

APPENDIX 1- SCHOOL ORGANISATION GUIDANCE FOR DECISION-MAKERS

Factors that were considered in the decision taken to establish a SEND unit at St Edward's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School

Relevant Factor Considered	Outcome
<p>Consideration of consultation and representation period</p>	<p>An initial consultation was carried out from 07/06/2021 -05/07/21. The responses received during this initial consultation period were considered before a decision was made to publish a statutory notice regarding the proposal for the SEND unit. The statutory notice was published 10/09/2021 and launched the four week representation period which ended on 08/10/2021.</p> <p>No comments were received during the representation period.</p> <p>All stakeholders have had a fair opportunity to express their views. The process of consultation has been conducted satisfactorily and all the statutory requirements have been adhered to.</p>
<p>Education standards and diversity of provision</p>	<p>St Edward's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School is a 3FE primary schools with a nursery that caters for pupils aged 3-11 years. In May 2019, Ofsted judged St Edward's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School to be a 'good' school.</p> <p>The inspection report acknowledged that the school is working to raise the overall achievement of pupils with SEND and that the inclusion lead has accurately identified and is addressing the gaps in their learning.</p> <p>The proposed establishment of an SEND unit reserved for pupils with communication and interaction needs would allow local families to access the provision and create an opportunity for more children to benefit from the quality of teaching already in existence.</p>
<p>Demand</p>	<p>The objective of the proposal is to provide a SEND unit, established in a mainstream school setting, designed to meet the needs of pupils aged between 4 and 11 years with Communication and Interaction needs.</p> <p>As at January 2021 there were 1869 children and young people resident in Havering with an education health care plan or statement of SEND. Our SEND projections show that we expect the number of</p>

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	<p>primary school pupils with an education health care plan of Communication and Interaction needs to increase from 357 in 2020/21 to 487 in 2022/23.</p> <p>The resource will help address the gap in provision for pupils with Communication and Interaction needs and provide increased opportunities for pupils with special educational needs and disability (SEND) to remain and be taught within their local community, making it easier for parents to be actively involved.</p>
School size	<p>The SEND unit will provide 12 places reserved for special educational needs pupils aged between 4 and 11 with Communication and Interaction Needs.</p> <p>The number of children currently admitted to Reception each year is 90. The 12 places at the SEND unit will not count towards the school's admission number, therefore the admission number and the mainstream school capacity will not be affected by the establishment of the SEND unit.</p> <p>The school will comply with the statutory requirements relating to the education of children of compulsory school age and infant class sizes.</p>
Proposed admission arrangements	<p>The admission arrangements of the school are compliant with the School Admissions Code and are not due to change should the SEND unit be implemented.</p> <p>Admission into the SEND unit will be formally agreed through the borough's Education, Health Care Panel and will be for pupils with Communication and Interactions Needs. These pupils will usually have Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP), which identify Communication and Interaction Needs as their primary need. Their educational needs would have been identified through rigorous and thorough assessments by a multi-disciplinary and multi-agency team, which includes psychologists, educational and medical practitioners.</p>
National Curriculum	<p>St Edward's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School is a Voluntary Aided school and delivers the National Curriculum.</p> <p>Depending on the outcomes set out in the Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) of pupils in the SEND unit, progress in meeting their learning objectives will be the subject of on-going continuous assessment carried out by SEND unit staff. There will also be formal reviews regarding progress for</p>

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	<p>children with EHCPs and an annual report produced through the Annual Review process. Annual Reviews of EHCPs will be attended by SEND staff, parents, and the relevant professionals in line with the requirements of the SEN Code of Practice.</p>
Equal opportunity issues	<p>The school is co-educational therefore the gender of pupils is not considered to be a factor in determining the proposals. National legislation determines that schools cannot discriminate on race in relation to admissions policies. Therefore there are no sex, race or disability discrimination issues anticipated from the proposal.</p> <p>School refurbishments and building expansions are undertaken with full accessibility compliance.</p> <p>The establishment of the SEND unit will help meet the demand for places from pupils with Communication and Interaction Needs, therefore helping to better meet the needs of pupils who have SEND.</p>
Community cohesion	<p>Views and comments received from stakeholders and individuals in the community were fully considered and addressed during the pre-consultation period. 90% of the total responses received, gave their support for the establishment of the SEND unit as it will provide a much needed provision which is inclusive and especially for children with special educational needs.</p> <p>Access to extended services or provision being offered to pupils or the local community will not be affected by this SEND unit establishment proposal.</p> <p>The establishment of a SEND unit at St Edward's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School will further enhance the education offer the school provides to the community.</p> <p>If the proposal is approved, staff and Governors are committed to ensuring that the ethos of the school doesn't change and the school's friendly approach continues.</p>
Travel and accessibility	<p>This proposal will not extend journey times, increase transport costs, or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable walking or cycling routes as the expansion will be carried out on the school's existing site.</p>

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	<p>All school users will be encouraged to access the schools via sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>The SEND unit will be a self-contained unit which will be sufficiently spacious; to provide for the needs of up to 12 pupils with supported spaces made available for some timetabled activities and any other requirements.</p> <p>The new facilities will allow for 12 additional students who require SEN provision. An additional 5 FTE staff members will be required to support this increase in student numbers and the operation of the new facilities.</p> <p>Mode share analysis, based on the current pupil and staff mode shares, has been carried out to project the likely transport impact that this increase in student and staff numbers will result in.</p> <p>It was determined that the increase in staff numbers will result in three additional car journeys, within the capacity of the staff parking provision. Similarly, the increase in pupil trips will not result in a significant impact to the surrounding road network, with 7 further car trips expected.</p> <p>The school already has in place a STARS School Travel Plan at Bronze accreditation level. Implementation of the soft measures outlined in the transport plan will be the primary method of impact mitigation.</p> <p>The construction of the SEND unit will be undertaken with full accessibility compliance.</p>
Funding	<p>The local authority has allocated a budget of £1.3 million for this project which will be met within the SEND Capital grant.</p>
School premises and playing fields	<p>The SEND unit will have access to a safe, sheltered, outdoor space which will adhere to standards for school premises as per the area guidelines for SEND and alternative provision.</p>

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The Decision

The proposal to establish an SEND unit at St Edward's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School to provide 12 places for pupils with Communication and Interaction Needs is hereby;

Approved without modification

Approved with Modification

Rejected

Reason for decision

The local authority have legal duties to identify and assess the special educational needs of children and young people for whom they are responsible for and also has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places available for all children resident in Havering who require one.

The establishment of the SEND unit will ensure that school aged children with special educational needs are able to secure a place in a local school and have their needs met in the most inclusive environment possible, whilst being supported in a specialist provision to help them achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes.

Details of decision maker

Signed:

Name: Councillor Robert Benham

Title: Cabinet Member for Children & Learning

Date: