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PEOPLE & COMMUNITIES

Peterborough City Council
Planning Department

Early Years & Child Intervention Team
3rd Floor
Bayard Place
Broadway
Peterborough
PE1 1FB

29th June 2015

To whom it may concern,

RE: Planning Application, Bright Stars Day Nursery, 241 Park Road, PE1 2UT

I am writing to express our support of the planning application for the above provider in expanding their current registration and providing more early years education and childcare places at 241 Park Road, Peterborough.

The early years are a critical time of development and learning for children to get the best start in life. We know from research that the effects of poverty, inequality and disadvantage can be mitigated through the provision of high quality early education and childcare. It is our intention to ensure that all children in Peterborough have access to high quality early learning experiences to ensure they have acquired the necessary skills and dispositions to learning when they start school. We know that Park ward is one area where we require more free early education places to narrow the attainment gap between young children from low income families and their peers, setting them on a path to a more successful future.

Bright Stars Day Nursery was judged as 'Outstanding' at their most recent Ofsted inspection and this expansion would allow them to offer high quality early years education to benefit a greater number of children in the area. We anticipate these to be families wanting the current free entitlement of 15 hours and then 30 hours early education when the government expansion comes into effect. These are not likely to be working parents driving in from across the city, but families living in the local community, accessing on foot. The nursery also offers staggered session times throughout the day to provide parents with flexibility. This will therefore have minimal impact on rush hour traffic and increased congestion.

With this in mind, we would be in full support of the above application. If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Emma Woollard
Team Leader
Early Years & Child Intervention Service

Telephone: 01733 863897
E-Mail: pam.setterfield@peterborough.gov.uk
Reference:
Date: 29 June 2015

Peterborough City Council
Planning Department

Targeted Services & Sufficiency Team
Peterborough City Council
3rd Floor Bayard Place
Broadway
Peterborough
PE1 1FD

To whom it may concern

RE: Planning Application, reference Bright Stars Day Nursery, 241 Park Road, PE1 2UT

I write with reference to the above application for planning to expand the current childcare provision at 241 Park Road, Peterborough, PE1 2UT.

There has been significant government policy change over the last three years, introducing and subsequently expanding the free two year old childcare entitlement, enabling disadvantaged two year olds access to funded pre-school provision. From September 2014, this resulted in an additional 1565 two year olds seeking pre-school places across the city. The demand for childcare is set to increase even further with the latest government plans to expand free childcare to 30 hours per week for working parents.

As part of the childcare expansion for two year olds we identified several wards where there was a need to increase the number of childcare places on offer including Dogsthorpe, Bretton South, East (specifically the Parnwell area), North, Orton Longueville, Orton with Hampton, Park and Paston. In order to encourage childcare settings to increase their intake, we offered a grant opportunity to childcare providers to encourage placement development. Mr Younis Mohammed, the planning applicant, submitted an application for funding from us, which has been approved subject to appropriate planning consent. The nursery in question is located in one of the areas we need to expand our childcare provision, Park ward. The childcare currently required is not full day care, but is required to meet the growing demand for the 15 hours funded entitlement and therefore the hours of delivery can be flexible, to avoid peak travel time in the city, whilst enabling a greater number of children to benefit from the provision.

We are therefore fully supportive of the planning application, and ask this to be considered.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely



Pam Setterfield
Team Manager
Targeted Services and Sufficiency Team