

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Lead Member for Children's Services
Date:	8 June 2022
Title:	Additional Specialist Provision for Hampshire
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

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Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide feedback on the statutory public notice periods and obtain final approval for the following projects to proceed:
 - a. the proposed satellite extension of Henry Tyndale School, Farnborough, utilising accommodation at the former Park Children's Centre, Aldershot.
 - b. the proposed expansion of Norman Gate School, Andover.
 - c. the proposed Resourced Provision at Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough.

Recommendations

2. To make a prescribed alteration to Henry Tyndale School, Farnborough, (category of school: Special) to expand from 153 places to 188 places utilising the former Park Childrens Centre, Aldershot, with effect from 1 September 2023.
3. To make a prescribed alteration to Norman Gate School, Andover, (category of school: Special) to expand from 93 places to 105 places, with effect from 1 September 2022.
4. To make a prescribed alteration to Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough, (category of school: community) to expand from 105 places to 113 places, with effect from 1 September 2022.
5. That approval be given to the following proposals: published by Hampshire County Council under Section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006: to make a prescribed alterations to Henry Tyndale School, Norman Gate School, and Pinewood Infant School.

Executive Summary

6. 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.
7. 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.
8. 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

9. 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.
10. 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).
11. The current agreed pupil number of Henry Tyndale School is 153, therefore, their total number on roll would become 188.
12. Subject to the outcome of the consultation, it is proposed that places will be available from September 2023.

13. This is an exciting opportunity to utilise a former Children's Centre building, to provide this much needed additional specialist provision.
14. 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.
15. 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

16. Norman Gate School is a primary special school for children aged 2-11 years, with moderate learning difficulties and autistic spectrum condition.
17. 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

18. 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.
19. 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.

Therapy Provision

20. New developments should include a therapy 'core offer' for both Special Schools and Resourced Provisions.
21. The Communication and Interaction Team ensure that all special schools have a minimum 'core offer' of one and a half days per week; and ensures that Special Schools have consistent face to face contact for approximately

80% of the school day. The remaining 20% of time is used for report writing and development work.

22. For the Special schools mentioned above, Norman Gate School require the minimum core offer of 1.5 days per week from September 2022 and for Henry Tyndale Satellite at Park Children's Centre, from September 2023 an additional 1.5 days per week would be required. In addition to this a further half day per week would be required for specific case work. Therefore, the total days required for the two expansions is 3.5 days per week.
23. For the Resourced Provision at Pinewood School the core offer would be one day, every half term, totalling 6 days. This is for consultancy and advice, training, setting up and monitoring targeted interventions with RP staff.
24. It should be noted that, depending on the needs of the children within the schools and Resourced Provisions, additional Therapy provision may be required. This is to fulfil the local authority's legal obligation to deliver all statutory provision that is specified within Education Health and Care Plans. Statutory Provision can either be 'direct,' where the Therapist is assessing or teaching the child face to face in either a group, 1:1 or classroom context, or 'indirect' where the Therapist is supporting others to understand how to support the child. Indirect Therapy includes the analysis of an assessment or writing a report, programme, or strategy plan; and is an essential component of ensuring a child both makes progress and can use their acquired communication skills in an educational context. This quantity of statutory provision required over and above the core offer would need to be calculated annually.
25. For the provisions opening in September 2022, 0.34 of a full time equivalent (FTE) G Grade Speech and Language Therapist post is required at an approximate cost of £25,718 per annum.
26. For Henry Tyndale Satellite at Park Children's Centre opening in September 2023 0.35 FTE G Grade Speech and Language Therapist is required £23,688 per annum.

Finance

27. 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.
28. 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:

Table 1 – cost comparison

Type of provision	Average revenue cost per place
Special school	£16,000
Resourced provision	£15,200
Independent and non-maintained special school place	£61,700

29. 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.
30. The annual revenue cost of the proposed additional places has been calculated based on the average funding rates for the schools that are expanding:

Table 2 - Additional annual revenue cost

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

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

31. 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.
32. In addition to this, there are additional therapy costs of £49,406 and 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.
33. 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	12	£160,000
Pinewood Infant School	Internal works	8	£200,000
Total			£1,460,000

Performance Impact

34. By developing inhouse provision, the impacts are as follows:

- a) Improving access to provision in Hampshire, meaning that children can remain, where possible, local to their own communities
- b) The needs of the child will be met in a timely way at a suitable provision
- c) The provisions within this document are rated Good or above, by Ofsted
- d) There is less reliance on more expensive INMSS provision; or 'Out of County' placements, which are away from a child's home and community, and may also incur transport costs.

Consultations

35. The Statutory Public Notice period for Henry Tyndale School, Norman Gate School and Pinewood Infant School took place between 25 March and 6 May 2022. Copies of the Public Notices are attached at Appendix 1.
36. The Notices were displayed at the schools, circulated to stakeholders, published in the Hampshire Independent and on Hampshire County Council's public notice portal: [Public notices | Hampshire County Council \(hants.gov.uk\)](https://www.hants.gov.uk/public-notices)

Consultation Responses Received

Expansion of Henry Tyndale School, Farnborough - satellite at former Park Children's Centre, Aldershot

37. One response was received during the Public Notice period requesting a copy of the full proposal for the project, but no follow up queries were submitted. Work continues with both Henry Tyndale and Park Primary Schools to establish a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the shared site and operational matters such as school day times and safeguarding. If

given approval to proceed a drop in for all stakeholders and residents will be held as part of the pre-planning stage, this will aid in the development of the details of the external areas, main entrance and highways works.

