



Consultation to lower the school age of
Pevensey and Westham Church of England
Primary School

Summary of Responses

November/December 2024

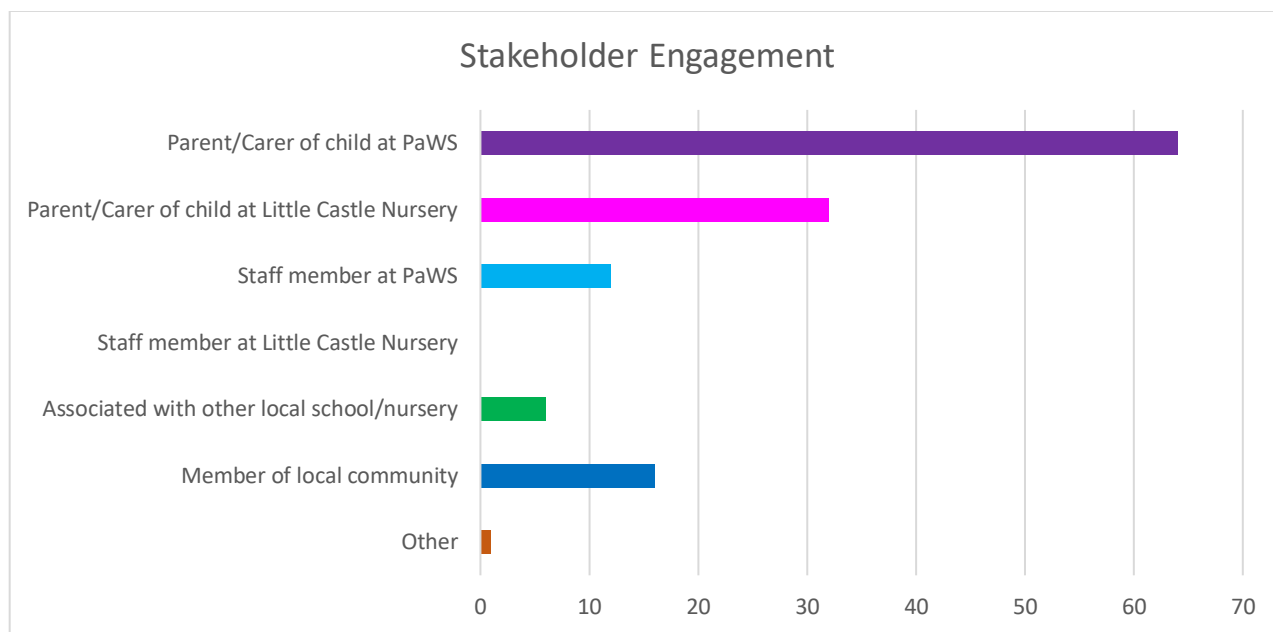
The Governing Board of Pevensey & Westham CE Primary School launched a consultation on the proposal for the school to start its own school-based nursery provision. As part of this, the school proposed lowering the age range to 2-11 years. In addition, the school proposed offering childcare for 0-2 year-olds. This consultation ran from 20th November 2024 to 11th December 2024.

As part of the decision-making process, governors have also reviewed the analysis of Local Authority demand forecasting (April 2024) which is included within this document.

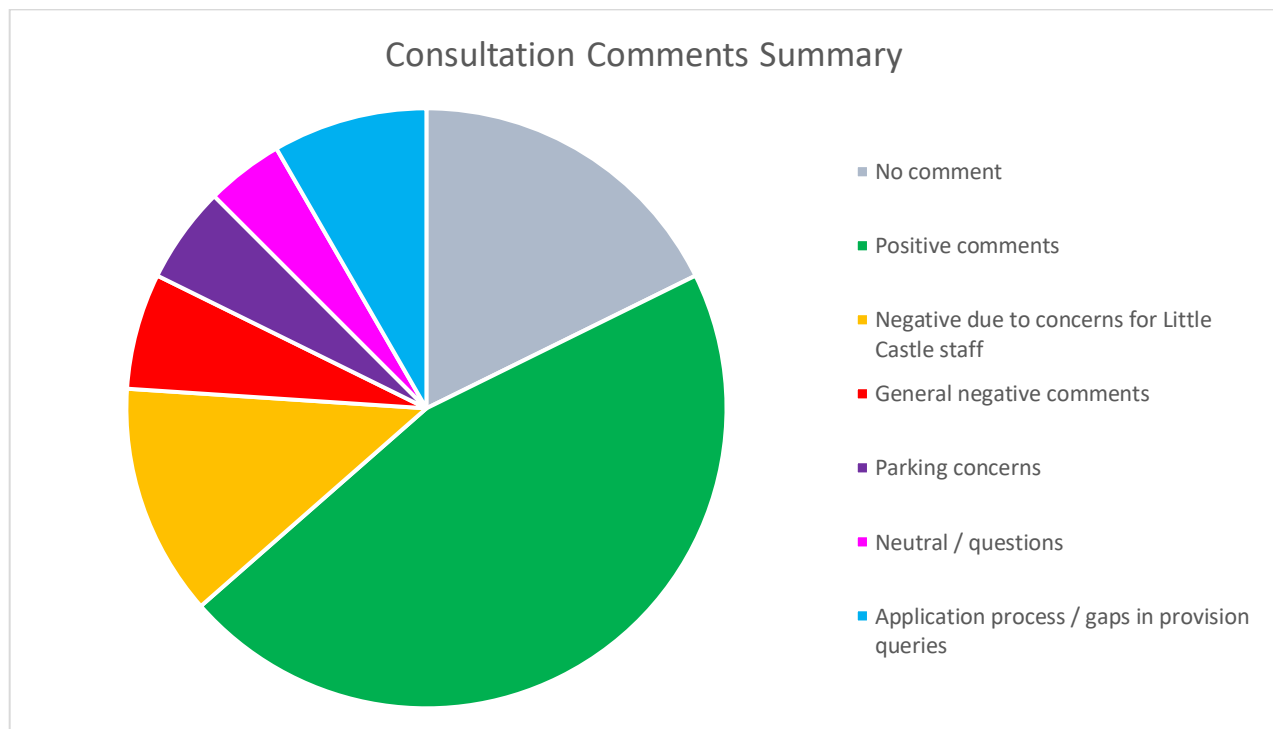
Responses to consultation:

Total number of responses: 96

Stakeholder engagement:



Comments summary:



Sample of comments received:

Positive comments (44 comments received):

- I think it is a great idea and very beneficial for the local community and families
(parent/carer of child at PaWS)
- I'm all for a school-based nursery, I think it's a fabulous idea and it meets the needs of working parents by extending the opening hours! Which is one of its greatest selling points, I currently have 1 of my children at the little castle nursery and it's not designed for a working parent by closing at 4pm. So you have my full support
(parent/carer at both PaWS and Little Castle nursery)
- Fantastic idea - the logistics of having one child at school and one at nursery in a different setting has been particularly stressful for me this past year, especially as the hours of care do not coordinate. Having both in one place on one timetable would have made a huge difference to me. I think it would be beneficial to children, particularly for those who are easily unsettled. I wish this had been proposed sooner as I know I would have utilised it!
(parent/carer of child at PaWS)
- As a teacher in a local school with their own nursery, this is such a positive step to further develop the provision of early years. It will really support the transition of many from nursery to school. If my child was now looking at nursery it would definitely be something I would consider more if a school has a nursery attached.
(parent/carer of child at PaWS/Associated with other local school or nursery)

