

Statutory Notice

Proposal to expand Woodfield
School onto a Specialist School
Satellite site at Carrington School



School Organisation Statutory Notice

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, as amended by the Education Act 2011 and The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013, that Surrey County Council, intends to make a significant change to Woodfield School by expanding on a satellite site with a designation of Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) at Carrington School.

Local Authority Details:

Local Authority	Surrey County Council
Address	Quadrant Court 35 Guildford Road Woking GU22 7QQ

School Details:

Name of School	Woodfield School
Phase of School	Secondary Special School with a designation of MLD
Type of School	Community School
URN	125481
Address	Sunstone Grove, Merstham, Redhill, Surrey
Postcode	RH1 3PR

Introduction

This document outlines a proposal to permanently expand Woodfield School onto a specialist school satellite site at Carrington School, creating 40 additional specialist school places for pupils aged 11-16 years with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD)¹ and co-occurring needs. All pupils will have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Proposal

Surrey County Council, in partnership with the Governing Body of Woodfield School, Carrington School and South East Surrey Schools Education Trust, is proposing to expand Woodfield School to create 40 additional places. The 40 place expansion will be provided on a specialist school satellite site at Carrington School. This would expand Woodfield School from 180 places to 220 places. All pupils will be on roll at Woodfield School and have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that names Woodfield School satellite site at Carrington School as the appropriate placement to meet their individual needs.

Table 1 shows the proposed timeline for the changes to take place on 1 September 2023. Dates and steps in the timeline may change based on the outcome of this consultation.

¹ The term Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) is used to describe the DfE school designation. This is known locally in Surrey as Learning and Additional Needs (LAN).

Table 1: Proposed timeline

Phase	Date
Statutory notices (Statutory Consultation Period)	19 April 23 - 19 May 23
Analysis	May/June 2023
Lead Cabinet Member Decision	June 2023
Implementation and first cohort of pupils	Sept 2023
Completion of building design and permissions	July to Nov 2023
Building project completed	Sept 2024

It is proposed that:

1. The expansion on the new site will be for up to 40 pupils with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) and co-occurring needs from Year 7-11.
2. The main intake point will be at Year 7 key stage transfer and, where there are spaces and demand, new pupils may be accepted in the school in other year groups.
3. When full, there will be 5 classes of 8 pupils aged 11-16 years old across key stages 3 and 4 at the Woodfield School Specialist School Satellite Site at Carrington School. Pupils will be grouped according to age, individual needs and learning styles.
4. There are no sixth form places proposed at the Woodfield School Specialist School Satellite Site at Carrington School. There are a broad range of options available at key stage 5 and these will be discussed regularly at Annual Reviews leading up to transition.
5. Pupils who attend the satellite site at Carrington will be on roll at Woodfield School with the Woodfield School Satellite Site at Carrington School named in Section I of the Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Admissions processes remain the same as the main site at Woodfield School. Further details on the admissions process for SEND specialist provision in Surrey can be found on the Surrey Local Offer website. The webpage [Choosing a school place for a child with an EHCP](#) describes how to apply for a specialist school place.

Making Representations, Objections and Comments

1. This is a four week consultation which starts on Wednesday 19 April 2023 and concludes on Friday 19 May 2023.
2. A number of organisations are available locally to support families of children who have special educational needs and/ or disabilities (SEND) and young people who have SEND to share their views. Please see [Information, Advice and Support – SEND Advice Surrey](#).

3. Any person can make comments, agree, or object to the proposal by sending representations to the Local authority through the following channels:

Website	www.surreysays.co.uk
Email	schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk
Post	Jane Keenan Woodfield at Carrington Education Place Planning Surrey County Council Quadrant Court, 35 Guildford Road, Woking, GU22 7QQ

Background

Woodfield School currently provides specialist education for pupils aged 11-19 years with a capacity of 180 planned places. Woodfield School is still growing after expanding in September 2022 from 120 to 180 planned places (160 across Year 7 to Year 11 and 20 places across the sixth form). As of April 2023 there are currently 158 pupils on roll at the school, growing to 180 by September 2023. **Table 2** shows the break down per Year Group as of academic year 2022/23. The school has a 'Good' OFSTED rating from its most recent inspection in October 2022.

Table 2: Number of Pupils on Roll at Woodfield School by National Curriculum Year (NCY) Group October 2022 Census

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Year 14	Total
Number of pupils currently at Woodfield School	28	33	27	28	20	6	12	2	156

Carrington School is an Academy within the South East Surrey Education Trust. It is a 7 form entry Secondary School in the borough of Reigate and Banstead with a published admission number (PAN) of 210 in Year 7. There are 1050 places across all year groups.

