

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
<b>Date:</b>	23 March 2022
<b>Title:</b>	Additional Specialist Provision for Hampshire
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

**Contact name:** Bernadette Dawes, Inclusion Commissioning Manager

**Tel:** 0370 7790226

**Email:** bernadette.dawes@hants.gov.uk

### Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is:
  - a. to provide feedback on the initial period of public consultation in relation to the proposed satellite extension of Henry Tyndale School, Farnborough, utilising accommodation at the former Park Children's Centre, Aldershot, and to seek approval for statutory public notices to be published.
  - b. to provide feedback on the initial period of public consultation in relation to the proposed expansion of Norman Gate School, Andover, and to seek approval for statutory public notices to be published.
  - c. to provide feedback on the initial period of public consultation in relation to the proposed Resourced Provision at Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough, and to seek approval for statutory public notices to be published.
2. **Recommendations**
3. That approval be given for Statutory Public Notices to be published for the expansion of Henry Tyndale School (satellite provision utilising the former Park Children's Centre, Aldershot); the expansion of Norman Gate School; and new Resourced Provision at Pinewood Infant School.
4. **Executive Summary**
5. Hampshire County Council has a statutory duty to provide school places for all children, including those who have special educational needs and/or a disability. The County Council is committed to further developing successful provision to meet this demand within the Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) sector.
6. The proposed additional SEND provision outlined within this report will help manage some of the school place pressures generated by the increase in the

number of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) maintained by the Local Authority. Since 2015-16 the number of pupils in Hampshire with EHCPs has increased from 5,558 to 12,456 in November 2021 (an increase of 124%) with approximately 33% of pupils with an EHCP in a specialist placement. This has resulted in a corresponding pressure for places in special schools and resourced provision. The County Council is committed to further developing successful provision or creating new provision where possible to meet demand for places.

7. The lack of sufficient provision within Hampshire Schools has resulted in increased placements within the independent and non-maintained sector (INMSS). The proposals contained within this report aim to build on good quality Hampshire school provision and meet the needs of children and young people within their settings. This will reduce the Local Authority's dependence upon independent and non-maintained provision (INMSS) and will aim to keep pupils as close to their home community as possible.

### **Contextual Information**

#### Expansion of Henry Tyndale School, Farnborough utilising accommodation at former Park Children's Centre, Aldershot

8. The Park Children's Centre located on the Park Primary School, Gloucester Road, Aldershot site was previously used for childcare which closed on 31 August 2017. A small number of Family Support Services staff currently utilise the building.
9. The proposal is to utilise accommodation, at the former Park Children's Centre, as a specialist satellite provision, run by Henry Tyndale School, Ship Lane, Farnborough. This will provide accommodation to meet the needs of up to 35 primary aged pupils with severe learning difficulties (SLD) and Autistic Spectrum Conditions (ASC).
10. The current agreed pupil number of Henry Tyndale School is 153, therefore, their total number on roll would become 188.
11. Subject to the outcome of the consultation, it is proposed that places will be available from September 2023.
12. This is an exciting opportunity to utilise a former Children's Centre building, to provide this much needed additional specialist provision.
13. It is proposed that some internal building alterations are undertaken to create appropriate learning spaces and hygiene facilities, together with upgraded external play areas; landscaping; works to the car park entrance and car park to accommodate a turning circle, and a drop off area for the new provision.
14. A total of £1.1m of Childrens Services capital funding was approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services Decision Day on 14 January 2022.

### Norman Gate School, Andover

15. Norman Gate School is a primary special school for children aged 2-11 years, with moderate learning difficulties.
16. The proposal is to refurbish a food technology space into a general teaching classroom, create a food technology space elsewhere in the school and reconfigure a toilet / hygiene space. This will provide accommodation to meet the needs of an additional 12 primary-aged pupils with moderate learning difficulties (MLD) and Autistic Spectrum Conditions with places available from September 2022. A total of £160,000 of Childrens Services capital funding was approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services Decision Day on 14 January 2022.

### Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough

17. Pinewood Infant School is a maintained school for children from Year R to Year 2 that has a resourced provision for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs.
18. The proposal is to refurbish a music space into a specialist classroom and sensory space; external landscaping and relocating an area for Emotional Literacy Support. This will provide accommodation to meet the needs of up to 8 infant-aged pupils, with Autistic Spectrum Conditions, with first places available in September 2022. A total of £200,000 of Childrens Services capital funding was approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services Decision Day on 14 January 2022.

### **Finance**

19. Creating additional specialist places in Hampshire schools has both revenue and capital finance implications. Revenue funding is provided through the Dedicated Schools Grant, with funding coming from the High Needs Block and the Schools Block.
20. From a revenue perspective, it is more cost effective to increase in-house provision, rather than place children in expensive independent provision as shown in the following table:

21. **Table 1 – cost comparison**

Type of provision	Average revenue cost per place
Special school	£15,200
Resourced provision	£15,168
Independent and non-maintained special school place	£61,700

22. Funding from the High Needs Block is calculated by the government using a national funding formula, which includes population and proxy factors of need based on children living in Hampshire and a basic entitlement factor.
23. The annual revenue cost of the proposed additional places has been calculated based on the average funding rates for the schools that are expanding:
24. **Table 2 - Additional annual revenue cost**

Name of school	Number of new places being created	Average cost per place*	Estimated Revenue Cost
Henry Tyndale at Park CC	35	£16,900	£591,500
Norman Gate School	12	£14,100	£169,200
Pinewood Infant	8	£19,800	£158,400

\*These figures include the £4,000 funding from the mainstream school budget share.

25. The total revenue cost of £919,100 for the in-house places compares to an estimated £3.4m for the same number of places in independent and non-maintained special schools using the average cost of an SEN only funded day placement. This equates to approximately £2.5m of cost avoidance on the High Needs Block.
26. There could be some additional revenue costs required to support the setting up of new provisions and to ensure viability as the provisions build up to capacity. This is dependent on if the SEN Service expect to fill the provision straight away.
27. Estimated capital costs for the proposed projects are outlined below and in Appendix 2.

Name of school	Project	Number of new places being created	Estimated Capital Cost
Henry Tyndale Satellite @ Park CC	Internal and external works	35	£1,100,000
Norman Gate School	Internal works	10	£160,000
Pinewood Infant School	Internal works	8	£200,000
<b>Total</b>			£1,460,000

**Performance Impact – none**

## Consultations

28. The consultation for the expansion of Henry Tyndale School utilising accommodation at former Park Children's Centre took place between 23 November and 21 December 2021.
29. The consultations for the expansion of Norman Gate School, and the establishment of resourced provision at Pinewood Infant School took place between 2 February and 2 March 2022.
30. Letters with details of the proposals were sent to the following stakeholders. Feedback was invited by email and letter and meetings with officers offered if requested:
  - Parents of children attending the schools
  - Headteachers, school staff and Governing Body of the schools
  - Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of neighbouring schools
  - Borough, district, and parish Councils – Local Councillors
  - Trade union representatives
  - Local Dioceses
  - Local MPs
  - HCC Elected Members
  - Residents of the immediate areas
  - Other relevant community stakeholdersCopies of the consultation letters are attached under appendix 1.
31. The proposals were also included on the Hampshire County Council's consultation website:  
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations>

## Consultation Responses Received – Henry Tyndale School (satellite at Park Children's Centre).

32. The consultation for the expansion of Henry Tyndale School utilising accommodation at former Park Children's Centre took place between 23 November and 21 December 2021.
33. Six responses were received to the consultation. Five were from County and local Councillors and one was from the Park Primary School Governing Body.
34. One local Councillor was in full support of the proposal. The other Councillors and Park Primary Governors raised issues surrounding:
  - a. The speed at which the proposal was being developed together with lack of early discussion with the Park Primary Headteacher and Governing Body;
  - b. Local traffic, entrance and exit from the site, and road safety;
  - c. Car park spaces and turning circle within the site;
  - d. Staggered Start/Finish Times for the two provisions;
  - e. Fire Safety Assembly Point;
  - f. Loss of early years space and facilities.

