

School Organisation Consultation

**Proposal to expand Woodfield
School onto a Specialist School
Satellite site at Carrington School**



School Organisation Informal Consultation

Local Authority Details:

Local Authority	Surrey County Council
Address	Quadrant Court 35 Guildford Road Woking GU22 7QQ

School Details:

Name of School	Woodfield School
Category of School	Community school
Type of School	Secondary Specialist School with a designation of MLD
URN	125481
Address	Sunstone Grove, Merstham, Redhill, Surrey
Postcode	RH1 3PR

Introduction

This document outlines a proposal to permanently expand Woodfield School onto a specialist school satellite site at Carrington School, creating 40 additional specialist school places for pupils aged 11-16 years with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD)¹ and co-occurring needs. All pupils will have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Proposal

Surrey County Council, in partnership with the Governing Body of Woodfield School, Carrington School and South East Surrey Schools Education Trust, is proposing to expand Woodfield School to create 40 additional places. The 40 place expansion will be provided on a specialist school satellite site at Carrington School. This would expand Woodfield School from 180 places to 220 places. All pupils will be on roll at Woodfield School and have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that names Woodfield School satellite site at Carrington School as the appropriate placement to meet their individual needs.

Table 1 shows the timeline for the proposed changes to take place on 1 September 2023. Dates and steps in the timeline may change based on the outcome of this consultation.

Table 1: Proposed timeline

Phase	Date
Informal Consultation Period	21 February 23 - 31 March 23
Public Engagement Event	14 March 23
Review of consultation responses	31 March 23 – 12 April 23
Outcome of consultation published on www.surreysays.co.uk	By 14 April 23
Statutory notices (Statutory Consultation Period)	17 April 23 - 17 May 23
Analysis	May 2023
Lead Cabinet Member Decision	May/June 2023
Implementation	Sept 2023

¹ The term Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) is used to describe the DfE school designation. This is known locally in Surrey as Learning and Additional Needs (LAN).

It is proposed that:

1. The expansion on the new site will be for up to 40 pupils with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) and co-occurring needs from Year 7-11.
2. The main intake point will be at Year 7 key stage transfer and, where there are spaces and demand, new pupils may be accepted in the school in other year groups.
3. When full, there will be 5 classes of 8 pupils aged 11-16 years old across key stages 3 and 4 at the Woodfield School Specialist School Satellite Site at Carrington School. Pupils will be grouped according to age, individual needs and learning styles.
4. There are no sixth form places proposed at the Woodfield School Specialist School Satellite Site at Carrington School.
5. Pupils who attend the satellite site at Carrington will be on roll at Woodfield School and this will be named in Section I of the Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

Admissions processes remain the same for pupils at Woodfield School. Further details on the admissions process for SEND provision in Surrey can be found on the Surrey Local Offer website. The webpage [Choosing a school place for a child with an EHCP](#) describes how to apply for a specialist school place.

Making Representations, Objections and Comments

1. This is an informal consultation which starts on Monday 21 February 2023 and concludes 31 March 2023.
2. A number of organisations are available locally to support families of children who have additional needs and young people who have additional needs to share their views. Please see [Information, Advice and Support – SEND Advice Surrey](#)
3. Any person can make comments, agree, or object to the proposal by sending representations to the Local authority through the following channels:

Website	www.surreysays.co.uk
Email	schoolorg@surreycc.gov.uk
Post	Jane Keenan Woodfield at Carrington Education Place Planning Surrey County Council Quadrant Court 35 Guildford Road Woking GU22 7QQ

Background

Woodfield School currently provides specialist education for pupils aged 11-19 years with a capacity of 180 planned places. There are currently 158 pupils on roll at the school. **Table 2** shows the break down per Year Group as of academic year 2022/23. The school has a 'Good' OFSTED rating from its most recent inspection in October 2022.

