

CABINET MEMBER DECISION

Decision:

Additional specialist school places for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

(i) Details of decision

That the statutory notices published for each of the 2 proposals (1. Change of need-type catered for at Clifton Hill School, 2. Expansion at Woodfield Secondary School), thereby bringing into effect the formal commencement of the proposals be approved without modification. (see Annex)

(ii) Reasons for decision

Following the introduction of The Children and Families Act, 2014 and revised SEND Code of Practice in 2015, Surrey has seen the number of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) increase by between 11-18% each year, resulting in the projected demand for 5,100 specialist school places within the next 5 years.

The SEND Capital Programme's approved strategy will deliver the additional 1,600 specialist school places which will be phased in to close the gap between the planned places of 3,513 in 2021 and the total projected demand by approximately 2026.

This significant increase in demand for specialist provision has led to a historic over reliance on the independent school sector. Surrey's ambition is to ensure sufficient maintained placement availability for the cohort of children and young people who have SEND and need specialist placements, so that they are educated closer to home and are more connected to local communities and support services.

The Lead Cabinet Member for Education & Learning's approvals and recommendations completes the statutory process in accordance with the relevant legislation to make appropriate changes to Surrey's specialist estate.

(iii) Details of any alternative options considered and rejected

None

(iv) Details of any consultation and representations received not included in the published report

None

Conflicts of Interest and any Dispensations Granted

(Any conflict of interest declared by any other Cabinet Member consulted in relation to the decision to be recorded and any dispensations granted by the Audit and Governance Committee) = None

Decision taken by:

(i) Name: Denise Turner-Stewart

(ii) **Portfolio:** Cabinet Member for Education & Learning Decisions

Date of Decision: 08 June 2021

Date of Publication of Record of Decision: 8 June 2021

Date decision effective (i.e. 5 working days after date of publication of record of decision unless subject to call-in by the Environment and Transport Select Committee): 15 June 2021

Annex A

Table of proposals

Name of School	Current status of school				Proposal	Current No. of Specialist Places	Changes to number of places	Further information about the proposal	Next steps and Implementation Timescales (subject to the Lead Cabinet Member for All Age Learning agreeing the recommendations)
	Type	Phase	Type of need and Designation of Specialist SEN provision	Age range and gender					
Clifton Hill School	Community	Special School	Severe Learning Difficulty and Disability (SLDD)	11 - 19 years old Mixed	To change the designation from a Severe Learning Difficulty and Disability (SLDD) school to a split designation of Secondary SLDD and Complex Social and Communication (CSCN).	85	No change to total number of places but will utilise surplus of SLDD places that have been vacant for pupils with CSCN.	<p>The change to designation is to meet the increased demand for specialist placements and children with a primary need of Complex Social and Communication Needs (CSCN). This new proposal would meet the needs of the local community, match emerging forecast demand over the next five years and support the future sustainability of the school.</p> <p>As an SLDD secondary school, Clifton Hill School has been under capacity (85) for the last four years. The school report challenges in planning for a variable intake of students at Year 7 and leavers at Year 14.</p> <p>Clifton Hill School's main intake is now from Brooklands School, Reigate. A significant number of Year 6 students at Brooklands School are placed in secondary provision for pupils with Moderate Learning Difficulties, known in Surrey as Learning and Additional Needs (LAN) or CSCN schools. Surrey County Council recently expanded Brooklands School by 70 places to support the increasing need for CSCN primary provision and those students will subsequently need CSCN places for Key Stage 3.</p>	The change of designation will take effect from 1 September 2021

<p>Woodfield Secondary School</p>	<p>Community</p>	<p>Special School</p>	<p>Moderate Learning Difficulties (known in Surrey as Learning and Additional Needs (LAN))</p>	<p>11 - 19 years old Mixed</p>	<p>Expansion from 100 to 160 pupils</p>	<p>100 - Years 7 - 11 20 - Post 16</p>	<p>Additional 60places</p>	<p>The proposed expansion is to meet the increased demand for specialist placements for children with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) Learning Difficulties, known in Surrey as Learning and Additional Needs (LAN). Surrey's current provision for pupils with MLD or LAN is operating at capacity and children are increasingly often placed in specialist independent provision because Surrey case officers are unable to find a suitable available placement in Surrey. This demand is particularly acute for secondary- aged children. On average, specialist independent schools are more expensive than state-funded schools and often not local to the child's home.</p>	<p>Planning Approval - July 2021 Tender process - August 2021</p>
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