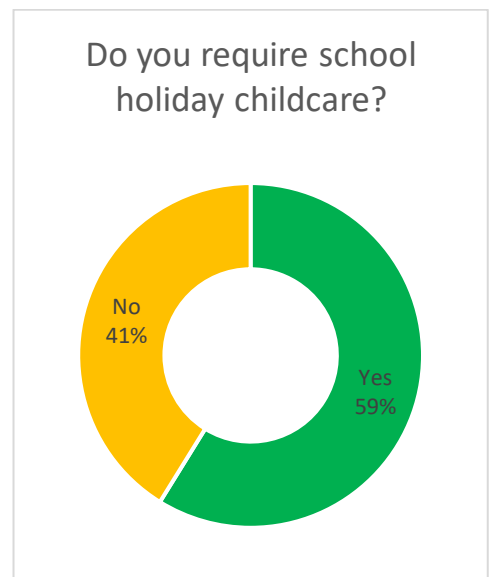
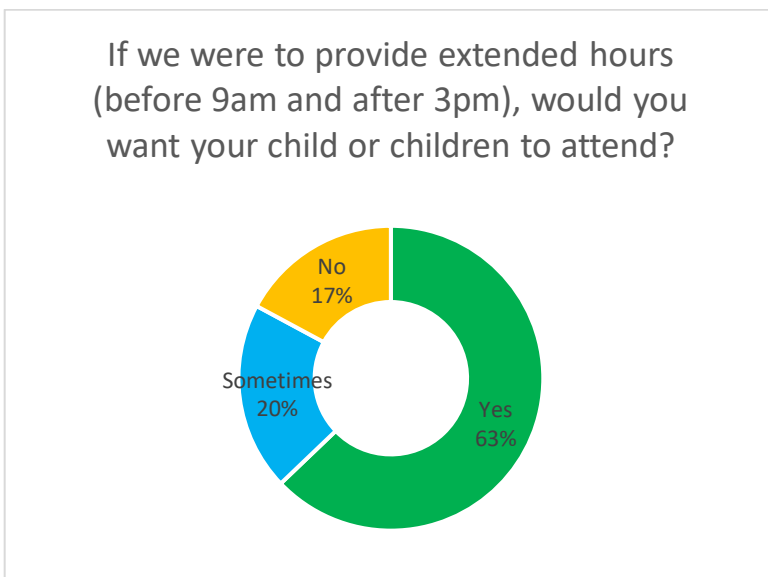
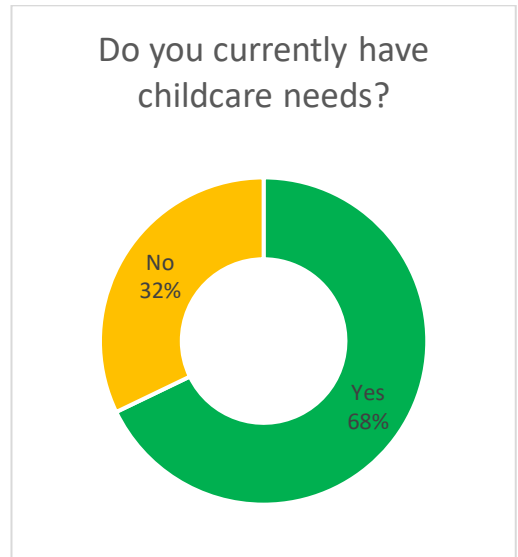
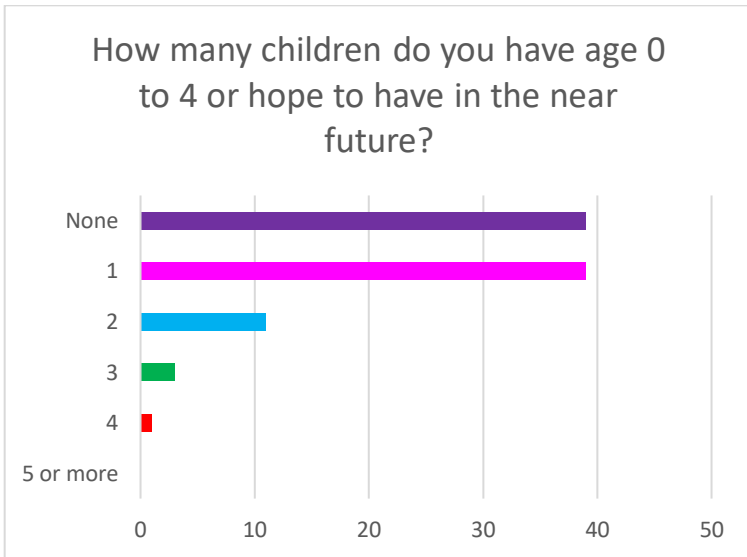
Negative comments due to concerns for Little Castle staff (12 comments received)