School Vision and Curriculum

The satellite site is an expansion of Woodfield School and therefore the school vision remains that of Woodfield School.

Woodfield School's mission is: Preparing pupils for adulthood: Developing learners that are happy, successful and increasing in independence.

The school aims to do this by:

- Creating a safe, happy and vibrant learning community
- Valuing and respecting all who work within it
- Celebrating all effort and achievement
- Empowering students to realise their full potential

- Empowering students to persevere and develop into independent, young citizens

The school's Values are:

- Supporting and caring
- Belonging and worth
- Fairness
- Respect
- Fulfilling potential
- Developing independence and a 'can do' attitude.

The expansion of Woodfield School on a satellite site at Woodfield at Carrington aims:

- To strengthen Woodfield and Carrington Schools' inclusion offer to all children and young people, therefore being of benefit to local communities, the two school populations and the Local Authority.
- To enable better long-term outcomes for all of our students as they prepare for adulthood and future employment.
- To offer a unique learning environment for Woodfield School students who would benefit from a bespoke provision across both mainstream and specialist settings.
- For some Carrington School students to access specialist pastoral support provision and interventions.
- Students, staff and parents/carers across both schools will be able to benefit from the skill sets of the diverse range of staff expertise across Woodfield and Carrington schools.

Surrey County Council's ambition is that the introduction of more SEN Units and/or special school satellite sites in secondary schools would be an opportunity for schools to strengthen local partnerships and their inclusion offer to all children and young people; therefore being of benefit to local communities, the school populations and the local authority.

The Woodfield School satellite site will provide for pupils with moderate learning difficulties and co-occurring needs, broadly in line with the current offer at Woodfield School. There will be opportunity to access inclusion and where possible, parts of the curriculum at Carrington School.

The additional places are for pupils who will be on roll at Woodfield School and who would be based at the satellite at Carrington. The leadership and Governance of Woodfield School will be across the two sites and therefore there will be opportunities for all pupils to benefit from shared resources across the two sites.

Current Special Educational Needs provision at Woodfield School

Woodfield School currently provides specialist education for pupils aged 11-19 years. The school has a 'Good' OFSTED rating from its most recent inspection in October 2022. It provides highly specialist teaching and support for students with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) with moderate learning difficulties and a range of co-occurring additional needs and disabilities. Woodfield is recognised nationally ([Alex Timpson ARC Attachment Award 2021](#)) for its systemic Trauma Informed and Therapeutic Approach, supporting pupils to learn to manage their own needs and access learning with increasing confidence and independence. The Trauma Informed

and Therapeutic Approach will be fundamental to the pedagogy of the proposed collaboration and to the vision of the right provision at the right time, with pupils supported across the two schools working together to meet their very individual needs.

Pupils with moderate learning difficulties have much greater difficulty than their peers in acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills and in understanding subject-specific concepts. They may also have associated speech and language delay, low self-esteem, low levels of concentration and under-developed social skills. Many of the pupils attending Woodfield School have additional needs and disabilities including communication and interaction needs, medical needs, sensory, or emotional needs resulting in complex learning needs. The school enables pupils to realise their personal potential by creating a safe, happy and vibrant learning community where all effort and achievement is celebrated, where pupils are empowered to persevere and develop independence and through valuing and respecting all who form part of the wider school community.

Further information about the current curriculum and provision at Woodfield School is available on the school website: [Woodfield School](#)

Current Additional Needs and Disabilities provision at Carrington School

Carrington School provides education for pupils aged 11-16 years where the focus is upon delivering high quality learning opportunities that engage all students and ensures they can acquire the knowledge needed for each stage of their education and help them gain the qualifications they need to see them onto the post-16 courses and into the future career of their choice. The opportunities within and beyond the school curriculum are both rich and diverse. Not only do the school run the traditional sports, choirs and performance-style clubs, but enable all students to choose an enrichment activity as part of Carrington School's [Excellence Programme](#) (within curriculum time) to help them find and develop their talents. Encouraging students to try new things, to be involved, to work as a team and with students from other year groups to build that sense of togetherness.

