

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Decision Maker:	Executive Member for Education
Date:	15 March 2023
Title:	Additional Specialist Education Provision for Hampshire
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

Contact name: Sara Carey, Inclusion Commissioning Manager

Tel: 07565205125

Email: Sara.carey@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 Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) Resourced Provision (RP) at Guillemont Junior School, Farnborough 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 redesignation of RP at Morelands Primary School, Waterlooville, 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 relocating the RP for pupils with a hearing loss, at Wallisdean Junior School to St Jude's Catholic Primary School, Fareham and to seek approval for statutory public notices to be published

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That approval be given for Statutory Public Notices to be published for the proposed:
 - ASC RP at Guillemont Junior School.
 - The redesignation of RP at Morelands Primary School, Waterlooville.
 - The relocation of the RP for pupils with a hearing impairment, at Wallisdean Junior School to St Jude's Catholic Primary School, Fareham

3. Executive Summary

- 3.1 Hampshire County Council is committed to ensuring that all children can access high-quality education, as near to their family and local community as possible.

Leaders and practitioners are highly ambitious for Children and Young people with SEND in Hampshire to succeed (Ofsted CQC (Care Quality Commission) 2020) <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/provider/44/80472>

There is a statutory duty to provide school places for all children, including those who have special educational needs and/or a disability. We are obliged to further developing successful provision to meet this demand within the Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) sector.

- 3.2 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. In Dec 2022 in Hampshire there were 14,648 children with EHCPs. An increase of 4.5% of all Children and Young people.
- 3.3 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.
- 3.4 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.

4 Contextual Information

Creation of an eight place ASC RP at Guillemont Junior School, Farnborough

- 4.1 Guillemont Junior School already has an existing, established RP for twelve children for speech, language, and communication needs.
- 4.2 The proposal is to build a new classroom, sensory room, group room, and to create a secure outdoor space for eight local children with Autism.
- 4.3 Children would be on roll at Guillemont Junior 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
- 4.4 An 8-place ASC RP was established at Pinewood Infant School from autumn 2022 and pupils will typically transition from Pinewood Infant to Guillemont Junior Schools. Pinewood Infant and Guillemont Junior Schools are federated.
- 4.5 Subject to the outcome of the consultation, it is proposed that places will be available at Guillemont Junior School RP from September 2024.
- 4.6 A total of £0.94m of Childrens Services capital funding was approved at the Executive Lead Member for Children's Services Decision Day on 13 January 2023.

- 4.7 Cllr Roz Chadd and Rt Hon Leo Doherty MP are in full support of the application.

Morelands Primary School, Waterlooville RP Change of Designation

- 4.8 Currently the school has two established resource provisions. The Assessment Resource Provision (ARP) for 10 places with children who have a range of needs where an assessment can give accurate information on a child's needs and SEN provision required. This could be at SEN Support within a mainstream, with an EHCP in a mainstream or EHCP in specialist.
- 4.9 From September 2023 it is proposed to alter this provision to 8 places for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Condition.
- 4.10 The second provision on site for pupils with Speech Language and Communication needs will be increased from 14 to 16 pupils. The pupils who attend either provision would be from the local area and placed on roll at Morelands Primary School.
- 4.11 The County Council is proposing to refurbish and reconfigure an underutilised area of the school to create a sensory room and therapy space to support this provision. The proposed cost of the works is in the region of £230,000 and will take place in summer 2023.

Relocation of Hearing Loss RP to St Jude's Catholic Primary School, Fareham

- 4.12 The need for this type of specialist provision remains to provide specialist teaching and support for children who have permanent, severe to profound hearing loss or moderate to profound hearing loss with additional language and communication needs.
- 4.13 The relocation of this provision is at the request of the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors of Wallisdean Junior School and, in consultation with the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors of St Jude's Catholic Primary School to accommodate the RP.
- 4.14 The proposal is to reconfigure and refurbish an existing underutilised space to create a teaching base together with acoustic works in other key areas of the school.
- 4.15 The proposed cost of the works is in the region of £270,000 and will take place in summer 2023.
- 4.16 The Rt Hon Suella Braverman MP, is in support of this application.

5. Finance

- 5.1 The Local Authority has a current cumulative High Needs deficit of £60m, which is forecast to increase to £175m by 2025. As a result, HCC (Hampshire County Council) has been selected to participate in the Delivering Better Value, commissioned by the DfE (Department of Education) to identify the highest impact, sustainable changes that the Local Authority can make to better support local children and young people with SEND.
- 5.2 Without the creation of additional local spaces, we will inevitably have more children in Independent Non-Maintained Special Schools (INMSS) with

greater pressure on home to school transport costs and the Dedicated Schools Grant High Needs (DSG HN) block in particular

5.3 Creating additional specialist places in Hampshire schools has both revenue and capital finance implications.

5.4 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:

5.5 **Table 1 – cost comparison**

Type of provision	Average revenue cost per place (2022)
Special school	£18,079
Resourced provision	£17,636
Independent and non-maintained special school place	£65,800

5.6 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.