- Would rather Little Castle stay as its beneficial. I feel the children that already there should be able to stay on at the nursery instead of having to reapply due to short nursery space in Eastbourne already with waiting lists for next year elsewhere. Staff should be able to keep their jobs.
(parent/carer at both PaWS and Little Castle nursery)
- I think it's absolutely disgusting that you are doing this! You haven't thought at all about how this will impact the children and staff mental wellbeing by being put through this. Your only in if for the money and that is shameful.
(parent/carer of child at Little Castle nursery)
- We have received notification from our lovely little castle nursery that PAWS now are taking over without consultation and given our nursery no choice but to leave. We are extremely saddened by this news as Little Castle nursery and staff are incredible and thought they would be in this building for years to come, therefore making comfortable and investing in it for our children. It would be a huge disruption to our children who have settled in and love it there. I would hate to have to upset my child by moving them to another nursery and new staff to get used to again. Little Castle nursery staff are experienced and mostly parents themselves which was another reason I chose the nursery as they understand how difficult it is to send your child in the first place. Lastly, it would be a great shame to lose Little Castle nursery from the building, we do not feel PAWS taking over would be a good fit.
(parent/carer of child at Little Castle nursery)

General negative comments (6 comments received)

- My wife and I are concerned that 'the feel' of Little Castle might be lost somehow. We chose them after consideration of others who were parts of chains or were too big in our minds. Moreover, our child has grown a trust with her carer which we would sooner not break. What guarantees of continuity of service and values can you give?
(parent/carer of child at Little Castle nursery)

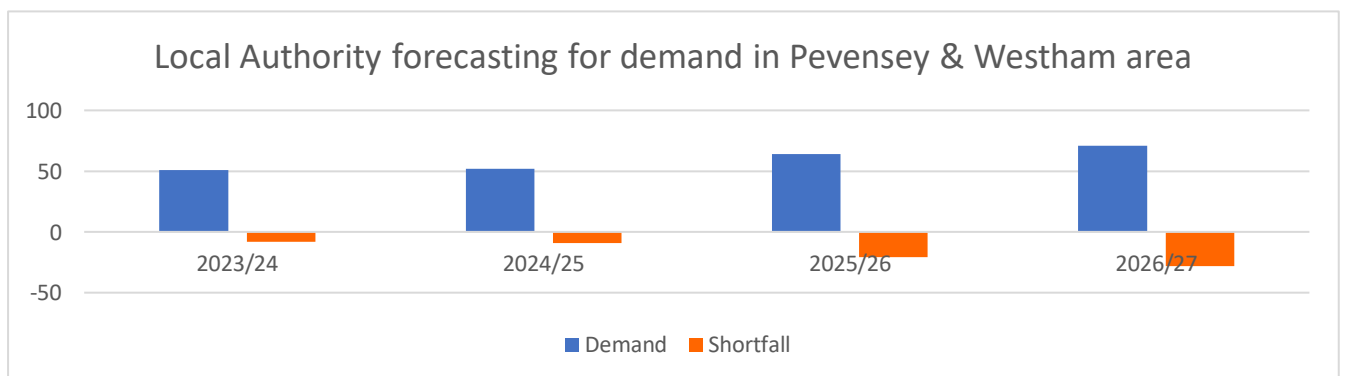
Demand for additional provision:



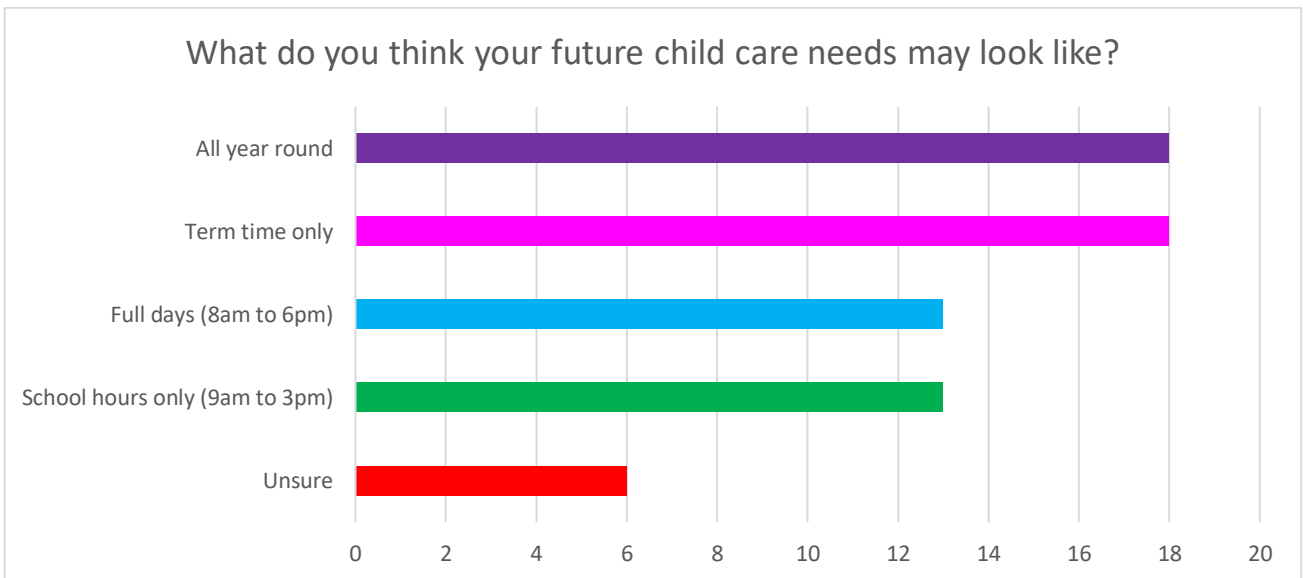
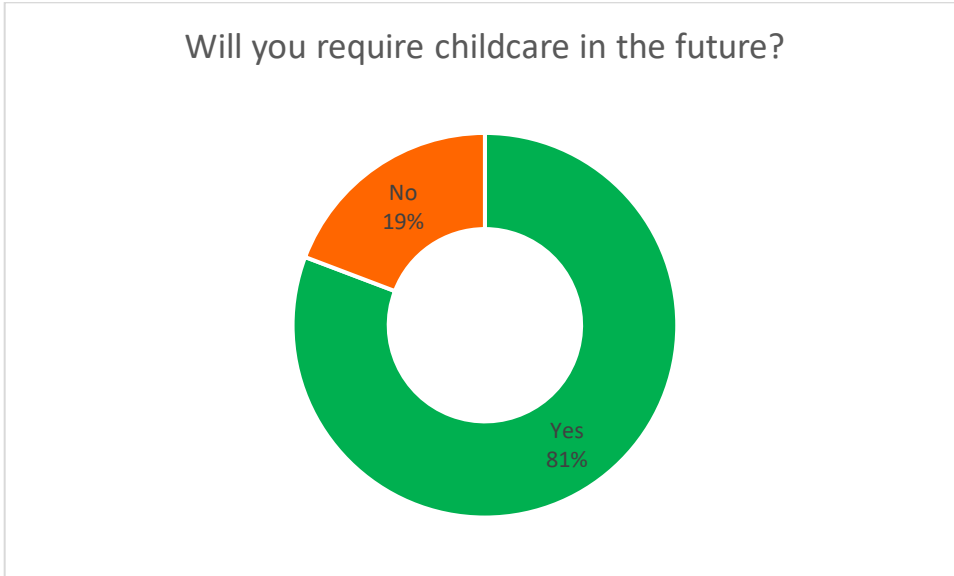
Local Authority Demand analysis (April 2024):

The local authority has completed their own needs survey of the Pevensey and Westham area. This has identified an increasing trend in need in the local area:

Demand in 2024/25 is for 52 spaces, with a shortfall of 9. This need increases in 2025/26 to 64 spaces and a shortfall of 21, and in 2026/27 increasing to 71 and a shortfall of 28.



Future demand



Transport and travel