Carrington School has a Director of Inclusion (SENCo, Special Educational Needs Coordinator) that manages and oversees additional support and interventions, in liaison with the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), Home School Link Worker (HSLW), Heads of Year, Heads of Department, Heads of Faculty and teachers to ensure that additional support is carefully planned, monitored and reviewed for impact on learning. The Learning Support (LS) Faculty work with students in and out of the classroom. The focus is on Quality First Teaching (QTF, Level 1) for all students; and there is a recognition that Targeted (Level 2) and Specialist (Level 3) support for a number of students will be needed for some students. These interventions take place on a rolling programme; are time bound and well-structured; and carefully monitored for impact.

Further information about the current additional needs and disabilities provision at Carrington school is available on the school website: [Carrington School](#)

What will be provided through the Specialist School Satellite Site?

The new satellite site would be staffed and managed by Woodfield School and provide 40 places for pupils aged 11-16 years with identified moderate learning difficulties and co-occurring needs.

These would be pupils on roll at Woodfield School who, in agreement with parents and carers, would also benefit from the enhanced learning and social opportunities that Carrington School can provide. The aim is for the expansion to utilise space on the Carrington site to provide specialist facilities to support learning for both Woodfield and Carrington students.

What do we want to achieve?

Surrey's SEND Capital Programme is aligned with Surrey's Community Vision 2030, and Surrey County Council's Cabinet endorsed new Inclusion and Additional Needs Strategy 2023-2026, which sets out the ambition that all Surrey's children and young people with additional needs and disabilities are enabled to lead their best life.

There has been significant investment in additional state-maintained specialist school places in Surrey over the past four years to enable children and young people to be educated locally to their families and home communities. Our strong partnerships with local specialist and mainstream schools have enabled this to happen alongside robust forecasting of demand to understand what the profile of need will look like county-wide over the coming years.

Between 2019 and 2022 Cabinet approved the strategies and capital investment for four phases of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Capital Programme. On 31 January 2023 Cabinet approved the refreshed Capital Medium Term Financial Strategy which provides £202m for SEND Capital against committed and planned projects in 2023-2026 delivery tranches. With this investment the programme is aiming to deliver at least 2,440 permanent additional specialist school places in Surrey between 2019-2026 to create capacity for 5,760 state maintained specialist places to meet projected demand for up to 6,000 specialist places in total by 2030/31.

As of academic year 2022/23, Surrey's state-maintained specialist education estate has been increased by approximately 800 places, from around 3,320 in 2019 when the Capital programme started to around 4,000 places now. These specialist school places are almost full, noting that new places are being phased in and some of the existing accommodation needs to be re-provided as it is not fit for purpose.

Our ambition is that the introduction of more specialist school satellite sites in mainstream secondary schools would be an opportunity for schools to strengthen local partnerships and their inclusion offer to all children and young people, therefore being of benefit to pupils, the schools' communities and the local authority.

The specialist school satellite site at Carrington School will provide for pupils with moderate learning difficulties and co-occurring additional needs and disabilities, broadly in line with the current offer at Woodfield School. The total capacity at the satellite site will be 40 places. The proposed expansion of Woodfield School on a Satellite Site at Carrington School will:

- Enable the students attending the satellite site at Carrington to access supported mainstream accredited curriculum and specialist approaches to both learning and emotional wellbeing.
- Provide wider access and opportunities to more diverse routes around pathways to adulthood.

- Offer Continued Professional Development (CPD) training opportunities for staff across both sites.
- Provide additional nurturing opportunities through collaboration between the two schools for pupils who need a more individual, personalised approach to access their learning from the mainstream site.
- Provide an integrated environment so that pupils gain a sense of their own social identity and access to a peer group so they feel a greater sense of self and belonging.
- Provide an improved learning environment for all pupils by repurposing, refurbishing and adapting existing space and a new building to re-provide space needed at Carrington School.

Reasons for expanding the school on a satellite site

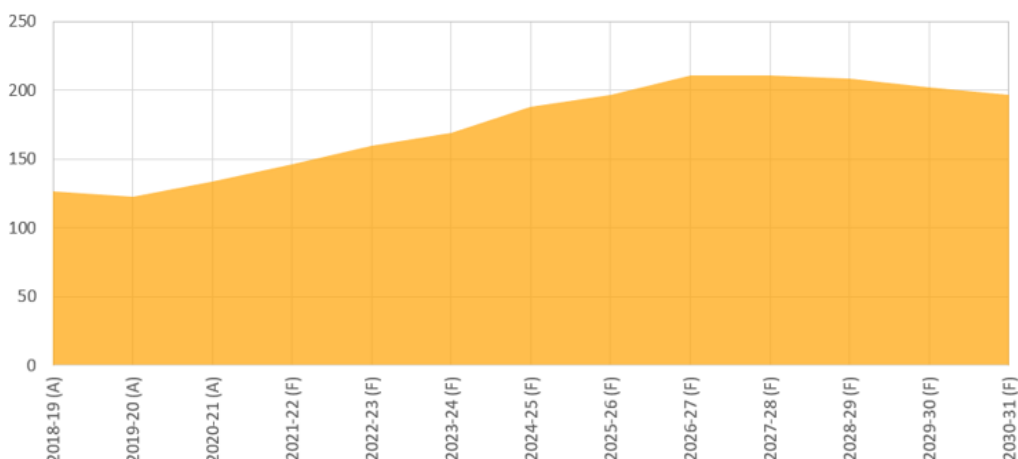
Demand for specialist school places in Surrey