35. Following the consultation period and feedback received, plans have been further developed and meetings held on site with the Park Primary Headteacher and Chair of Governors and with the four of the local councillors.
36. The current proposed cost of the works – internal improvements, external landscaping, and highway works, is estimated at £1.1m – a total of £1.1m capital spend was approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children’s Services Decision Day on 14 January 2022.

**Speed of the proposal and lack of communication with Governors** – there is significant pressure on SEN school places especially in the Rushmoor area, with Henry Tyndale School already fulfilling a large outreach programme for pupils held in mainstream schools who preferably would have a specialist placement. The accommodation available at the former Park Childrens Centre offers four good classrooms, a hall, reception area, and appropriate ancillary facilities such as sensory rooms and soft play space together with external play areas. The spaces can cater for up to 35 primary SEN pupils. Since the start of the consultation period, meetings have been held with the Governors and Headteacher and plans further refined following their feedback. The Park Primary Headteacher has also met with the Henry Tyndale leadership team to discuss joint working and how the provisions can work successfully alongside each other. Henry Tyndale already has an established satellite provision at Cherrywood Primary School in Farnborough, the Park Head and Governors have been invited to visit to discuss with Cherrywood how their relationship with Henry Tyndale is working and how some of the practical issues of operating such a remote facility have been overcome. The proposed opening date for any new provision has been pushed back to September 2023 to ensure all stakeholders are in agreement, positive relationships established and operational models agreed.

**Local traffic, entrance / exit, car park and road safety** – Hampshire Property Services, Highways and School Travel Team colleagues have visited the site and undertaken surveys and observations at school drop off and pick up times. The proposed school road entrance improvements have been further developed to accommodate issues raised by the school and local councillors. Off-site traffic regulation options will also be investigated as the project proceeds. The current designs are attached with this briefing note and actions being undertaken outlined below

- **School Travel Plan Team:** To develop the Travel Plans for both schools and facilitate safe and sustainable routes to school. Existing vehicle movements and parking beat surveys to be undertaken.
- **Highways:** To develop the Transport Statement which predicts the ‘net impact’ of expected number of traffic movements in the nearby area.
- **Engineered Highways Changes:** To develop an effective Traffic Regulation Order strategy which can be implemented and enforced. Advise on any off-site construction highways works which may need consideration.
- **Home to school Transport Team:** To coordinate the volume, timings, contracts and the staggering of Henry Tyndale Escorted Passenger Transport Taxi and Mini buses with Park Primary Vehicle movements.

- **Pre-Application Advise from Highways Development Control** to be sought.
- **Henry Tyndale and Park Primary-** To coordinate school consumable delivery and refuse collection contracts.

An additional on-site meeting with two local Councillors was held in February where school pick up was observed and two local parking areas were identified. The local Councillors agreed to approach the owners of these sites to help negotiate use by parents for pupil drop off and pick up.

**Car park and turning circle** – Park Primary School has a large car park, part of which is assigned to the children’s centre. A new design to allow for additional parking and a drop off area and turning circle has been developed, appreciating that many of the pupils attending this new provision will be transported by taxi or minibus. Governors are concerned about the number of parking spaces provided and space for large delivery vehicles. An estimated 30 vehicle movements are anticipated at the site at any peak time - property and highways colleagues feel the design can cope with this. The Henry Tyndale Leadership Team is currently putting together their business plan and staff numbers. The current design aims to meet or exceed Hampshire parking standards for both provisions when combined.

**Staggered Start/Finish Times for the two provisions** – it is agreed that staggered start and finish times will be established to aid in safeguarding, pupil safety and traffic movements. The Heads of Park Primary and Henry Tyndale Schools have met to discuss, and detailed operational guidelines will be developed.

**Fire assembly point** – the fire assembly point for the Children’s Centre has always been on the Park Primary playground accessed through an external gate for use only in emergency. With the new proposed SEN provision, it is requested that this access is retained, with fobbed electronic access, for use in event of a fire evacuation or other emergency. The Park Primary Head and Governors are concerned this would raise a safeguarding issue and have requested an alternative fire assembly area – this point remains under discussion and resolution sought.

