

Proposal to expand the
Low COIN Centre
(Special Educational Needs Unit)
at Stepgates Community School

Consultation Meeting
Thursday 24 November 2022



The Proposal

Surrey County Council and the Governing Body of Stepgates Community School are proposing to expand the Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) designated SEN Unit by 8 places.



The current setting

The COIN Centre (SEN unit) at Stepgates Community School has a formal designation of SLCN.

The overall existing provision can only accommodate a maximum of 21 planned places.



Why are we consulting now?

This consultation is a proposal to secure school places for pupils with speech, language and communication needs by increasing the number of places available in Key Stage 2 (Years 3 to 6).

Overall, The COIN Centre will expand from 21 to 29 planned places.

A feasibility study will inform the development approach required to expand the centre at Stepgates Community School to ensure long-term sustainability.



What is being proposed?

Existing places available in the SEN unit:

Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	21

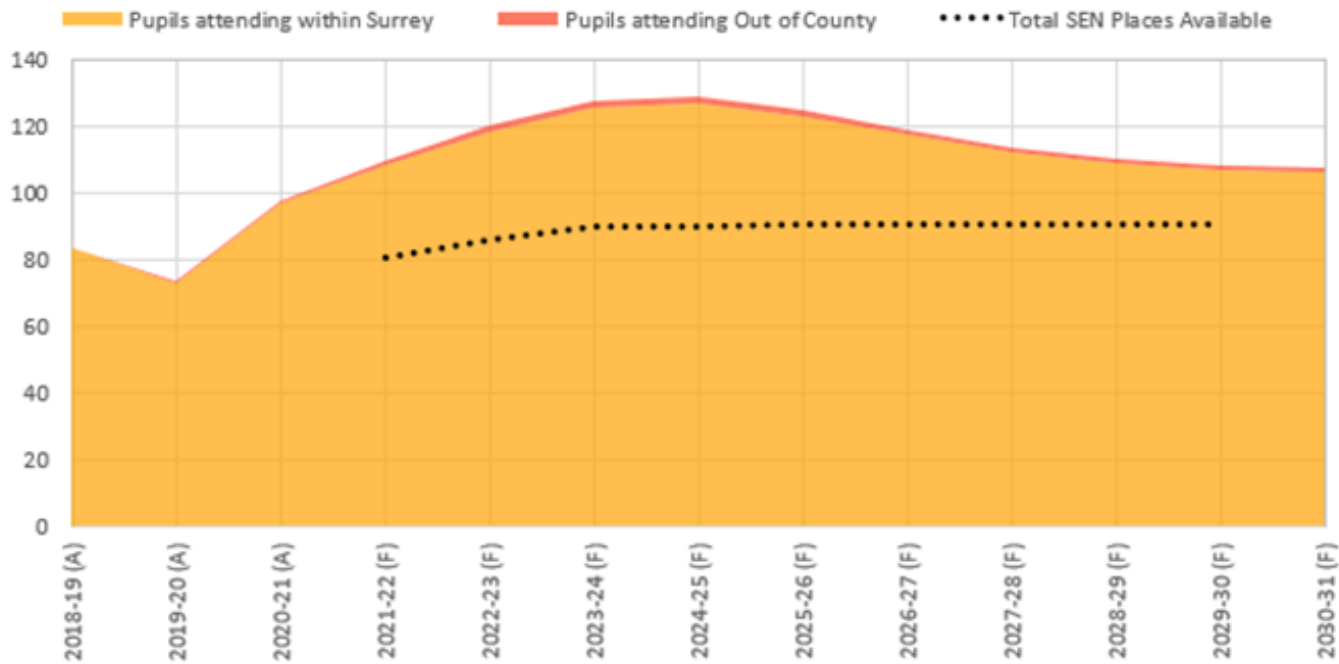
Proposed places available in the SEN unit:

Year R	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	
3	3	3	5	5	5	5	29



Demand for specialist places North West Surrey

Demand for specialist unit places from children in north west Surrey with an EHCP in Years R-6 and a primary need of SLCN



What we can offer

- To expand the SEN unit to meet the needs of 29 pupils with speech, language and communication needs (SLCN).
- An inclusive offer where pupils spend around 40% of the time (usually afternoons) in their mainstream class, accessing the mainstream curriculum, alongside their peers.



What we can offer

At Stepgates Community School and Sunbeams Nursery, staff have been trained to be able to cater for learners who have difficulties with:

- Cognition and Learning
- Communication and Interaction
- Social, Emotional and Mental health
- Sensory and Physical



What we can offer

As a school we have extensive knowledge and experience of teaching and supporting children with a range of special needs. We have a Specialist Low COIN Centre, where children who have identified Communication and Interaction Needs are supported within a small class every morning. They are taught by specialist teachers and Speech Therapists. These children are then integrated into their mainstream classes in the afternoon, to ensure opportunities for further development of social and communication skills. All staff within the school have a good knowledge of how to support children with Speech, Language and Communication and interaction needs. As well as this staff also have a good understanding and experience of teaching and supporting children with the following needs:

- Autism (ASD)
- ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder)
- Attachment Disorder
- English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- Social and Communication needs
- Behavioural and Emotional needs



What we want to achieve

By expanding our current provision, the children of Surrey will have their needs catered for locally, without the need to travel great distances.



SEND Capital Programme

The expansion of the SEN unit at Stepgates Community School is part of a suite of proposals being developed by Surrey County Council to deliver a step change in the number of places for learners who have complex SEND in local special schools and SEN units or resourced provision in mainstream schools.



SEND Capital Programme

The key outcomes and benefits of the SEND Capital Programme can be found in the report to Surrey County Council's Cabinet on 25 January 2022:

[Developing local Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Provision](#)



SEND Capital Programme

The **key outcomes and benefits** include:

- Surrey's maintained specialist education provision is fit for purpose
- Children, young people, and families can access the same level of high-quality support wherever they live in Surrey
- SEND home to school transport distance and costs are reduced so that pupils attend their closest, most appropriate school with shorter journey times
- Additional places are matched appropriately to need type, phases of education and geographic location



Timeline

Informal consultation
published **7 Nov 2022** –
5 Dec 2022

- Public meeting with stakeholders
- Analysing responses
- Responding to queries

Statutory notices
published **Dec/Jan**
2022

- Analysing representations
- Responding to queries

Cabinet
Member
Decision – **28**
Feb 2023

- Published decision



How to respond to the consultation

To submit a response to the consultation, please complete the online survey which can be found at www.surreysays.co.uk

Alternatively, you can complete a paper copy and either post your response to the address on the form, or scan a copy and email to schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk

