

Consultation Analysis

Proposal to create a Special Educational Needs (SEN) Unit at Epsom Primary and Nursery School for Autistic Pupils and those with Communication & Interaction Needs



SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Consultation Analysis - Proposal to establish a Special Educational Needs (SEN) Unit at Epsom Primary and Nursery School for Autistic Pupils and those with Communication & Interaction Needs

Introduction

This report is an analysis of responses gathered on the proposal to establish an SEN unit at Epsom Primary & Nursery School

Surrey County Council published an informal consultation from 22 February to 1 April 2022. After reviewing initial responses Statutory notices were published from 25 April to 24 May

Part 1 of this paper is an analysis of the responses received during the informal consultation notice period and Part 2 is an analysis of the responses during the Statutory Notices. The summary and key points give a summary of the findings from both consultations. This paper will be submitted to the Lead Cabinet Member for Education and Learning as part of the Lead Cabinet Member report, for consideration in the decision to determine the statutory notices on 27 June 2022.

Consultation Summary

The aim of the consultation was to seek views on the proposal from all interested parties, particularly from pupils and their families who attend Epsom Primary & Nursery School, pupils and their families who may attend the school in the future, other Special Schools in Surrey, local schools and the local community.

The informal consultation was open from 22 February to 1 April 2022. The associated documentation was published on the Surrey County Council 'Surrey Says' website and circulated to local stakeholders. Interested parties were invited to return responses to the consultation via an online form or alternatively email or post responses.

A public meeting was offered on 10 March 2022 at 10am

The Statutory Notices were published from 25 April to 24 May 2022. The associated documentation was published on the Surrey County Council 'Surrey Says' website and circulated to local stakeholders. The short notice was also published in the local paper with details on how to access the full notice. Interested parties were invited to return responses to the consultation via an online form or alternatively email or post responses.

An Equality Impact Assessment is being completed throughout the informal consultation period and statutory notice period and responses to the consultation have contributed to this.

Key points from the consultation responses:

1. There were **11** responses to the informal consultation and there were **5** responses during the statutory notice period.
2. **100%** of respondents **agree** with the proposal
3. Respondents commented on the **positive impacts** of establishing an SEN unit at Epsom Primary & Nursery School.

Recommendations:

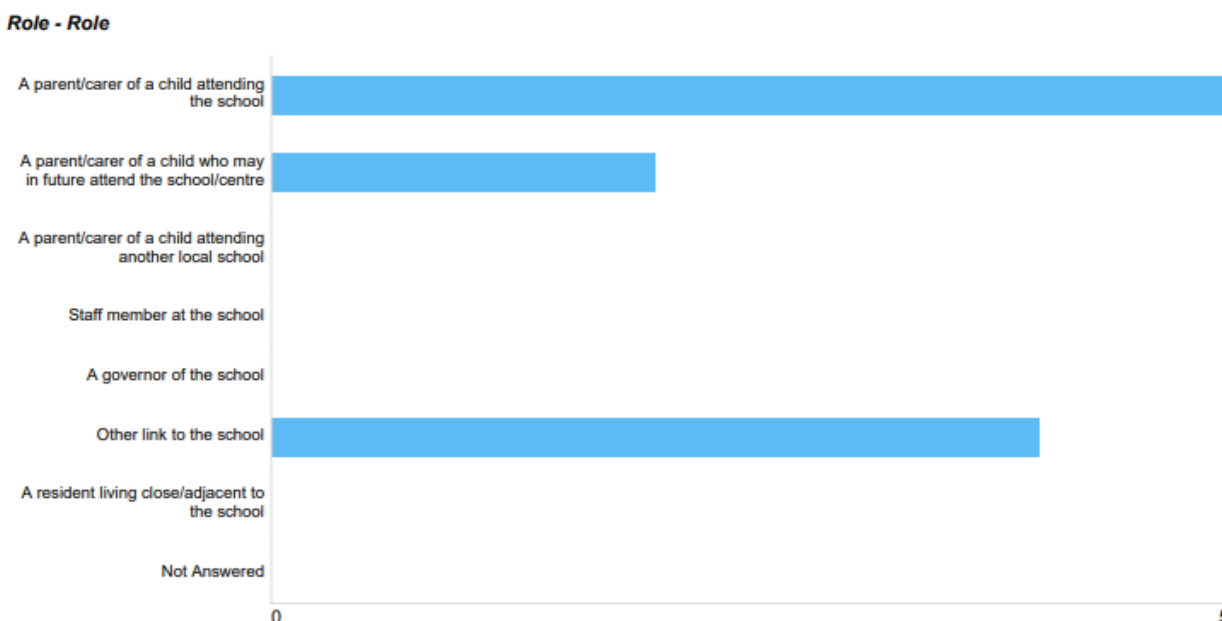
Part 1 – Informal Consultation

Quantitative Analysis

There were 11 responses to the consultation. 100% of respondents agreed with the proposal.

