



School Organisation Consultation

**Changing the age range and
increasing pupil numbers
at the specialist centre at West
Ewell Primary School**

**April
2018**



SURREY

Introduction

1. This paper outlines a proposal for the development of places for primary pupils with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) and that have Communication and Interaction (COIN) needs in Surrey. The process and timescales are outlined below for the change of age range and the addition of 6 places at the specialist centre at West Ewell Primary School which is situated in the north east of the county.

Background

2. During the summer of 2015 Surrey County Council undertook a consultation to consider changes to primary schools in the Ewell area of Surrey. It was proposed that West Ewell Infant School would become a 2 form entry primary school from September 2018. West Ewell has an 'outstanding' ofsted rating.
3. The proposal was approved by the Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement in July 2015 and the first cohort of Year 3 pupils were at the school from September 2017.

Proposal

4. Surrey County Council is proposing to extend the age range of the specialist centre for pupils with COIN in conjunction with the school's transition from an infant to primary age range. This means that Year 2 pupils who are already placed at the specialist centre and are appropriately placed, can continue to receive specialist provision throughout Key Stage 2 (KS2), alongside their mainstream peers.
5. It is proposed that the number of infant aged pupils in the centre changes from the current model of 5 per year group to 3 per year group in Key Stage 1 (KS1) and that there would be 3 new places per year group in the centre for key stage 2 pupils.. This will take the total number of planned places at the centre from 15 to 21 in total which is detailed in the tables below:

Current

R	5
1	5
2	5
3	0
4	0
5	0
6	0
NOR	15

Proposed

R	3
1	3
2	3
3	3
4	3
5	3
6	3
NOR	21

Rationale

6. Due to the change made to the school to become a primary provision it is appropriate to give centre pupils an equitable opportunity to continue attending the school for the

next key stage of their education. In line with their peers, centre pupils will be able to remain at West Ewell Primary School from September 2018.

7. Increasing the age range at the COIN centre would aim to enable the specialist centre to have an age range aligned with the rest of West Ewell Primary School. This arrangement would allow pupils to integrate when possible with their mainstream peers but also will enable the school to provide adequate resources to provide the appropriate level of specialist support. The school seeks to ensure these pupils receive a fully inclusive education within the COIN centre of excellence which allows them to thrive and progress through the school in a supportive environment and be fully prepared for a smooth, confident transition to their next phase of education.
8. Demand for specialist centre provision in the north east area for pupils with COIN needs is high and other provision in the local area is operating at high levels of occupancy. The school reorganisation provides an opportunity to increase provision for KS2 pupils in this area of Surrey to provide a local offer. Currently appropriate junior aged pupils have to move to provision located in other areas of Surrey, which increases home to school travel times and costs.

Pupil Placement

1. Pupils who attend the centre in KS1 where this type of provision remains appropriate will transfer directly into KS2. Dependent upon the number of pupils that move from Year 2 to Year 3 there may be transfer years when additional places may be available to pupils not on the year 2 roll at West Ewell.
2. Currently there is a larger group of pupils moving through from KS1 to KS2 than is indicated in the proposed table on page 2. For those affected pupils currently in KS1 that continue to require KS2 COIN centre provision it has been agreed that they will continue to make their way through KS2 alongside their peers. This will mean that the number of pupils attending the COIN centre will exceed the planned place numbers for 4 years.
3. Appropriate pupils for this provision would be identified and placed at West Ewell Primary COIN centre using the Education Health Care Plan and subsequent review pathways. The document 'SEND admissions processes for referrals for specialist placement for school age children' describes how this process works and is available on the Surrey Local Offer website.

Finance and Resourcing

4. Due to the increase of places there will be an additional annual cost for the number of planned places. Each planned place will be funded at a base level of £6000 in addition to the usual pupil funding, age weighted pupil unit (AWPU). For each pupil that attends the centre a top up sum is also applied.

Capital planning and buildings

5. In order to support the creation of additional places for KS2 pupils capital resources are not required. The development of the school site relating to the change to a primary school has incorporated the appropriate amount of space required for 21 pupils in the COIN centre across both KS1 and KS2.

Consultations, approvals and overall timescales

6. It is proposed that the age range of the centre and change in pupil numbers is changed from 1 September 2018. The proposed changes are described as “prescribed alterations” and require a period of consultation, the publication of statutory Notices and the agreement of Surrey County Council’s Cabinet Member for Schools, Skills and Educational Achievement if the proposal is to proceed.
7. The first stage of consultation will be informal and is proposed to run until 12 noon on Friday 25th May. During this period the Surrey County Council will share its proposals with the wider professional network, schools including headteachers and chairs of governors, with unions, parent representatives, partner agencies and with the staff and parents of the school subject to “prescribed alterations”.
8. Following the informal consultation period it is proposed to publish a Statutory Notice for a four week period. The publication of Notices is when the local authority formally states that it intends to implement the proposed changes. This will be the final opportunity for consultees to make their views known before a final decision is taken. Following the consultation periods officers will summarise the feedback and will report to the Cabinet Member for Education. A decision is due in July 2018.

Have your say

Surrey County Council and West Ewell Primary School would like to know what people in the area feel about the proposal. The consultation will open on Monday 30th April.

You can respond by:

a) Accessing the consultation online on the 'Surrey Says' website: www.surreysays.co.uk and searching for the school's consultation (school name or post code), or by scrolling through the list of open consultations.

b) Completing the consultation response form that is available alongside this document. You can email the form or print it, complete it and send it back to the address below.

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Kingston upon Thames
KT1 2DJ

FAO Julie Beckett (West Ewell COIN Centre) to:
schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk

All responses must be received by noon on Friday 25th May 2018

What happens next?

We will hold a public meeting for parents and any other interested parties to discuss the proposals and to hear the views that people have. As a public meeting, anyone who wishes to may attend. This meeting will be on **Tuesday 15 May at 10am** at West Ewell Primary School. Everyone is welcome to attend the meeting and there is no need to pre-register your attendance.

Please come and share your views. You do not have to have a child at the school to come to the meeting.

At the end of the consultation period, we will review all of the responses received and share these with the school and publish them on the Surrey Says website.

Subject to the outcome of the consultation we intend to publish a Statutory Notice during the week commencing 4th June at the school, in a local newspaper and on the Surrey Says website stating our intention to change the age range of the specialist centre. There will be a 4 week statutory consultation period for further representations to be received by the council. This consultation period is due to end at noon on Tuesday 3rd July.

All representations will be reviewed before a final decision is taken by the Cabinet Member for Education Decisions in July 2018.