**Loss of early years space and facilities** – the Childrens Centre was previously used for childcare which closed on 31 August 2017. The primary school has also made some use of the building during the Covid pandemic for its pupils. In 2019 the space was tendered to the childcare market with an offer being made to an early year’s provider in September 2019. Providers who viewed the site felt it was a great opportunity but, due to the size of the building the required investment costs were too high and therefore a new provider could not be secured for the site. The selected provider withdrew once they had quotes for the work that was required. The rateable value and the business rates were also an issue.

The school raised interest in utilising part of the children’s centre for a new pre-school run by themselves. This provision would require a minimum of 1

classroom from the children's centre and would require c 26-30 children to be financially viable. Locally available provision in Hampshire extends to 3 nurseries within 1 mile and another 4 within 1.5 miles of the school. The small area population forecast trend for the Aldershot Park ward area shows the number of 0 – 4-year-olds reducing. The adjacent Hampshire wards of Manor Park and North Town also do not show an increase in population and consequently estimated demand for the same period. Take up data for 2, 3 and 4-year-olds relating to the ward, however, is lower than average for Hampshire. Despite this, there is no evidence of unmet demand. Further information is being sought from Surrey regarding cross boarder take up at settings surrounding the area to validate this. Therefore, currently the data does not support the need for additional childcare in the ward however support for vulnerable families in this area has been highlighted. The Family Support Service currently located in the Children's Centre accommodation will continue to provide services to meet local demand from existing HCC offices in Cambridge Road.

Additional Information:

- The Council has committed to c£20k of improvements to Park Primary School kitchen, including two new electric ovens and a dishwasher. The Park Primary kitchen can cater for daily school meals to be delivered to the SEN provision.

### **Consultation Responses Received – Expansion of Norman Gate School**

37. Six responses were received about the proposed expansion of Norman Gate School:
  - a. Two responses received were from other local schools and fully supportive.
  - b. One response received was concerned that all class sizes were going to be increased – this is not the case as the proposal is to create one new classroom for a new class of 10 pupils. Two other classes are proposed to have one additional pupil in each.
  - c. Three responses received were highlighting local traffic and parking issues along Vigo Road particularly during drop off and pick up times. Two of these were supportive of the expansion overall but wanted the drop off and pick up arrangements to be reviewed. One was an objection to the expansion. We will be working closely with the School Travel Team, Highways and Home to School Transport colleagues to undertake surveys and work with both Norman Gate and Vigo Primary Schools, who share the site, to endeavour to improve the current situation through updated School Travel Plans. In particular, we will target to reduce 'car alone' journeys where possible, and where there are essential car users, encourage them to use the Park and Stride options available and to park safely and considerately. Three additional on-site staff parking spaces are planned for Norman Gate as part of the works.

### **Consultation Responses Received – Resourced Provision at Pinewood Infant School**

38. Four responses were received about the proposed resourced provision at Pinewood Infant School:



- a. Two responses received were supportive of the proposal and pleased that the new facilities would be of benefit to all pupils at Pinewood Infant School.
- b. One response wanted confirmation that contractors would not be parking on local roads when works undertaken. This was confirmed – work is planned to be undertaken during the summer break and contractors will be able to park on site.
- c. One response received was concerned about the amount of funding allocated for this new provision and believed that there was sufficient local provision for pupils with autism. Whilst Samuel Cody School in Farnborough has a small primary provision for pupils with MLD/ASC, there is still pressure within the Hart & Rushmoor areas and hence this additional resourced provision will help meet this demand.

### **Climate Change and Impact Assessment**

39. Hampshire County Council utilises two decision-making tools to assess the carbon emissions and resilience impacts of its projects and decisions. These tools provide a clear, robust, and transparent way of assessing how projects, policies and initiatives contribute towards the County Council's climate change targets of being carbon neutral and resilient to the impacts of a 2°C temperature rise by 2050. This process ensures that climate change considerations are built into everything the Authority does.