Table 2: Number of Pupils on roll at Woodfield School by National Curriculum Year (NCY) Group October 2022 census

	Year 7	Year 8	Year 9	Year 10	Year 11	Year 12	Year 13	Year 14	Total
Number of pupils currently at Woodfield School	28	33	27	28	20	6	12	2	156

Carrington School is an Academy within the South East Surrey Education Trust. It is a 7 form entry Secondary School in the borough of Reigate and Banstead with a published admission number (PAN) of 210.

Current Special Educational Needs provision at Woodfield School

Woodfield School currently provides specialist education for pupils aged 11-19 years. The school has a 'Good' OFSTED rating from its most recent inspection in October 2022. It provides highly specialist teaching and support for students with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) with a range of co-occurring Learning and Additional Needs. Woodfield is recognised nationally for its systemic Trauma Informed and Therapeutic Approach (TIA), supporting pupils to learn to manage their own needs and access learning with increasing confidence and independence. The Trauma Informed and Therapeutic Approach will be fundamental to the pedagogy of the proposed collaboration and to the vision of the right provision at the right time, with pupils supported across the two schools working together to meet their very individual needs.

Woodfield School's mission statement is: *Preparing pupils for adulthood: Developing learners that are happy, successful and increasing in independence.*

Pupils with moderate learning difficulties have much greater difficulty than their peers in acquiring basic literacy and numeracy skills and in understanding concepts. They may also have associated speech and language delay, low self-esteem, low levels of concentration and under-developed social skills. Many of the pupils attending Woodfield School have additional challenges including communication and interaction needs, medical needs, sensory, or emotional needs resulting in complex learning needs. The school enables pupils to realise their personal potential by creating a safe, happy and vibrant learning community where all effort and achievement is celebrated, where pupils are empowered to persevere and develop independence and through valuing and respecting all who form part of the wider school community.

Further information about the current curriculum and provision at Woodfield School is available on the school website: [Woodfield School](#)

Current Special Educational Needs provision at Carrington School

Carrington School provides education for pupils aged 11-16 years where the focus is upon delivering high quality learning opportunities that engage all students and ensures they can acquire the knowledge needed for each stage of their education and help them gain the qualifications they need to see them onto the post-16 courses and into the future career of their choice. The opportunities within and beyond the school curriculum are both rich and diverse. Not only do the school run the traditional sports, choirs and performance style clubs, but enable all students to choose an enrichment activity as part of the Excellence Programme (within curriculum time) to help them find and develop their talents. Encouraging students to try new things, to be involved, to work as a team and with students from other year groups to build that sense of togetherness.

Carrington School has a Director of Inclusion (SENCo, Special Educational Needs Coordinator) that manages and oversees additional support and interventions, in liaison with the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), Home School Link Worker (HSLW), Heads of Year, Heads of Department, Heads of Faculty and teachers to ensure that additional support is carefully planned, monitored and reviewed for impact on learning. The Learning Support (LS) Faculty work with students in and out of the classroom. The focus is on Quality First Teaching (QTF, Level 1) for all students; and there is a recognition that Targeted (Level 2) and Specialist (Level 3) support for a number of students will be needed for some students. These interventions take place on a rolling programme; are time bound and well-structured; and carefully monitored for impact.

Further information about the current SEND provision at Carrington school is available on the school website: [Carrington School](#)

What will be provided through the Specialist School Satellite Site?

The new satellite site would be staffed and managed by Woodfield School and provide 40 places for pupils aged 11-16 years with identified Moderate Learning Difficulties and co-occurring needs. These would be pupils on roll at Woodfield School who, in agreement with parents and carers, would also benefit from the enhanced learning and social opportunities that Carrington School can provide. The aim is for the expansion to utilise space on the Carrington site to provide specialist facilities to support learning for both Woodfield and Carrington students.

What do we want to achieve?