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

5.8 **Table 2 - Additional annual revenue cost**

Name of school	Number of new places being created	Average cost per place*	Estimated Revenue Cost
Guillemont Junior School ASC RP	8	£17,636	£141,104
Morelands ASC RP	8	£17,636	£141,104
St Judes HL RP	6	£17,636	£105,828

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

5.9 The total revenue cost of £388,036 for the in-house places compares to an estimated £1.5m 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 £1.1m of cost avoidance on the High Needs Block.

5.10 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.

5.11 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
Guillemont Junior ASC RP	Extension and external works	8	£940,000
Morelands ASC RP	Internal works	0	£230,000
St Jude's Hearing Loss RP	Internal works	8	£270,000
Total			£1,440,000

6. Performance Impact – none

7. Consultations

7.1 The consultations for the projects took place between Monday 16 January to Monday 13 February 2023

7.2 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 stakeholders

Copies of the consultation letters are attached under appendix 1.

7.3 The proposals were also included on the Hampshire County Council's consultation website:
<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/haveyoursay/consultations>

7.4 All stakeholders were also invited to drop-in sessions held at each School to discuss the proposals in person.

8. Consultation Responses Received

Guillemont Junior School ASC RP

- 8.1 Eleven responses were received to the consultation. Three were in full support of the project including one from an MP and one from a County Councillor.
- 8.2 Other comments were around concerns on how it would benefit or adversely affect the other pupils on roll at the school. Also, about understanding about pupils with ASC would be mixing and managed around other children in the school.
- 8.3 Concerns were responded to by email and writing between the dates 31st Jan and the 1st of February 2023.
- 8.4 Concerns were further discussed at a public consultation drop-in meeting held at the school on Wednesday 1st of February 2023 where the Senior Leadership Team of the School and local authority Commissioning and Strategic Development Officers were in attendance. The Headteacher has taken on board these concerns and plans to discuss further with staff and parents on how all current and future pupils are best managed and supported throughout their time at the school.

Morelands School RP Change of Designation

- 8.5 No responses were received, and no concerns were received at the public consultation drop-in meeting held at the school on Tuesday 31st January 2023.

St Jude's Catholic Primary School Hearing Loss RP

- 8.6 There was only one letter received giving full support by the Rt Hon Suella Braverman MP.
- 8.7 Five people attended the public consultation drop-in meeting held at the school on Wednesday 25th January 2023. Parents, staff and pupils interested in the proposal were shown plans and discussed the capital works and contributed to improvements that could be made.

9. Climate Change and Impact Assessment

- 9.1 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.

10. Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation

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

11. Carbon Mitigation

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

12. Conclusions

- 12.1 In considering all the responses received, approval is sought to publish statutory public notices for:
- The ASC resourced provision at Guillemont Junior School
 - The change in designation at Morelands RP
 - The relocation of the hearing loss RP from Wallisdean to St Jude's Catholic Primary School
- 12.2 Notices will be published for a period of 4 weeks in March/April 2023 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.

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	<u>Date</u> Jan 2022
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u> Right Support, Right Place, Right Time – The SEND Review Summary of the SEND review: right support, right place, right time - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)	<u>Date</u> May 2022

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>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.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>

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.

Appendix 1 – Consultation Letters



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

Consultees

Telephone 0300 555 1384
Fax 01962 842355
Textphone 0845 603 5625

Enquiries to Sara Carey

My reference

Direct Line 0370 779 4892

Your reference

Date Monday 16 January 2023

E-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultee

Guillemont Junior School, Farnborough - Proposal for a New Resourced Provision for Pupils with Autism (ASC)

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to create a new 8-place resourced provision for pupils with autism at Guillemont Junior School from September 2024 - this would sit alongside their established resourced provision for 12 pupils with speech, language and communication needs.

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 Guillemont Junior 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 build a new classroom, sensory room, group room and associated toilets together with establishing a secure outdoor space to create designated areas 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

*Director of Children's Services
Steve Crocker OBE*



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2 years starting from September 2022. The proposed cost of the works is in the region of £900,000.

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 Guillemont Junior School from September 2024. 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 **Monday 16 January to Monday 13 February 2023**. 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 2023.

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 2023.

Further Information

A drop-in session where you will be able to discuss the proposal with Hampshire County Council officers will take place on **Wednesday 1 February** between 3:30pm and 6pm at Guillemont Junior School.

