government Act. Providing the community can meet the criteria and requirements of this strategy, in any request for transfer, the Authority will work with the community and/or other groups such as the Diocesan Authorities to achieve an asset transfer and the sustaining of provision.
- 4.4 For the proposed new secondary schools the provision of community access to adult learning, sports facilities and wider community use will be a specific aspect of the competition specification. The Authority will expect all the new secondary schools to collaborate in providing a coherent and comprehensive range of community provision which is available both within and out of term time.