22nd November 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Copperfield Academy is making an application to the Department for Education, via the *making a significant change to an open academy* route, to enter into a Deed of Variation for the school's Supplemental Funding Agreement (SFA), changing the age range from 3-11 to 2-11. This change will enable the school to grow its nursery and offer places for up to four 2 year olds (Under 3's). These places can be paid for by parents or funded via the Kent County Council *FreeforTwo Scheme.* Free Early Education places for 2 year olds - KELSI

Children under 3 will join the 15-hour provision, with a dedicated staff member who will focus on the developmental needs of the children within the under 3 cohort. The cohort will benefit from tailored resources to develop gross motor skills, communication & language and PSED skills. The home classroom reflects the prime areas of learning and we work closely with parents to continue this learning at home. Children have access to an outdoor play area where they enjoy a combination of play time with their peers and play with the older nursery children.

By extending the school age range, Copperfield Academy is enabling more parents within the local community to access free nursery care. To find out if you or anyone you know is entitled to free nursery education for a child under 3, please visit Help paying for childcare: Free education and childcare for 2-year-olds - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

Copperfield Academy is holding a consultation on the proposed change: *Extending the school age range from 3-11 to 2-11.*

The consultation will run from **23rd November 2023** to **11th January 2024.**

If you would like to respond to the consultation, you can do so by emailing significantchange@reach2.org with the title *Copperfield age range.*

Please note that any response which does not specifically relate to the proposed change to the school age range will not be considered.

Regards,

Ben Clark

Headteacher