### **Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation**

40. Not relevant in regard to the content of this report or decision being sought.

### **Carbon Mitigation**

41. Not relevant in regard to the content of this report or decision being sought.

### **Conclusions**

42. In considering all the responses received, approval is sought to publish statutory public notices for:
  - a. the development of the satellite to Henry Tyndale School, at former Park Children's Centre, Aldershot.
  - b. the expansion of the Norman Gate School, Andover.
  - c. the establishment of an ASC resourced provision at Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough.
43. Notices will be published for a period of 4 weeks in April 2022 and displayed at the schools, circulated to relevant stakeholders, and published on the Council's Public Notice Portal. A further report following the closure of the public notice periods will be brought to a future Decision Day.

## Appendix 1



Children's Services Department  
Elizabeth II Court North,  
Winchester  
Hampshire SO23 8UG

Telephone 01962 841841  
Textphone 0845 603 5625

Park Primary Parents, Local Residents  
& other Consultees

<i>Enquiries to</i>	Claire Campling	<i>My reference</i>	Henry Tyndale / Park CC
<i>Direct Line</i>	01962 832206	<i>Your reference</i>	
<i>Date</i>	23 November 2021	<i>E-mail</i>	strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultee

### **Former Park Children's Centre - Proposal to host a satellite provision for pupils from Henry Tyndale Special School - Consultation**

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your views and consult on the proposal that accommodation at the former Park Children's Centre at Park Primary School, Gloucester Road, Aldershot is used as a specialist satellite provision run by Henry Tyndale School, Ship Lane, Farnborough. This will provide accommodation to meet the needs of up to 35 primary aged pupils with specific learning difficulties (SLD) and Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). The current agreed pupil number of Henry Tyndale School is 153 – therefore their total on roll would become 188 utilising the former Park Children's Centre site. Subject to the outcome of the consultation, it is proposed that the first additional places are available at this site in September 2022 and plans to be full within 2 years.

This is an exciting opportunity to utilise this accommodation at the former Children's Centre building to provide this much needed facility for local children. It is proposed that some internal building alterations are undertaken to create appropriate learning spaces and hygiene facilities together with upgraded external play areas. Also landscaping and works to the car park entrance and car park to accommodate a turning circle and drop off area for the new provision – this element of the works will be subject to a planning application in due course. You can find the draft drawings for these works at the end of this letter.

Hampshire County Council is committed to expanding successful provision where possible to meet demand. Currently there is an increased need to provide support for pupils with complex learning needs in this area of the county. This proposal will provide much needed specialist educational capacity to meet this increased demand.

Headteachers and governors will work closely together to ensure all pupils benefit regarding this joint project, however the new provision will be run by Henry Tyndale School. As such the admissions process for each school is entirely separate. Discussions are also underway with the Hampshire School Travel Team to look at the practicalities of the start and end of the school day and potential different timings for each provision – the safety and safeguarding of pupils and staff at both provisions is paramount.

Director of Children's Services  
**Steve Crocker OBE**

## The Consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to seek the view of all stakeholders on the principle of increasing the school capacity of Henry Tyndale School to meet the demand for additional special school places in the Farnborough and Aldershot area.

The consultation and decision-making process is outlined below:

- This initial consultation will run from the 23 November to 21 December 2021.
- A report outlining the consultation responses received will then be taken to the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services in February 2022 to decide if the proposal should continue to the formal statutory consultation stage.
- If approved, a statutory Public Notice would be published in February/March 2022 setting out Hampshire County Council's intent to increase the capacity of the school. This is a four week period in which any representations can be made to the local authority.
- A final report would then be taken to Executive Lead Member for Children's Services Decision Day in April 2022 who will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal.

## Further Information

Due to Covid-19 restrictions and ensuring public safety, unfortunately we are unable to hold a public drop-in event at the school. However please send in your views and queries by email to [strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk)

If you would like to speak to an Officer then please make that request by email, briefly outlining your query so we can arrange a mutually convenient time for you to speak to an appropriate officer, either via conference call or telephone.

A website has also been set up with the details of the consultation which includes some 'Frequently Asked Questions' that may address any queries you have. To access this website please go to the online address below: <http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

If you are unable to email or visit the above website and wish to make a comment then please write to Claire Campling, Assistant SEN Service Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG by **21 December 2021**.

