



**Inspiring Futures
through Learning**

Registered at
Fairfields
Primary
School

Apollo Avenue
Fairfields
Milton Keynes
MK11 4BA

01908 533283

www.iftl.co.uk

Company no.
07698904

Registered
in England

Date: 26th June 2026

Consultation for Ashbrook School

Proposed change of age range

Proposal

This consultation, running from **today to 08 July 2026**, seeks views on a proposal to change the age range at Ashbrook School from 4 to 7 years to 2 to 7 years.

Background

Ashbrook School in Milton Keynes provides education for children aged 4 to 7 years and is part of the Inspiring Futures through Learning Multi-Academy Trust.

Early years is an exciting and successful part of our school. The school's most recent Ofsted inspection took place in March 2024, with the school judged as Good in all areas, including Early Years education.

Why is this change being proposed?

The UK Government is committed to expanding school-based nursery provision across England as part of the extended early education and childcare entitlements, which were fully implemented from September 2025. These entitlements enable eligible working parents to access up to 30 free hours per week (over 38 weeks per year) for children aged from 9 months until compulsory school age.

At present, the school is legally unable to offer provision for children aged two without a formal change to its age range. The school is therefore proposing to lower its age range to be able to admit children from the age of two.

If approved, the school intends to provide at least 47 nursery places for two and three-year-olds from 2027.

Benefits

The school believes the proposal would bring a number of benefits to both the school and the local community, including:

- supporting the government's early years expansion agenda
- increasing the availability of early years places at a school with an existing early years provision
- increasing local choice and accessibility of provision for families in its local area



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- enabling children and families to join the school community earlier to create as seamless a school journey as possible
- allowing existing families with children already attending the school to access provision for younger siblings in one setting, making things easier for families
- enabling staff to identify and respond to children's needs earlier than they are currently able to; supporting improved developmental outcomes.
- supporting staff recruitment and retention by providing enhanced professional opportunities
- supporting the council in fulfilling its statutory early years sufficiency duty

Admission to the expanded nursery

Admission to the expanded nursery provision would continue to be managed by Ashbrook School. As is currently the case, parents would still need to make a separate application via Milton Keynes City Council for a place in the Reception class.

Capital and planning

If the proposal is approved, it is anticipated that extension and / or building works will take place to create a new nursery space, including outdoor space, for additional nursery children. These works would be funded by through School-Based Nursery funding.

The proposal would not affect the school's Published Admission Number (PAN) or overall capacity and would have no impact on classroom space for statutory-aged pupils.

What are the next steps?

This consultation seeks views from parents, carers, staff of Ashbrook School, local residents and any other interested parties.

We are keen to hear as many views as possible about this proposal. Please go online and complete the web form by using this [link](#).

If you are unable to access the online form, you may respond by email to engagement@iftl.co.uk (please state the school name in your email).

This consultation will close on **08 July 2026**. Following this, the school and Inspiring Futures through Learning will consider the responses and determine if the proposed change in age range should be implemented.

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If approved, the school would be able to offer places to children aged two with timing of opening subject to completion of necessary capital works and relevant Ofsted registration requirements.

Who has this consultation been sent to?

- All parents and staff at Ashbrook School
- All schools in Milton Keynes
- Local early years providers
- Local MPs
- Ward Councillors
- Parish/Town Council

With kind regards,

Jamie Ainscow
Headteacher