

## **London Borough of Sutton**

**The possible establishment of additional provision and  
the establishment of an additional site at Sherwood Park  
Special School from September 2015**



## **CONSULTATION PAPER**

The Council wants to hear your views on these important proposals. If you would like to receive this document in a different format or different language, please contact 020 8770 5000.

**January 2014**

## **CONSULTATION ON OPTIONS FOR THE POSSIBLE ESTABLISHMENT OF ADDITIONAL PROVISION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADDITIONAL SITE AT SHERWOOD PARK SPECIAL SCHOOL FROM SEPTEMBER 2015**

We wish to consult with a wide range of interested parties including parents, carers and professionals working in education and related sectors to find out their views on the proposals for the establishment additional provision and the establishment of an additional site at Sherwood Park Special School which are set out in this document. I am therefore pleased to let you have a copy of our consultation document. A response form for you to use is attached as an Appendix.

Should you require any further copies of this document, they can be downloaded from the Council's website: [www.sutton.gov.uk](http://www.sutton.gov.uk). The consultation page has a direct link from the home page. Alternatively, please e-mail to [senproposal@sutton.gov.uk](mailto:senproposal@sutton.gov.uk) with your request.

This consultation starts on Monday 6 January 2014 with the last date for responding to the consultation being Friday 14 February 2014.

There will be an open public meeting held at the school. Details are set out on page 3 inside.

Your views are important to us and the Council wishes to hear from as many people as possible during this consultation. I look forward to receiving your response.

Tolis Vouyioukas  
Strategic Director of Children, Young People and Learning Directorate

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This consultation document explains the Local Authority's proposals to establish additional provision and the establishment of an additional site at Sherwood Park Special School from September 2015. Your views are important to us, so please take the opportunity to express your opinion on the proposals in this document.

## 2. TIMETABLE FOR CONSULTATION

DAY/DATE	EVENT/KEY POINT
Monday 6 January 2014	Start of public consultation on the possible establishment of additional provision and the establishment of an additional site.
Friday 14 February 2014	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> stage consultation on possible establishment of additional provision and the establishment of an additional site.
Thursday 13 March 2014	Children, Family and Education Committee – To consider consultation responses and authorise the publication of Statutory Proposals proposing to establish additional provision and an additional site.
Thursday 24 April to Thursday 5 June 2014	Publication of Statutory Proposals with a Representation Period of 6 weeks during which comments or objections can be made.
Thursday xx July 2014 (TBC)	Children, Family and Education Committee – Final decision (determination) of Statutory Proposals....
September 2015	Formal establishment of additional provision and the establishment of an additional site.

## 3. THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

Publication of this document marks the beginning of the consultation process to establish establishment of additional provision and the establishment of an additional site Sherwood Park Special School. This document will be made widely available and circulated to all schools and to other statutory consultees. It will also be available via the Council's website [www.sutton.gov.uk](http://www.sutton.gov.uk)

The public consultation period will end at 5pm on Friday 14 February 2014. If you wish to express any views or comments on the proposals, please let us have your response by no later than the above time and date. All views and responses will be carefully considered before any further decisions on the proposals are made.

There will be a public consultation meeting arranged to look at the possible establishment of additional provision and the establishment of an additional site. The meeting will be open to all parents, along with members of the public who are interested in finding out more about the proposals.

### AT THE SCHOOL

27 January 2014 Sherwood Park Special School

5.00 pm at the School

### AT LOCAL AREA COMMITTEES

21 January 2014 Carshalton and Clockhouse.

7.30 pm Beeches Baptist Church

Following the end of this period of public consultation, a report will be submitted to the Council's Children, Family and Education Committee (CFEC) at its 13 March 2014 meeting detailing responses received and any issues raised during the consultation period. The CFEC will consider these responses before deciding whether to take the proposals forward through the publication of Statutory Proposals which are formal, legal documents which set out the exact details of the change that is being proposed. Following the publication of the Statutory Proposals, there will be a six week Representation Period during which comments and objections can be made on the proposals

Views expressed in the Representation Period will be considered before a final decision is made. This final decision is likely to be taken during the summer 2014 term.

