

## OA Blakenhale Nursery Increase Lower Age Limit to Include 2 Year Olds

Dear Parents and Guardians,

After careful consideration and extensive discussions with the local authority, we are excited to propose that we increase the lower age limit of our nursery to include 2-year-olds from September 2024.

This expansion would be a two phased approach. Initially from September 2024 we would welcome up to 4 x 2-year-olds, within our existing infrastructure without impacting the education of our 3 and 4 year olds.

Our second phase would then see an increase to 20 x 2 year olds on completion of an extension of the nursery to facilitate the additional children.

We are confident that this will provide the space and resources to cater to these children's needs, whilst also maintaining the high-level of support and education offered to our 3- & 4-year-olds.

We would like to take this opportunity to emphasise that our commitment to providing high-quality education to all year groups remains unwavering.

Allow us to outline the reasons behind this decision:

- Following the government announcement to extend funding to include 2-year-olds starting from Sept 24, OA Blakenhale have the physical capacity to offer places to 20 x 2-year-olds from Sept 24.
- Providing early education for 2-year-olds will support their development and wellbeing including early exposure to structured learning environments will contribute to better verbal abilities and encourage positive social behaviour.
- This will also support cognitive and behavioural development by learning to communicate early on and benefiting from behaviour being modelled by older children.

**Executive Principal: Mrs C Hoods-Truman**

**Oasis Academy Blakenhale Infants and Oasis Academy Blakenhale Junior**

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We understand that you may have questions regarding this decision. We will be hosting a consultation session on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June at 5pm-6pm at the Oasis Academy Blakenhale Hub, where we will be available to provide detailed information and address any queries you may have.

We truly appreciate your understanding and trust in our decision-making process. Rest assured that we are committed to maintaining the high standards of education and support that our school and nursery has always provided.

We'd be grateful if you filled out [this questionnaire](#) to let us know any thoughts you have. Thank you.

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