Between 2019-2022, Cabinet approved £139.6m capital investment to deliver up to 2,300 additional specialist school places in Surrey under the SEND Capital Programme. This is in order to expand the county's specialist education estate to up to 6,000 state maintained specialist school places by 2030/31. The programme is aligned with the adopted county-wide commitment to root children in their local communities and ensure no one is left behind. As of September 2022, around 800 new specialist school places have already been delivered across Surrey through 34 Capital projects.

Our ambition is that the introduction of more specialist school satellite sites in mainstream secondary schools would be an opportunity for schools to strengthen local partnerships and their inclusion offer to all children and young people, therefore being of benefit to pupils, the schools' communities and the local authority.

The specialist school satellite site at Carrington School will provide for pupils with Learning and Additional Needs (LAN), broadly in line with the current offer at Woodfield School. The total capacity at the satellite site will be 40 places.

- Enable the students to access supported mainstream accredited curriculum and specialist approaches to both learning and emotional wellbeing.
- Provide wider access and opportunities to more diverse routes around pathways to adulthood.
- Offer Continued Professional Development (CPD) training opportunities for staff across both sites.
- Provide additional nurturing opportunities through collaboration between the two schools for pupils who need a more individual, personalised approach to access their learning from the mainstream site.
- Provide an integrated environment so that pupils gain a sense of their own social identity and access to a peer group so they feel a greater sense of self and belonging.
- To provide an improved learning environment for all pupils by adapting existing spaces and as well as developing new.

Reasons for expanding the school on a satellite site

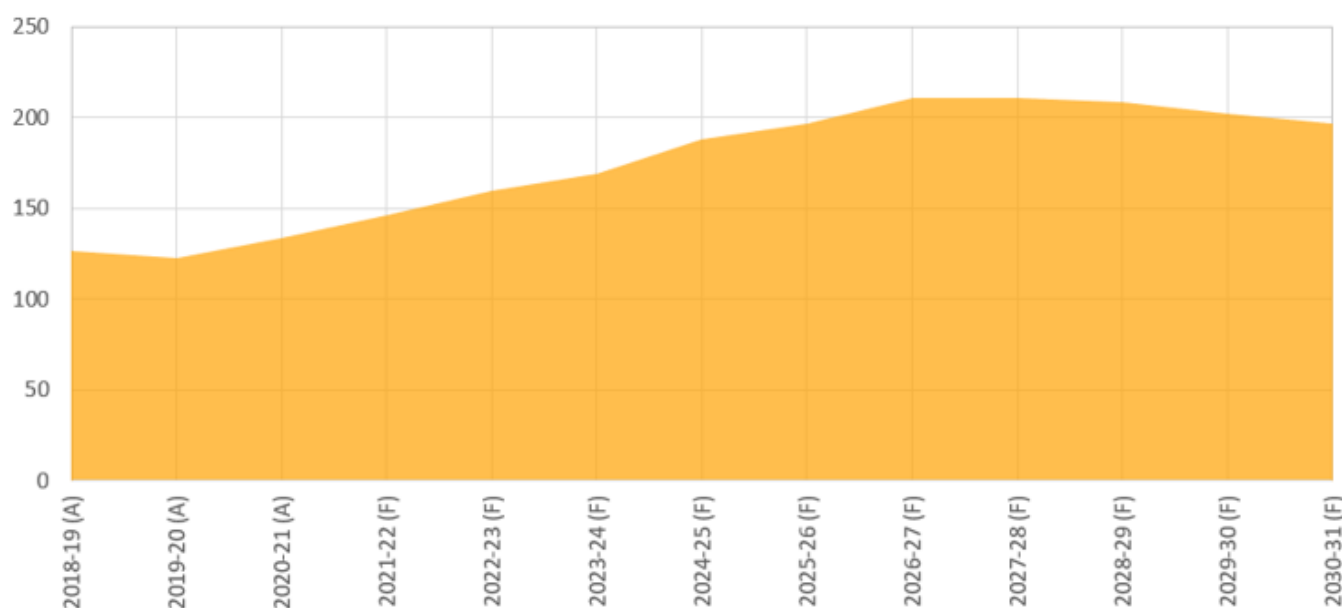
Demand for specialist school places in Surrey