If a final decision cannot be made at that time, then the proposals will be referred to a third party, the Office of the Schools Adjudicator, which will decide them. There is also some scope for certain interested parties, for example, the governing body of the school to which the proposal relates, to appeal to the Schools Adjudicator following the determination of the Statutory Notice if they disagree with the decision.

#### **4. EXPRESSING YOUR VIEWS**

**You can respond to this consultation in the following ways:**

- Complete the attached response form and return it via post to Pupil Based Commissioning (Stonecourt), London Borough of Sutton, FREEPOST CN2117, Stonecourt, Civic Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton SM1 1BR.
- Email Sutton Council at: [senproposal@sutton.gov.uk](mailto:senproposal@sutton.gov.uk)
- Complete the response form on Sutton's website [www.sutton.gov.uk](http://www.sutton.gov.uk). Search on Consultation – SEN Proposals Sherwood Park Special School.
- Fax your response to Sutton Council on 020 8770 6564.

## **5. BACKGROUND**

Sherwood Park Special School caters for a wide range of pupils from 3 -19 with needs ranging from severe learning difficulties (SLD) through to profound & multiple learning difficulties (PMLD). In addition some pupils have autistic spectrum disorder (ASD). The complexity of pupils needs continues to increase as does the number of such pupils. The incidence of children PMLD and with severe ASD has increased sharply in Sutton. For children with PMLD, in particular, this is due not only to the increase in population but also to improved medical technology and increased survival rates along with the ability to make earlier and more accurate diagnoses. There is therefore strong evidence that the number of children with SLD/ severe ASD (which is often coupled with challenging behaviour) will continue to rise significantly over the foreseeable future. The population under consideration therefore requires intensive, specialist support in a special school environment.

In recent years Sutton has developed a range of specialist provision for ASD children at the primary age range, including the Opportunity Bases at Foresters Primary, Green Wrythe Primary and Bandon Hill Primary along with specialist provision at Carew Manor. Currently there is secondary specialist provision at Carew Manor, Glenthorne High and Stanley Park High. There is, however, still a major shortfall at secondary level and therefore the new provision caters for the 11 to 19 age range which this proposal would address. The expansion to provide places for SLD/severe ASD pupils of secondary age on the new site should also have the effect of increasing the School's capacity to accommodate PMLD pupils on the current site.

Up until now, the Authority has been obliged to seek placements elsewhere which are a major call on the budget and which also involve travel and separation for the children and their families. The total out-borough SEN placement and transport expenditure currently exceeds £10m annually. Currently a total of more than 50 children and young people covering both the primary and secondary age ranges with SLD/severe ASD/challenging behaviours are placed out-borough at a cost of almost £3m (excluding transport). This number is set to rise considerably in future years if no action is taken to increase the Council's capacity to meets the needs of these students in-borough.

Placing pupils out of Borough goes against the Council's policy of educating young people in their local community. This is particularly pertinent to students with severe learning difficulties, for whom a significant portion of the post-16 curriculum relates to the development of their personal independence skills. It benefits them to undertake travel training, attend work experience and learn to use other facilities in the community in which they will be living. Local placement also facilitates links with Carshalton College of Further Education and Orchard Hill College, which they may attend after leaving school.

Therefore the development of in-borough specialist provision for secondary aged children would enable increasing demand to be met. It is anticipated that demand coming through will lead to a significant number of secondary aged and post-16 students every year who could benefit considerably from placement in such a facility where more effective integrated care packages more in accordance with the requirements of forthcoming legislation could be drawn up and managed.

As far as the funding and provision available to support children joining the Special School is concerned, a package of capital funding will be drawn together including capital grant from DfE in order to support the construction of new accommodation on the former Stanley Park High School site. Revenue funding will be added to the school's delegated budget and will be calculated according to the identified needs of the pupils attending the School. There will also be appropriate revenue funding for the necessary support for identified SENs and other needs for the students involved.

## **6. THE PROPOSAL**

The proposal is initially to provide 40 (but ultimately up to 80) additional places for secondary aged and post-16 students with SLD/severe ASD and associated challenging behaviours in order to meet the needs of the Borough's SLD/severe ASD population. In order to achieve this enlargement, it is proposed to establish an additional site for Sherwood Park Special School on the site of the former Stanley Park High School (SPHS) from September 2015, subsequently building up in numbers as successive intakes of students join the School.

The proposal takes the opportunity to use an area of the former SPHS site which will become an additional site under the management of Sherwood Park Special School. This is a realistic proposition as the two sites would be within 1.5 miles of each other. The School has sufficient management capacity and professional expertise coupled with a track record of providing high quality provision for its pupils to manage the expansion well.

The School's October 2011 and October 2013 Ofsted inspections indicated "Good" for overall effectiveness. The October 2013 Ofsted inspection which graded the school as "Good" in all areas stated "pupils make good progress so that by the time they leave, they are well prepared for the next phase of their lives and education".

The Local Authority has a duty under the Education Act 1996 to secure special educational provision for pupils with special educational needs and to keep that provision under review. When proposing any reorganization of SEN provision, Local Authorities are required to apply the 'SEN Improvement Test', i.e. to demonstrate that the proposed alternative arrangements are likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of educational provision for children with special educational needs.

While aspects of the proposed changes which should be viewed from the perspective of the SEN Improvement Test have already been covered in the background information, one additional factor is the overall safety and well-being of the pupils. There will be a division in the potential intake of the School between those pupils who have profound and multiple learning difficulties, who are physically vulnerable, and those who have Severe Learning Difficulties and ASD, which can result in challenging behaviour. Having two sites would enable these two groups to be separated so that the vulnerable pupils are safe and those with challenging behavior will have specialist staff, knowledgeable in ASD

and in how to contain, de-escalate and develop strategies to reduce the incidence of challenging behaviour.

Lack of local provision can also result in these pupils having long daily journeys to out-of-borough provision. This results in them having to get up very early to be ready when transport calls and often leading to them being tired in school and less able to benefit from all that the School offers.

## **Specific Consultees**

Copies of this consultation document and the summary have been made available to the following:

Parents/Carers, Staff and Governors of Sherwood Park Special School.  
Parents/Carers, Staff, Chairs of Governors of all other nursery and primary schools in Sutton.  
Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of all secondary schools in Sutton.  
Headteachers of all special schools in Sutton.  
Headteachers/Teachers in Charge of Pupil Referral Units in Sutton.  
Children's Centres.  
Principal of SCOLA.  
Principal of Orchard Hill College.  
Principal of Carshalton College of Further Education.  
All elected members (councillors) of the London Borough of Sutton.  
Chairs of all Sutton Local Committees.  
Directors of Children's Services of neighbouring Local Authorities (Merton, Croydon, Richmond, Kingston and Surrey).  
MPs and MEPs.  
Local Dioceses – Church of England and Roman Catholic.  
Chair of the Sutton Schools Forum.  
Chair of the Sutton Admissions Forum.  
Chair of the Sutton Primary Headteachers Group.  
Chair of the Sutton Secondary Headteachers Group.  
All Strategic Directors (London Borough of Sutton).  
All Executive Heads of Service (London Borough of Sutton).  
Secretaries of relevant Trades Unions and Teachers Professional Associations  
Sutton Racial Equality Council.  
Chair of Early Outcomes and Extended Services Partnership.  
Chair of Sutton Voluntary Sector Forum (Children and Families).  
Chief Executive, Sutton and Merton Primary Care Trust.  
Metropolitan Police – Area Commander, Sutton.  
Early Years and PVI settings.  
GPs.  
Young Advisors Faith and Belief Forum.