Yours sincerely,



**Claire Campling**  
**Assistant SEN Service Manager**  
**Children's Services Department**



- KEY**
- ① Various works to shared access road, barrier and gates at entrance
  - ② Existing Primary School staff car park (unaffected)
  - ③ Expanded new school car park (increased to 17 spaces including 2 accessible bays)
  - ④ Proposed drop off and collection vehicle layby
  - ⑤ Proposed dual use paving area for vehicle parking and pedestrian access
  - ⑥ Potential location for replacement bin store
  - ⑦ Potential entrance canopy and cycle hoops for four cycles
  - ⑧ External play spaces require new fencing, repaired safety surfacing and some replacement furniture
  - ⑨ Existing Primary School outdoor play spaces (unaffected)
  - ⑩ Highways line markings - potential alterations under separate review



Notes	
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2 No dimensions are to be scaled from this drawing.	

rev	description	date	by
P1	Pre Planning App Consultation Issue	05.11.21	crf

PROJECT				SHEET CONTENTS	
Henry Tyndale SEN @ Park Primary Gloucester Road, Aldershot Hampshire, GU11 3SL				Proposed Site Strategy	
SCALE 1:200 @ A1 1:400 @ A3				DRAWING No <b>P13061-HCC-DR-L-7001</b>	
DATE 21.06.21				FILE REF. <i>File name</i>	
DRAWN crf				REVISION <b>P1</b>	
CHKD.				Property Services	





Hampshire  
County Council

*Children's Services Department  
Elizabeth II Court North,  
Winchester  
Hampshire SO23 8UG*

Telephone 01962 841841  
Textphone 0845 603 5625

<i>Enquiries to</i>	Claire Campling	<i>My reference</i>	Norman Gate School
<i>Direct Line</i>	03707 795312	<i>Your reference</i>	
<i>Date</i>	2 February 2022	<i>E-mail</i>	strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultees

### **Proposal to increase the capacity of Norman Gate School, Andover – Consultation**

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to increase the capacity of Norman Gate School.

Norman Gate School is currently a 93 place special school for 2-11 year olds with moderate learning difficulties (MLD) and Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). The County Council is proposing to increase the capacity of the school by adding an additional 12 places through a phased increase over the coming 2 years. This will give a final overall capacity of 105 places at Norman Gate School.

To accommodate the increased number of places, it is proposed that an existing food technology classroom is converted into generic teaching accommodation. The food technology teaching kitchen will be replaced in another area of the school. The proposed works will include refurbishment of the spaces to provide an appropriate learning environment. In addition, a toilet / hygiene area will be remodelled and refurbished. Parking spaces for staff will also be reviewed. The cost of the capital works is estimated to be c.£160,000.

### **Reason for proposal**

Hampshire County Council is committed to expanding successful provision where possible to meet demand. Currently there is an increased need to provide support for pupils with moderate learning difficulties and Autistic Spectrum Condition in this area of the county. This proposal will provide much needed specialist educational capacity to meet this increased need.

*Director of Children's Services*  
**Steve Crocker OBE**

Where a Local Authority proposes to permanently enlarge a special school's capacity by 10% or more, it must follow a procedure set out by the Department for Education. This information and some Frequently Asked Questions are available on the following website; <http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

### **The Consultation**

The primary purpose of this consultation is to seek the view of consultees on the principle of increasing the school capacity to meet the demand for additional special school places in the local area. It is important to hear your views at this stage so we can consider them as part of the detailed work to be undertaken should approval to increase the capacity of the school be obtained.

This consultation will run from the Wednesday 2 February to Wednesday 2 March 2022. Officers will then take into consideration all the consultation responses received before deciding whether the proposal should continue to the formal publication stage. If so, a statutory Public Notice will be published, setting out Hampshire County Council's intent to increase the capacity of the school. It is anticipated that this will be published in April 2022.

After the date of publication there will be a four-week period in which any representations can be made to the local authority. After the conclusion of this period the County Council will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in May/June 2022.