Surrey County Council has identified a long term sufficiency gap for additional specialist places across Surrey. Demand for specialist provision in the South East of Surrey for secondary age pupils with moderate learning difficulties (MLD) and co-occurring needs is high. As a result, other specialist provision in the local area is already operating at or above capacity. The provision of an additional 40 places will help support local families who would otherwise have to travel further afield for their child to receive an appropriate full-time education.

The proposed expansion of Woodfield School into a specialist school satellite site at Carrington School will increase availability of specialist places that are matched appropriately to need-type, phases of education and geographic location, as well as reduce home to school journey times and associated costs.

Graph 1 shows a forecast 32% increase in demand for Moderate Learning Difficulties (known locally as Learning and Additional Needs) designated specialist school places from 2022/23 to 2026/27. This is equivalent to circa 50 additional places.

Graph 1 - Year 7 to 11 Pupils residing in South East Surrey who are expected to need a Specialist Place with a designation of Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD), known locally as Learning and Additional Needs (LAN)



edge-ucate SEN

Existing MLD Designated Specialist School provision in Surrey

More details of our specialist provision can be found in the booklet "[Finding the right secondary school in Surrey](#)" on the [Surrey Local Offer website](#).

Table 3 below provides a summary of existing secondary specialist school provision in Surrey designated to meet the needs of pupils with moderate learning difficulties and co-occurring needs as their primary presenting needs.

Table 3: Specialist Schools with a designation of Moderate Learning Difficulties in South East Surrey (secondary phase).

School	Designation	District	Planned Places	Age Range	Occupancy as of Sept 2022	Planned Expansion under Surrey's SEND Capital Programme
West Hill Academy	MLD (Known locally in Surrey as LAN)	Mole Valley	149	3-11 years	149	
Woodfield School	MLD (Known locally in Surrey as LAN)	Reigate and Banstead	170	11-16 years	158	Proposed satellite expansion on Carrington School site for September 2023

Table 4: SEN Units in a mainstream school with a designation of Moderate Learning Difficulties in South East Surrey.

School	Designation	District	Planned Places	Age Range	Occupancy as of Sept 2022
Furzefield Community Primary School	MLD (Known locally in Surrey as LAN)	Reigate and Banstead	14	7-11 years	13
Oakfield Junior School	MLD (Known locally in Surrey as LAN)	Mole Valley	16	7-11 years	18

Key Outcomes and Benefits

Expanding high quality and sustainable specialist school provision for Surrey resident secondary age pupils will provide the following benefits as stated in the [Developing local Special Educational Needs and Disability \(SEND\) Provision](#) report to Cabinet on 25 January 2022:

1. Benefits realisation ensures Surrey's maintained specialist education provision is fit for purpose and creates additional employment/supported internship opportunities for residents around areas of expansion.
2. Children, young people, and families can access the same level of high-quality support wherever they live in Surrey. We have a good, shared understanding of our children and young people who have SEND in Surrey and our support offer matches their identified needs.
3. Expanding Surrey's specialist provision aligns with the Preparation for Adulthood programme and strategy for post-16 to create local further education and employment pathways such as apprenticeships and supported internships. This enables young people who have SEND to make a successful transition to adulthood and secure employment.
4. Capacity created locally will also make certain that SEND home to school transport distance and costs are reduced so that pupils attend their closest most appropriate school with shorter journey times. Opportunities for developing independent travel skills can be maximised as a result of children and young people being educated closer to home. This will also address local congestion around school sites as well as traffic flow around the county, which will be of benefit to Surrey's Green Agenda.