**Response Form: Sherwood Park Special School – Establishment of additional provision for children with severe Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and the establishment of an additional site**

<b>Do you support the proposals in relation to Sherwood Park Special School?</b>			
	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NOT SURE</b>

**Please use the space provided below to add any comments or views on the proposal.**

**For monitoring purposes, please could you provide the following details:-**

**Capacity in which responding:**

Parent/Carer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pupil	<input type="checkbox"/>
Headteacher	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member of School Staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
Governor	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

**School or organisation you represent, if any:**

I am: Male  Female

**My ethnic origin is:**

White (British or Irish)	<input type="checkbox"/>	White British	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black (Caribbean)	<input type="checkbox"/>	White (other)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Black (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black (African)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>

Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pakastani	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mixed (White & Black Caribbean)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian (Other)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Mixed (White & Asian)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mixed (White & Black African)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please state)	<input type="checkbox"/>		

**My post code is:**

**Please complete the attached response form and return it:**

- By post to Primary Consultation, Pupil Based Commissioning CYPLD, London Borough of Sutton, FREEPOST CN2117, Stonecourt, Civic Offices, St Nicholas Way, Sutton, SM1 1BR
- By e-mail to Sutton Council at: [senproposal@sutton.gov.uk](mailto:senproposal@sutton.gov.uk) By completing the response form on-line on Sutton's website [www.sutton.gov.uk](http://www.sutton.gov.uk). Search on Consultation – SEN Proposals Sherwood Park Special School.
- By fax to Sutton Council on 020 8770 6564

**The last date for responding to the consultation is Friday 14 February 2014**

**Thank you for taking the time to complete the response**

If you, or someone you know, need a translation of any part of this document please tick the box for the language required and complete the form below. Telephone 020 8770 5000 for more information.

Nëse ju ose dikush që njihni ka nevojë për një përkthim të ndonjë pjese të këtij dokumenti, ju lutemi shënoni me v kutinë për gjuhën e kërkuar dhe plotësoni formularin e mëposhtëm. Për më tepër informacion telefononi numrin 020 8770 5000.

Albanian

إذا كنت أنت، أو شخص آخر تعرفه، بحاجة إلى ترجمة لأي جزء من هذه الوثيقة، فيرجى وضع إشارة في الخانة الخاصة باللغة المطلوبة وإكمال الاستمارة أدناه. ومن أجل الحصول على المزيد من المعلومات يرجى الاتصال بالهاتف رقم 020 8770 5000.

Arabic

যদি আপনার, অথবা আপনার পরিচিত কোন লোকের, এই দলিলটির কোন অংশের অনুবাদের দরকার হয়, তাহলে যে ভাষায় অনুবাদের দরকার সেই ভাষার পাশের খালি ঘরে টিক চিহ্ন দিন এবং নিচের ফর্মটি পূরণ করুন। এই ব্যাপারে আরো তথ্য বা খবরাখবরের জন্য 020 8770 5000 নম্বরে ফোন করুন।

Bengali

જો તમને, અથવા તમે જાણતા હોય તેવી કોઈ વ્યક્તિને આ દસ્તાવેજના કોઈ પણ ભાગના તરજુમાની જરૂર હોય તો, કૃપા કરી જોઈતી ભાષાના ઓકસમાં નિશાની કરી અને નીચેનું ફોર્મ પૂરું કરો. વધારે માહિતી માટે 020 8770 5000 ઉપર ફોન કરો.

Gujarati

यदि आपको, या किसी और को जिसे आप जानते हैं, इस दस्तावेज के किसी भाग का अनुवाद चाहिए तो कृपया वांछित भाषा के बक्स में सही का निशान लगाकर नीचे दिए हुए फार्म को भर दें। अधिक जानकारी के लिए 020 8770 5000 पर टैलीफोन करें।

Hindi

如果你或你認識的人需要將此文件之任何部份翻譯，請在所需的語言上打✓，並填妥下列表格。要索取更多資料請致電020 8770 5000。

Chinese

اگر آپ کو، یا آپ کے کسی جاننے والے کو اس دستاویز کے کسی حصہ کے ترجمے کی ضرورت ہے تو براہ مہربانی مطلوبہ زبان کے خانے میں ٹک کا نشان لگائیں اور نیچے دیا گیا فارم مکمل کریں۔ مزید معلومات کے لئے فون نمبر 020 8770 5000 پر رابطہ کریں۔

Urdu

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Name .....

Address .....

.....

Telephone no.....

Please return this form to:  
SEN Proposal Consultation CYPLS  
London Borough of Sutton  
FREEPOST CN2117  
Civic Offices St Nicholas Way  
Sutton SM1 1BR