Surrey County Council has identified a long-term sufficiency gap for additional specialist places across Surrey. Demand for specialist provision in the South East of Surrey for secondary age pupils with moderate learning difficulties (MLD) and co-occurring needs is high. As a result, other specialist provision in the local area is already operating at or above capacity. The provision of an additional 40 places will help support local families who would otherwise have to travel further afield for their child to receive an appropriate full-time education.

The proposed expansion of Woodfield School into a specialist school satellite site at Carrington School will increase availability of specialist places that are matched appropriately to need-type, phases of education and geographic location, as well as reduce home to school journey times and associated costs.

Graph 1 shows a forecast 32% increase in demand for Moderate Learning Difficulties (known locally as Learning and Additional Needs) designated specialist school places from 2022/23 to 2026/27. This is equivalent to circa 50 additional places.

Graph 1 - Year 7 to 11 Pupils residing in South East Surrey who are expected to need a Specialist Place with a designation of Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD), known locally as Learning and Additional Needs (LAN)



Existing MLD Designated Specialist School provision in Surrey

More details of our specialist provision can be found in the booklet "[Finding the right secondary school in Surrey](#)" on the [Surrey Local Offer website](#).

Table 3 and 4 below provide a summary of existing secondary specialist school and SEN Unit provision in Surrey designated to meet the needs of pupils with moderate learning difficulties and co-occurring needs as their primary presenting needs.

Table 3: Specialist Schools with a designation of Moderate Learning Difficulties in South East Surrey (secondary phase).

School	Designation	District	Planned Places	Age Range	Occupancy as of Sept 2022	Planned Expansion under Surrey's SEND Capital Programme
West Hill Academy	MLD (Known locally in Surrey as LAN)	Mole Valley	149	3-11 years	149	Recently expanded by 30 places in 2021/22
Woodfield School	MLD (Known locally in Surrey as LAN)	Reigate and Banstead	180	11-16 years	158	Currently growing from 120 to 180 planned places following expansion in September 2021. This consultation proposes additional 40 places at the satellite expansion on Carrington School site for September 2023

Table 4: SEN Units in a mainstream school with a designation of Moderate Learning Difficulties in South East Surrey.

School	Designation	District	Planned Places	Age Range	Occupancy as of Sept 2022	Planned Expansion under Surrey's SEND Capital Programme
Furzefield Community Primary School	MLD (Known locally in Surrey as LAN)	Reigate and Banstead	14	7-11 years	13	No planned expansion
Oakfield Junior School	MLD (Known locally in Surrey as LAN)	Mole Valley	16	7-11 years	18	No planned expansion

Key Outcomes and Benefits

Expanding high quality and sustainable specialist school provision for Surrey resident secondary age pupils will provide the following benefits as stated in the [SEND Capital Programme 2023 2024 Delivery Tranche](#) report to Cabinet on 28 March 2023:

1. Benefits realisation ensures Surrey's maintained specialist education provision is fit for purpose and creates additional employment/supported internship opportunities for residents around areas of expansion.
2. Children, young people, and families can access the same level of high-quality support wherever they live in Surrey. We have a good, shared understanding of our children and young people who have additional needs and disabilities in Surrey and our support offer matches their identified needs.
3. Expanding Surrey's specialist provision aligns with the Preparation for Adulthood programme and strategy for post-16 to create local further education and employment pathways such as apprenticeships and supported internships. This enables young people who have additional needs and disabilities to make a successful transition to adulthood and secure employment.
4. Capacity created locally will also make certain that SEND home to school transport distance and costs are reduced so that pupils attend their closest most appropriate school with shorter journey times. Opportunities for developing independent travel skills can be maximised as a result of children and young people being educated closer to home. This will also address local congestion around school sites as well as traffic flow around the county, which will be of benefit to Surrey's Green Agenda.
5. The approved remedification and expansion programme will ensure that additional places are matched appropriately to need type, phases of education and geographic locations.

Implementation Plan

Finance and Resourcing

Revenue income: Woodfield School will receive £10,000 for each planned place commissioned (40 places) and will also receive a "Top up" sum for each pupil on roll at the school. This is determined against individual pupils' needs. Top up rates are reviewed annually by the Local Authority.

Lease agreements between Woodfield School and South East Surrey Schools Education Trust (SESSET) will determine arrangements to transfer any funds for admin, utility and running costs at the site at Carrington School.

Leadership, Governance and Staffing

The Leadership and Governance of the satellite site remains with the Governing Body of Woodfield School. Staff will be employed by Woodfield School, and the Headteacher and

Governing Body will be responsible for recruiting and managing staff at the satellite site at Carrington School. Woodfield School is a community school. There will be opportunities for shared training and development across Woodfield School and Carrington School.

Capital planning and buildings

The Capital project is part of SEND Capital Programme’s 2023/24 delivery tranche approved by Surrey County Council’s Cabinet on 28 March 2023.

Carrington School is 3 miles from Woodfield School and therefore the satellite site is in the same area as Woodfield School with both schools located in Redhill. A feasibility study is due to be completed in May 2023 and will inform the technical approach to refurbish and repurpose existing space at Carrington School to accommodate the satellite site for Woodfield School and re-provide additional space at Carrington School. The scheduled date for delivery of the project is August 2024. The feasibility study includes arrangements for temporary accommodation at Carrington School in the school year 2023/24 while the building project is in progress.

Growth Model

It is proposed that there will be 8 additional places available in September 2023, which is the proposed first year of opening in temporary accommodation at Carrington School. The table below shows how the specialist school satellite will grow from September 2023 to full capacity in September 2026. The growth model may change depending on timescales and the outcome of the property feasibility study. The main intake point will be key stage transfer in Year 7, although, where there are spaces and demand, new children may be accepted into the school in other year groups.

Academic Year	Numbers of learners per National Curriculum Year Group					
	NCY 7	NCY 8	NCY 9	NCY 10	NCY 11	TOTAL
2023-2024	8					8
2024-2025	8	8				16
2025-2026	8	8	8			24
2026-2027	8	8	8	8		32
2027-2028	8	8	8	8	8	40
TOTAL	Year on Year availability					40

Impacts

An Equality Impact Assessment is being completed throughout the consultation process and will be published as part of the Cabinet Member for Education and Learning Decision Meeting.

Consultations, approvals and overall timescales

1. It is proposed that the Woodfield School satellite site at Carrington School commences from 1 September 2023. The proposed changes require a period of consultation, the publication of Statutory Notices and the agreement of Surrey County Council’s Cabinet Member for Education and Learning if the proposal is to proceed.

2. The first stage of consultation was open from 21 February 2023 to 31 March 2023. During this period, Surrey County Council shared the proposal with the wider professional network, schools including headteachers and chairs of governors, with unions, parent representatives, partner agencies and with the staff and parents of the school subject to the proposals. The consultation was also shared with local councillors and residents, SEND Advice Surrey and Family Voice Surrey. The associated documentation was published on the Surrey County Council 'Surrey Says' website. Interested parties were invited to return responses to the consultation via an online form or alternatively email or post responses.
3. The consultation analysis is published at www.surreysays.co.uk on the Statutory Notice webpage alongside this document.

Key points from the consultation responses:

- 50 people responded to the consultation.
- 52% (26) of respondents agreed with the proposal, 32% (16) disagreed and 16% (8) didn't know how they felt about the proposal.
- 68% (34) of respondents left comments regarding the proposal.
- The theme with the highest prevalence in the comments was questions about funding, resources, provision and staffing.

Questions raised during the informal consultation period are addressed in this document and a Question and Answer document published alongside this Statutory Notice.

4. Statutory Notice is now open for a four-week period from Wednesday 19 April 2023 and concludes on Friday 19 May 2023.
5. The publication of Notices is when the local authority formally states that it intends to implement the proposed changes. This will be the final opportunity for consultees to make their views known before a final decision is taken. Following the consultation period officers will summarise the feedback and will report to the Cabinet Member for Education and Learning.

What happens next?

You can make representations, objections and comments using the online form at www.surreysays.co.uk. Alternatively, you can respond by email or post at the addresses given in the section [Making Representations, Objections and Comments](#).