

**Kent County Council
Equality Analysis/ Impact Assessment (EqIA)**

Directorate/ Service: Children, Young People and Education

Name of decision, policy, procedure, project or service:

Establishment of a Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP) at Canterbury Academy for 8 students with Hearing Impairment (HI) and the closure of Hartsdown Specialist Resourced Provision for Hearing Impairment.

Responsible Owner/ Senior Officer: Marisa White

Version: 1

Author: Lorraine Medwin

Pathway of Equality Analysis: N/A

Summary and recommendations of equality analysis/impact assessment.

- **Context**

The Local Authority is responsible for issuing and maintaining Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for children and young people between the ages of 0-25 years. As of January 2021, this totalled 15,281 children and young people with an EHCP. This is an increase of 1,782 since January 2020, an increase of 13.2% compared to 10% in England.

Currently pupils with an EHCP are less likely to be educated in a maintained mainstream school that would be expected nationally.

Aims and Objectives

- Ensure that there are sufficient provisions for pupils with hearing impairment.
- Pupils with Hearing Impairment will be able to attend a provision in mainstream and secondary school to meet their needs

Summary of equality impact

No adverse impacts have been identified at this stage; however, the outcome of the public consultation and community consultation will enable the Local Authority to test out these assumptions.

Positive impacts have been identified are:

- Pupils with Hearing Impairment needs in the East and South Kent will be able to attend a provision which is accessible and centrally located.
- There will be an increase in the total number of places available for children with Hearing Impairment in Kent.

Adverse Equality Impact Rating Low

Attestation

I have read and paid due regard to the Equality Analysis Impact Assessment concerning Canterbury Academy Trust and Hartsdown Academy. I agree with risk rating and the actions to mitigate any adverse impact(s) that has /have been identified.

Head of Service

Signed:

Name: Marisa White

Job Title: Area Education Officer

Date: 15/11/2021

DMT Member

Signed:

Name: Christine McInness

Job Title: Director of Education Planning and Access

Date:

Part 1 Screening

Could this policy, procedure, project or service, or any proposed changes to it, affect any Protected Group (listed below) less favourably (negatively) than others in Kent? Could this policy, procedure, project or service promote equal opportunities for this group?

Protected Group	Please provide a brief commentary on your findings. Fuller analysis should be undertaken in Part 2.			
	High negative impact EqIA	Medium negative impact Screen	Low negative impact Evidence	High Positive Impact Evidence
Age				This proposal is part of the wider implementation of Kent's SEND Strategy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The additional SRP provision will mean that pupils will be able to access mainstream school education were appropriate.
Disability				There will be more places available to meet the needs of children with HI in the East and South Kent.
Gender				The provision at Canterbury Academy is to be for boys and girls
Gender identity/ Transgender				The SRP will accept Children with an Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) naming the school on their EHCP regardless of gender identity
Race				The SRP will accept SEN Children with an Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) naming the school on their EHCP, regardless of race or ethnicity.
Religion and Belief				The school will accept SEN children of faith or no faith who name it on their Children with an Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) The curriculum covers all religions.
Sexual Orientation				The SRP will accept SEN Children with an Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) naming the school on their EHCP, regardless of sexual orientation.
Pregnancy and Maternity				N/A
Marriage and Civil Partnerships				N/A
Carer's Responsibilities				N/A

Part 2**Equality Analysis /Impact Assessment****Protected groups****Information and Data used to carry out your assessment**

The Information and Data used to carry out the assessment is published data on pupil numbers.

- Data relating to children and young people with specialist educational needs and /or disabilities.
- January 2021 SEN Needs analysis

Who have you involved consulted and engaged?

Consultation on the proposal will take place with the community and other stakeholders including the following groups

- All Schools in East and South Kent.
- Parents/carers
- KCC Members
- District Council
- Parish Councils
- Local MPs
- Dioceses of Canterbury and Southwark
- The Clinical Commissioning Groups

Analysis and information on SEN Need in Kent and Canterbury District.

The Local Authority is responsible for maintaining Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for children and young people between the ages of 0-25 years.

As of January 2021, this totalled 15,281 children and young people with an EHCP. This is an increase of 1,782 since January 2020, an increase of 13.2% compared to 10% nationally.

