

**Q&A arising from the consultation to create an SEN Unit at Chandlers Field Primary School**

Question	Answer	Date answered
<b>Staff and resources</b>		
1. Will staff undertake training to better understand autism?	<p>Chandlers Field Primary School will recruit experienced staff to the SEN Unit.</p> <p>Staff in the SEN unit will all have experience of working with children who have autism. They would be empathic to the learning and emotional needs of the children whilst still having high expectations both of behaviour and achievable progress. Some staff will have Ekklan training prior to the unit opening.</p> <p>Further training and development would be available for all staff in the SEN Unit and across the whole school to support the needs of pupils in the school.</p>	10/05/21
2. Will additional resourcing and expertise also benefit children already at the school - including those who do not have an EHCP and need ad hoc support to manage within a mainstream school environment?	<p>The SEN unit will offer opportunities for learners with autism who would benefit from spending approximately 40-60% of their school day each week in mainstream classes with support. Infant aged pupils will spend up to 50% of their time in the Unit to comply with The School Admissions (Infant Class Sizes) (England) Regulations 2012.</p> <p>The school will continue to support all learners in the school and staff will benefit from shared learning and resources with the SEN unit that will influence how they can support all learners across the school.</p>	10/05/21
3. Will the SEN Unit be adequately funded?	<p>Every Surrey County Council maintained school is given a budget, calculated using a funding formula set locally within a government-set framework.</p> <p>SEN Units also receive funding per place and top up funding per pupil. Therefore, Chandlers Field Primary School will received place funding and top up funding at the same rate as other SEN units in Surrey for pupils with autism (known locally as High COIN)</p> <p>More information about <a href="#">school budgets and funding</a> is available on the Surrey County Council website</p>	10/05/21

<b>Changes to the current school building</b>		
4. The school currently hires the annex privately, therefore, a good source of revenue for the school. Will this still be the case once a new Centre is operational?	<p>A modular building will be built next to the current school building with easy access to the main school building.</p> <p>It will be on the opposite side to the annex building and therefore will not impact any current uses of the annex building.</p>	10/05/21
<b>Secondary Schools</b>		
5. Are there any plans to create SEN Units for pupils with autism at local Secondary Schools?	<p>Pupils leaving the SEN Unit at Chandlers Field Primary School in Year 6 will be supported in transition to a placement in Year 7 that will have been identified through their EHCP. This may be to a mainstream school, a SEN unit in a mainstream school, a Specialist School or other type of placement depending on the individual needs of the pupil.</p> <p>There is currently a Cullum Centre for pupils with Autism at Hinchley Wood School. As part of the SEND Capital Programme there is a proposal for a SEN Unit for pupils with Autism at Three Rivers Academy in Hersham. A temporary SEN unit at Three Rivers has been in place since September 2020.</p>	10/05/21
<b>Links to The Orchard School</b>		
6. A SEN unit is also opening at The Orchard School, what is the difference between the two schools?	<p>The Orchard School is an infant school for pupils in Reception to Year 2. The SEN Unit is for pupils with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) known locally as low COIN (Communication and Interaction Needs) and there are 6 places across the 3-year groups.</p> <p>Chandlers Field Primary School is a Primary School for pupils in Reception to Year 6. The SEN Unit is for pupils with autism, known locally as High COIN (Communication and Interaction Needs). There are 9 places across the infant year groups (Reception to Year 2) and 16 places across the Junior year groups (Year 3 to Year 6)</p> <p><b>Definition of current designations:</b>  High COIN Maintained Specialist Centres attached to mainstream schools (higher functioning autism / communication &amp; interaction needs where learners can access the mainstream curriculum for approximately 50% of the time with additional support)</p> <p>Low COIN Maintained Specialist Centres attached to mainstream schools (autism / communication &amp; interaction needs)</p>	10/05/21

	<p>manifesting as predominately speech and language difficulties and possibly some degree of moderate learning difficulties where a more specialised or personalised curriculum is required)</p>	
<p>7. If my child attends the SEN Unit at The Orchard would they be eligible to attend the SEN Unit at Chandlers Field Primary School in Year 3.</p>	<p>The two schools are separate schools and the SEN Units have different designations (see question 6).</p> <p>The Orchard is an infant School therefore, pupils will transition to another school in year 3. Pupils who attend the SEN Unit at The Orchard will be supported to transition to placement identified through their Education Health and Care Plan in Year 3. This may be a mainstream school, a SEN unit at a mainstream school or another type of placement depending on the individual needs of the pupil.</p> <p>There is an intake of one additional place at Chandlers Field Primary School in Year 3. If a pupil placed at The Orchard was assessed as needing a placement at a SEN Unit for pupils with autism and the placement was identified through their EHCP they could transition to Chandlers Field Primary School in Year 3.</p>	10/05/21
<p>8. What is the Voice Education Trust and how do schools within the trust work together?</p>	<p>The Voice Education Trust is small group of Primary Schools with a passion for ensuring the best learning opportunities for our children. Chandlers Field Primary School and The Orchard are both foundation schools and are part of The Voice Education Trust.</p> <p>The schools that form part of the Voice Education Trust work as equals. Each year one of the Head Teachers becomes the Chair of the Trust. Each member school elects two "Trust" Governors and each Head Teacher is a Director. Each school has its own priorities, distinct identity and individuality and separate Governing Bodies. The schools share INSET, projects and events when these support shared priorities.</p> <p>The Orchard and Chandlers Field have already spoken and are keen to build on their strong links and develop a specific SEN network for the benefit of the schools and the pupils.</p>	10/05/21