### **Further Information**

Due to Covid-19 restrictions and ensuring public safety, unfortunately we are unable to hold a public drop-in event at the school. However please send in your views and queries by email to [strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk).

If you would like to speak to an officer, please make a request by email, briefly outlining your query so we can arrange a mutually convenient time for you to speak to an appropriate officer, either via conference call or telephone.

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If you are unable to email or visit the above website and wish to make a comment, please write to Claire Campling, Assistant SEN Service Manager, Children's Services Department, E11 Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG by **Wednesday 2 March 2022**.

Yours sincerely



**Claire Campling**  
**Assistant SEN Service Manager**

*Children's Services Department  
Elizabeth II Court North,  
Winchester  
Hampshire SO23 8UG*

Telephone 01962 841841  
Textphone 0845 603 5625

Consultee

*Enquiries to*

Claire Campling

*My reference*

*Direct Line*

03707 795312

*Your reference*

*Date*

2 February 2022

*E-mail*

[strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk)

Dear Consultee

**Proposal for developing a resourced provision at Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough for pupils with autism - Consultation**

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to create a new small resourced provision for pupils with autism at Pinewood Infant School - this would sit alongside their established resourced provision for pupils with speech, language and communication needs. The school contacted the SEN Service to explore the possibility of creating such a provision and so we are looking into the feasibility of this.

Children with an autism diagnosis can have difficulties with social interaction, communication and can also have speech and language needs and the school already support a number of children with such needs. It has been identified that there are an increasing number of children in the county who are being diagnosed with this condition and we are working towards expanding our offer of support to these children.

The pupils who would attend this new provision would generally be from the local area. They would be on roll at Pinewood Infant School and the school would receive additional resources to ensure that the children's needs are well supported so that they can successfully access the mainstream environment and curriculum, when appropriate.

The County Council is proposing to refurbish an underutilised area of the school and outdoor space to create a designated area for this new resourced provision. These works will allow the school to add a resourced provision which will add an additional up to 8 places over 2 years starting from September 2022. The proposed cost of the works is in the region of £200,000.

*Director of Children's Services*  
**Steve Crocker OBE**

## **The Consultation**

The purpose of this consultation is to ask for your views and consult on the development of a new resourced provision for pupils with autism at Pinewood Infant School from September 2022. It is important to hear your views at this stage so we can consider them as part of the work to be undertaken, should approval be obtained.

This consultation will run from Wednesday 2 February to Wednesday 2 March 2022. Officers will then take into consideration all the consultation responses received before deciding whether the proposal should continue to the formal publication stage. If so, a statutory Public Notice will be published setting out Hampshire County Council's intent to increase the capacity of the school. It is anticipated that this will be published in April 2022.

After the date of publication, there will be a four week period in which any representations can be made to the local authority. After the conclusion of this period, the County Council will decide whether or not to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in May/June 2022.

## **Further Information**

Due to Covid-19 restrictions and ensuring public safety, unfortunately we are unable to hold a public drop-in event at the school. However, please send in your views and queries by email to [strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk](mailto:strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk).

If you would like to speak to an Officer then please make that request by email, briefly outlining your query so we can arrange a mutually convenient time for you to speak to an appropriate officer, either via conference call or telephone.

A website has also been set up with the details of the consultation which includes some 'Frequently Asked Questions' that may address any queries you have. To access this website please go to the online address below:

<http://consultations.hants.gov.uk/active.aspx>

If you are unable to email or visit the above website and wish to make a comment then please write to Claire Campling, Assistant SEN Service Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG by **Wednesday 2 March 2022**.

Yours sincerely,



**Claire Campling**  
**Assistant SEN Service Manager**  
**Children's Services Department**



**REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:**

**Links to the Strategic Plan**

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	Yes
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	Yes

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>	
<u>Title</u> Children's Services Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25	<u>Date</u> Jan 2022
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>	
<u>Title</u> None	<u>Date</u>

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

Document

Location

## **EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:**

### **1. Equality Duty**

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

### **2. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

- (a) The recommendation in this report will have no impact on groups with protected characteristics.