The chart below shows the distribution of responses to the consultation. The highest percentage of respondents selected “parent/carer of a child attending the school” (50%).

Graph 1: What is your Relationship with the School



Qualitative Analysis

Respondents had the opportunity to add comments at the end of the survey. Out of 11 respondents 4 left comments.

Positive Impacts

Respondents mentioned the positive impacts of having a SEN Unit at a local school in the Epsom area. Respondents commented on the positive impacts for autistic pupils and those with communication and interaction needs, as well as positive impacts for the school.

“This is a great initiative and will immensely benefit in making the school more inclusive”

“As a parent who has a child in Epsom Primary with an ASD diagnosis, this is really good news.”

“We need more facilities in the local community for those children with ASD and Communication and Interaction difficulties to be able to attend local schools.”

Questions

A Question and Answer document is published at www.surreysays.co.uk on the Statutory Notices Consultation page. Two questions asked by respondents are answered in that document, alongside other questions asked during the consultation period.

1. Will this be a base for ASD or DLD?
2. Is this to support existing pupils at Epsom primary or will places be given externally via panel?

Public Meetings

An online public meeting was offered on 10 March using MS Teams. There were no participants on the day, therefore the online presentation did not take place. However, the Education Place Planning Commissioning Manager for the North East attended an online Parent Forum meeting on the 28 March

A Question and Answer document is published at www.surreysays.co.uk on the Statutory Notices Consultation page and addresses the questions asked

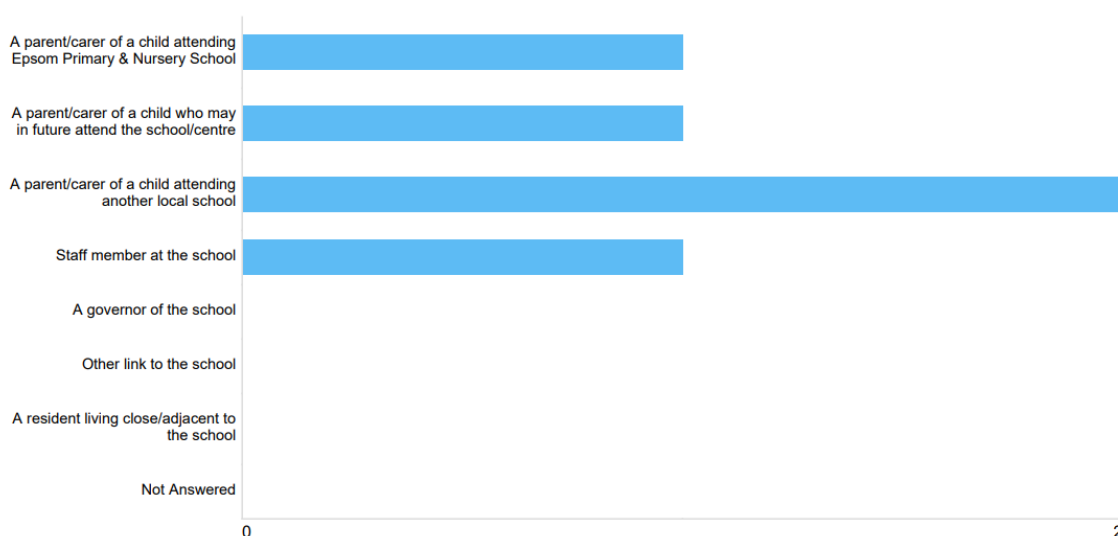
Part 2 – Statutory Notices

Quantitative Analysis

There were 5 responses to the consultation. 100% of respondents agreed with the proposal.

The chart below shows the distribution of responses to the consultation.

Graph 1: What is your Relationship with the School



Qualitative Analysis

Respondents had the opportunity to add comments at the end of the survey. Out of 5 respondents 3 left comments.

Positive Impacts

All comments mentioned the positive impacts of establishing an SEN Unit. Respondents mentioned the positive impact of creating additional SEN places and reducing travel for autistic pupils and those with communication and interaction needs.

“Other units suitable for children with ASD are further away in the borough which makes a greater distance for children and families who are often concerned about availability of local places.”

“We need more schools where children with SEN can go to school close to home and not have to spend ages in a taxi.”

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