Expansion of Norman Gate School, Andover

38. No responses were received during the Public Notice period for the proposed expansion of Norman Gate School. A review and work with both Norman Gate and Vigo Schools are ongoing regarding safe pupil drop off / pick up and parent behaviours related to responsible parking.

New Resourced Provision at Pinewood Infant School, Farnborough

39. One response was received about the proposed resourced provision at Pinewood Infant School – this related to clarification on what ‘local area’ meant in relation to pupils being placed in the Resourced Provision. No specific area is recorded but it is intended that children will be local to Pinewood Infant and certainly from within the Rushmoor and Hart district areas.

Climate Change and Impact Assessment

40. 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.
41. The carbon mitigation tool and the climate change adaption tool were not applicable because this is a strategic report. The Climate Change Impact Assessment will be undertaken in conjunction with colleagues in Culture, Community and Business Services as individual projects are developed and brought to future Decision Days

Carbon Mitigation

42. Not relevant regarding the content of this report or decision being sought.

Conclusions

43. In considering all the responses received, approval is sought to proceed with:
 - 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.

Appendix 1



PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A SATELLITE PROVISION FOR HENRY TYNDALE SPECIAL SCHOOL AT THE FORMER PARK CHILDREN'S CENTRE, ALDERSHOT

1. Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, that Hampshire County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to **HENRY TYNDALE SCHOOL**, Ship Lane, Farnborough Hampshire, GU14 8BX (category of school – Special) by increasing the capacity of the school, with effect from 1 September 2023.
2. Henry Tyndale School is designated for children aged 2-19 with Autistic Spectrum Conditions (ASC), Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulty (PMLD). The accommodation and site area of the former Park Children's Centre can be refurbished to meet the needs of up to 35 primary aged pupils with Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) and Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC). External car park works are also included in the proposal. The proposal is to enlarge the school with effect from **1 September 2023**.
3. The current agreed pupil number of Henry Tyndale School is for 153 places. The satellite accommodation will be provided with effect from 1 September 2023. From that date, the school will have a total capacity for 188.
4. The estimated capital cost of this project is £1.1m and was included in the Children's Services Capital Programme report approved by Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on 14 January 2022. This funding enables internal building alterations to be undertaken to create appropriate learning spaces and hygiene facilities together with upgraded external play areas. Landscaping and works to the car park entrance and car park are also planned – this element of the works will be subject to a planning application.
5. This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal may be obtained from Bernadette Dawes, Inclusion Commissioning Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG; e-mail: strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk
6. Within six weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Bernadette Dawes, Inclusion Commissioning Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG; e-mail: strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dated 25 March 2022

Carolyn Williamson
Chief Executive

NORMAN GATE SCHOOL, ANDOVER – ENLARGEMENT

1. Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, that Hampshire County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to **NORMAN GATE SCHOOL**, Vigo Road, Andover, Hampshire SO10 1JZ (category of school – Special) by increasing the capacity of the school with effect from 1 September 2022.
2. The enlargement of Norman Gate School will provide additional accommodation to provide support for pupils with moderate learning difficulties and Autistic Spectrum Condition where there is an increased need in this area of the County. The school is successfully meeting the needs of children with a range of needs in a safe and secure environment. The proposal is to enlarge the school with effect from **1 September 2022**.
3. 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 enlargement of accommodation will be provided from 1 September 2022. From that date, 12 places will be added to a final overall capacity of 105 places.
4. The capital cost of this project c.£160,000, was included in the Children's Services Capital Programme report approved by Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on 14 January 2022. This funding provides for the conversion of a food technology room into a classroom, the reprovision of the food technology space and the refurbishment of a toilet / hygiene area.
5. This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal may be obtained from Bernadette Dawes, Inclusion Commissioning Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG; e-mail: strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk
6. Within six weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Bernadette Dawes, Inclusion Commissioning Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG; by e-mail: strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dated 25 March 2022

Carolyn Williamson
Chief Executive

PINEWOOD INFANT SCHOOL, FARNBOROUGH – RESOURCED PROVISION

1. Notice is hereby given, in accordance with Section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006, that Hampshire County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to **PINEWOOD INFANT SCHOOL**, Pinewood Park, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 9LE (category of school – Community) by increasing the capacity of the school with effect from 1 September 2022.
2. It has been identified that there are an increasing number of children in the county who are being diagnosed with autism. The addition of a resourced provision to Pinewood Infant School will provide additional accommodation for these children. The school is successfully meeting the needs of children with a range of needs in a safe and secure environment. The proposal is to enlarge the school with effect from **1 September 2022**.
3. The current capacity of Pinewood Infant School is for 105 pupils. The enlargement of the school will add up to an additional 8 places over 2 years starting from 1 September 2022 and from that date the school will have a total capacity for 113 pupils. The current admission number for the school is 35 and this will increase to 38 on the implementation of this proposal.
4. The capital cost of this project, £200,000, was included in the Children's Services Capital Programme report approved by Executive Lead Member for Children's Services on 14 January 2022. This funding provides for the refurbishment of an underutilised area of the school and outdoor space to create a designated area for the new resourced provision.
5. This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal may be obtained from Bernadette Dawes, Inclusion Commissioning Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG; e-mail: strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk
6. Within six weeks from the date of publication of these proposals, any person may object or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Bernadette Dawes, Inclusion Commissioning Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG or e-mail: strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dated 25 March 2022

Carolyn Williamson
Chief Executive

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

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u> Children's Services Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25 Expansion of Specialist Provision March 2022	<u>Date</u> Jan 2022 Mar 2022
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<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.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
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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.