

Consultation outcomes on the proposal to change the age range and increase pupil numbers at the specialist centre at William Cobbett Primary School

A total of three responses were received during the consultation period which closed at midday on Friday 25 May 2018, two agreed with the proposal and one disagreed.

During the consultation period a public meeting was held at the school on Monday 14 May 2018. In addition to the Headteacher, centre staff, a school Governor and the Headteacher of Badshot Lea school, three parents attended the meeting.

Questions raised at the public meeting related to the proposal having a detrimental impact on pupil and staffing ratios, which would result in a reduction to the level of adult support that pupils receive. Clarification was given to the attendees that as pupil numbers in the centre grow, funding levels would grow also. This will ensure that the pupil:staffing ratios are not impacted and that pupils will continue to receive the support they require in order to meet their identified needs. A similar question was raised regarding therapy levels and assurances given that arrangements were being made to ensure that the appropriate provision is in place.

The response that disagreed with the proposal has suggested that this proposal constitutes a reduction in pupil numbers. To clarify, the proposals to increase the age range and pupil numbers at William Cobbett would be in addition to the places available at Badshot Lea, meaning that there is an increase in Key Stage 1 places in the area.

As a result of the consultation process it has been decided to proceed with the proposals and the statutory notice will be issued on Monday 4 June 2018. This will give a further four week period for interested parties to make representations.

Following this period it is planned that a paper detailing the proposal and consultation outcomes will be presented to the Cabinet Member for Learning in July for a decision.