

**Policy and Scrutiny Committee for Children's Services, Education and Skills –
7 September 2023**

**Written question from Mrs Helen Downer to the Cabinet Member for Children's
Services, Education and Lifelong Skills**

Why instead of closing schools, can the space not be used for renting to other childcare providers? This would lower costs for them and bring income into the schools. It would also make it easier for parents to drop off and pick up from one location.

Response

At present the Isle of Wight Council are only due to consult on the closure of Chillerton and Rookley Primary School, to be achieved through the amalgamation of Godshill Primary School and Chillerton and Rookley Primary School. Within this area there is not currently a demand for additional childcare provision.

A number of Schools across the Island do currently lease part of their school sites to early years providers or utilise part of the school site to manage an early years provision as part of the school.

Should there be a demand for additional childcare provision in areas across the Island the local authority will consider any potential capacity within school sites.