

# HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

## Executive Decision Record

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Education
<b>Date:</b>	14 May 2024
<b>Title:</b>	Specialist Provision Final Approval Samuel Cody School
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Children's Services

**Contact name:** Emma Steele, County Education Manager (SEN Resources and Access)

**Email:** emma.steele2@hants.gov.uk

### 1. The decision:

1.1. That approval be given to the following proposal published by Hampshire County Council under Section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006: to make a prescribed alteration to Samuel Cody School, Farnborough (category of school: Special) to expand from 295 places to 338 places with effect from September 2024.

### 2. Reasons for the decision:

2.1. 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.

2.2. The proposed additional SEND provision 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.

2.3. The lack of sufficient provision within Hampshire Schools has led to an increase in placements within the independent and non-maintained sector (INMSS). These proposals aim to build on good quality Hampshire school provision and meet the needs of children and young people within their local area. This will reduce the Local Authority's dependence upon independent and non-maintained provision (INMSS) and will aim to keep pupils as close to the home community as possible.

2.4. All Local authorities have a duty to promote sustainable and active travel to school. Hampshire is made up of diverse urban and rural communities and causes long travel times for already vulnerable children. However, having these proposals create closer local provision therefore minimising school transport costs and its use.

2.5. The creation of much wanted specialist placements to give children and young people the support they need. Serving Hampshire's Residents - Strategic Plan 2021 to 2025.

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/aboutthecouncil/strategiesplansandpolicies/corporatestrategy>

**3. Other options considered and rejected:**

3.1. Independent Non-Maintained Special School (INMSS) placements at a much higher cost and at greater pressure on the DSG HN block and school transport costs.

**4. Conflicts of interest:**

4.1. Conflicts of interest declared by the decision-maker: None

4.2. Conflicts of interest declared by other Executive Members consulted: None.

**5. Dispensation granted by the Conduct Advisory Panel: None**

**6. Reason(s) for the matter being dealt with if urgent: Not Applicable**

**7. Statement from the decision maker: None**

**Approved by:**

**Date:**

-----  
**Councillor Steve Forster  
Executive Member for Education**

**14 May 2024**