

Churwell Out of School Group

Newsletter

No. 2 October 2000

Introduction

This is the second edition of a Newsletter designed to keep you informed of progress on the project to set up an Out of School Group in Churwell.

For parents new to the school, information about the plans is repeated below.

If you would like to be kept informed of progress, please complete the attached form and return to school. If you filled one in last year and have since moved house, please complete a new one.

Proposal

The plans are to relocate, refurbish and equip a temporary building on the school site to provide up to 32 childcare places before school, after school and in holidays. Funding for this is dependent on a bid to the New Opportunities Fund (Lottery money) to cover start up costs. The Group would aim to be self-financing through fees by the second year.

Similar proposals are also being made at other schools in Morley. These are all supported by the Leeds City Council's Partnership Unit and aim to increase the availability and choice of childcare in this area.

What happened to the bid?

A joint bid to the New Opportunities Fund (NOF) was made by Groups based at several schools in Morley in June 2000 with a decision expected by October 2000. Unfortunately, NOF

were unable to make a decision on the Morley bid as more information and clarification was needed and this did not reach NOF by the deadline.

The bid will now go to the next NOF meeting and a decision is expected by 28th February 2001. The Partnership Unit at Leeds City Council and Leeds Play Network (who compiled the joint bid for Morley schools) are confident that this setback does not mean that the bid is more likely to fail.

What happens next?

If the bid is successful, funds will be released so the next stages can begin. A building would be relocated onto the school site and refurbished during March/April 2001. Staff recruitment can begin so that the Play Leader can begin the planning and preparation. Once the building is ready, an Open Evening will be held for parents to see the facilities and talk to staff. Bookings would start to be taken ready for an opening during the summer term.

Julie Lawlor