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 Sara Carey, Inclusion Commissioning Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG by **Friday 13 February**.

Yours sincerely

S. Carey

Sara Carey
Inclusion Commissioning Manager
Children's Services Department



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

Telephone 0300 555 1384
Fax 01962 842355
Textphone 0845 603 5625

Consultees

Enquiries to Sara Carey

My reference

Direct Line 0370 779 4892

Your reference

Date Monday 16 January 2023

E-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultee

Morelands Primary School, Waterlooville - Resourced Provision – Change of Designation - Consultation

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to change the designation of the resourced provision at Morelands Primary School. Hampshire's County Council SEND Strategy ensures sufficient school places to meet the needs of all children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND); ensuring that the provision is developed in the right place, at the right time, with the additional places to address population growth and the identified increase in demands.

The Council is therefore looking to propose a change in designation at the Assessment Resource Provision (ARP) within Moreland's Primary School. It is an expectation of the Council to develop quality specialist provision in schools graded good or above by Ofsted, offering the right support, in the right place at the right time. We are deeply committed to ensure the school will truly benefit our local communities. Therefore, we would like to hear from you and welcome your views regarding our intentions.

Currently the school has two established resource provisions. The Assessment Resource Provision (ARP) for 10 places with children who have a range of needs where an assessment can give accurate information on a child's needs and SEN provision required. This could be at SEN Support within a mainstream, with an EHCP in a mainstream or EHCP in specialist. From September 2023 it is proposed to alter this provision to 8 places for pupils with Autistic Spectrum Condition.

*Director of Children's Services
Steve Crocker OBE*



The second provision on site for pupils with Speech Language and Communication needs will be increased from 14 to 16 pupils. The pupils who attend either provision would be from the local area and on roll at Moreland's Primary School. The school will receive additional resources to support successfully access to the mainstream environment and curriculum, when appropriate. The County Council is proposing to refurbish and reconfigure an underutilised area of the school to create a sensory room and therapy space to support this provision. The proposed cost of the works is in the region of £200,000 and will take place in summer 2023.

The Consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to ask for your views and consult on the change of designation of the resourced provision to cater for pupils with autism at Morelands Primary School from September 2023. 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 **Monday 16 January to Monday 13 February 2023**. 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 2023.

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 to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in May/June 2023.

Further Information

A drop-in session where you will be able to discuss the proposal with Hampshire County Council officers will take place on the **Tuesday 31 January 2023 between 3.30 and 6pm at Moreland's Primary School**.

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 Sara Carey, Inclusion Commissioning Manager, Children's Services Department, EII Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG by **Monday 13 February 2023**.

Yours sincerely

S. Carey

Sara Carey

**Inclusion Commissioning Manager
Children's Services Department**



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

Telephone 0300 555 1384
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Consultees

Enquiries to Sara Carey

My reference

Direct Line 0370 779 4892

Your reference

Date Monday 16 January 2023

E-mail strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk

Dear Consultee

Consultation - Proposal for relocating the Resourced Provision for pupils with a hearing impairment, at Wallisdean Junior School to St Jude's Catholic Primary School, from September 2023.

I am writing to invite your views in respect of Hampshire County Council's proposal to relocate the Resourced Provision, for pupils with a hearing impairment, from Wallisdean Junior School to St Jude's Catholic Primary School.

The need for this type of provision remains and at the request of the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors of Wallisdean Junior School and, in consultation with the Headteacher and the Chair of Governors of St Jude's Catholic Primary School, we are exploring the possibility of making internal alterations to the school building at St Jude's Catholic Primary School, to accommodate a Resourced Provision.

Careful consideration is always given to the school's suitability for children with a Hearing Impairment in terms of meeting their needs alongside all the other children within the school.

The Consultation

The purpose of this consultation is to ask for your views and consult on the proposed development of a Resourced Provision for children with a hearing impairment. 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 **Monday 16 January to Monday 13 February 2023.**

Director of Children's Services
Steve Crocker OBE



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 develop the Resourced Provision within the school. It is anticipated that this will be published in April 2023.

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 Local Authority will decide whether to proceed with the proposal. It is anticipated that a decision will be made in May/June 2023.

Further Information

A drop-in session where you will be able to discuss the proposal with Hampshire County Council officers will take place on **Thursday 26 January between 3:30pm and 6pm at St Jude's Catholic Primary School.**

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 visit the above website and wish to make a comment then please write to Sara Carey, Inclusion Commissioning Manager, Children's Services Department, Ell Court North, Winchester, Hampshire SO23 8UG.

All comments must be received by the **Monday 13 February 2023.**

Yours sincerely

S. Carey

Sara Carey
Inclusion Commissioning Manager
Children's Services Department