5. The distribution and occupancy of current Specialist Schools and SEN Units in mainstream schools clearly illustrates that there is insufficient provision of Autism and Communication & Social Interaction Needs, Moderate Learning Difficulties, Severe Learning Difficulties and Social Emotional Mental Health Needs Special places.
6. The approved remodification and expansion programme will ensure that additional places are matched appropriately to need type, phases of education and geographic locations.

Implementation Plan

Finance and Resourcing

Revenue income: Woodfield School will receive £10,000 for each planned place commissioned (40 places) and will also receive a “Top up” sum for each pupil on roll at the school. This is determined against individual pupils’ needs. Top up rates are reviewed annually by the Local Authority.

Staffing

Staff will be employed by Woodfield School, who will be responsible for recruiting and managing staff at the satellite site at Carrington School. Woodfield School is a community school. There will be opportunities for shared training and development within both schools.

Capital planning and buildings

The Capital project is part of Phase 4 of the SEND Capital Programme approved by Surrey County Council’s Cabinet on 25 January 2022. A feasibility study will inform the technical approach to utilise existing space at Carrington School to accommodate the satellite site for Woodfield School.

Growth Model

It is proposed that there will be 8 additional places available in September 2023, which is the proposed first year of opening. The table below shows how the specialist school satellite will grow from September 2023 to full capacity in September 2026. The growth model may change depending on timescales and the outcome of the property feasibility study. The main intake point will be key stage transfer in Year 7, although, where there are spaces and demand, new children may be accepted into the school in other year groups.

Academic Year	Numbers of learners per National Curriculum Year Group					
	NCY 7	NCY 8	NCY 9	NCY 10	NCY 11	TOTAL
2023-2024	8					8
2024-2025	8	8				16
2025-2026	8	8	8			24
2026-2027	8	8	8	8		32
2027-2028	8	8	8	8	8	40
TOTAL	Year on Year availability					40

Impacts

An Equality Impact Assessment is being completed throughout the consultation process and will be published as part of the Lead Cabinet Member Decision Meeting.

Consultations, approvals and overall timescales

1. It is proposed that the Woodfield School satellite site at Carrington School commences from 1 September 2023. The proposed changes require a period of consultation, the publication of Statutory Notices and the agreement of Surrey County Council's Cabinet Member for Education and Learning if the proposal is to proceed.
2. The first stage of consultation will be informal and will be open from 21 February 2023 to 31 March 2023. During this period, Surrey County Council will share the proposal 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 the proposals. The consultation will also be shared with local councillors and residents, SEND Advice Surrey and Family Voice Surrey.
3. 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 and Learning.

Have your say

Surrey County Council, Woodfield School and Carrington School would like to know what people in the area feel about the proposal. The consultation will open on 21 February 2023 and conclude on the 31 March 2023.

You can make representations, objections and comments using the online form at www.surreysays.co.uk. Alternatively, you can respond by email or post at the addresses given in the section [Making Representations, Objections and Comments](#).

All responses must be received by 11.59pm on 31 March 2023.

What happens next?

We will hold a virtual public engagement meeting for parents and any other interested parties to discuss the proposals and to hear views.

14 March 2023 at 6-7 PM
Microsoft Teams – virtual meeting

As a public meeting, anyone who wishes to may attend, please email school.org@surreycc.gov.uk to register your interest and you will be sent a link to the online event. There will be a short presentation followed by questions and answers.

Please join us to share your views and ask questions. You do not have to have a child at either of the schools to join the meeting.

At the end of the consultation period, we will review all the responses received and share these with Woodfield School and Carrington School and publish analysis of the responses on the Surrey Says website.

Subject to the outcome of the consultation we intend to publish a Statutory Notice at the school, in a local newspaper and on the Surrey Says website stating our intention to expand Woodfield School on a satellite site at Carrington School. There will be a four-week statutory consultation period for further representations to be received by the council.

All representations will be reviewed before a final decision is taken by the Cabinet Member for Education and Learning