Currently pupils with an EHCP are less likely to be educated in a maintained mainstream school that would be expected nationally.

EHCPs by age group and need type January 2021

SEN Need Type	Under 5	Aged 5-10	Aged 11-15	Aged 16-19	Aged 20-25	Total	% of EHCPs
Autistic Spectrum Disorder	257	2045	2309	1285	623	6519	42.7%
Hearing Impairment	9	63	60	41	27	200	1.3%
Moderate Learning Difficulty	14	252	312	215	155	948	6.2%
Multi-Sensory Impairment	0	5	6	3	0	14	0.1%
Physical Disability	40	179	200	130	71	620	4.1%
Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulty	28	153	110	71	22	384	2.5%
Severe Learning Difficulty	13	275	298	190	153	929	6.1%

Social, Emotional and Mental Health	9	566	1236	814	274	2899	19.0%
Specific Learning Difficulty	3	50	130	72	28	283	1.9%
Speech, Language and Communication Needs	169	1005	627	386	203	2390	15.6%
Visual Impairment	8	23	26	22	16	95	0.6%
Kent Total	550	4616	5314	3229	1572	15281	

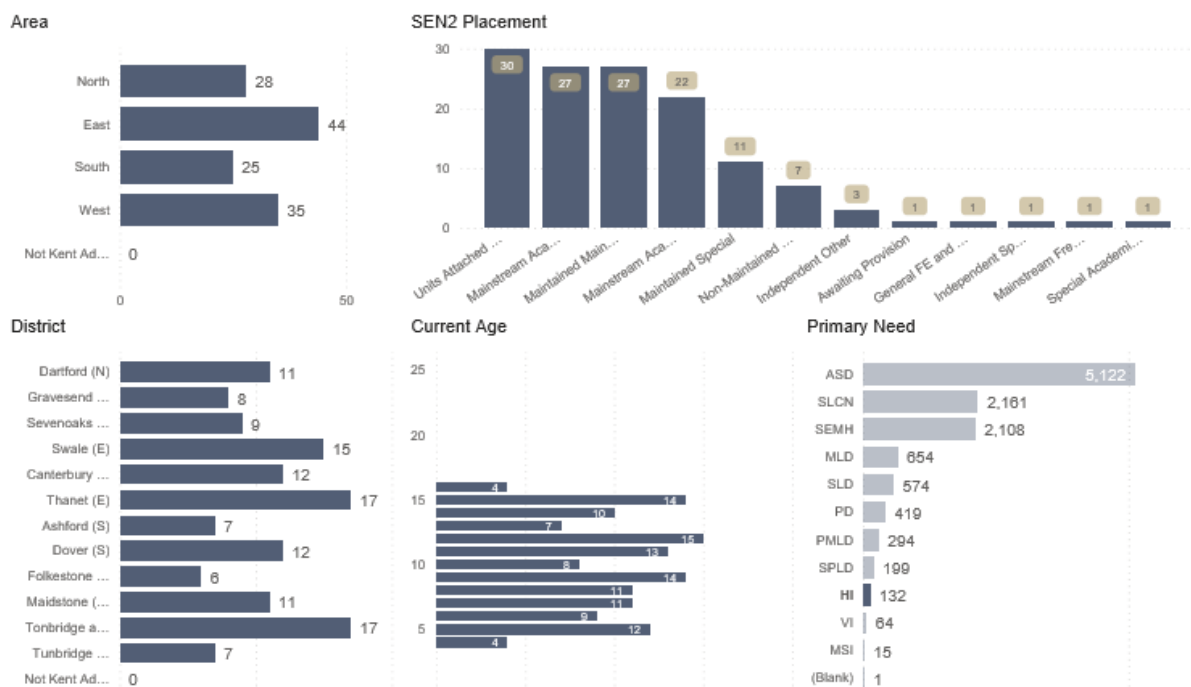
Source: SEN2 Return January 2021

Hearing Impairment as a primary need is a low incidence need and only 1.3% of all EHCPs have a primary need of HI. In January 2021 there were 200 EHCPs in Kent for HI (0–25-year-olds) in Kent. For those students who require additional support to access mainstream school but not a specialist school place, an SRP place is required and therefore establishing the capacity at Canterbury Academy will help meet the need and is ideally located to meet the wider need across East and South Kent.

October 2021 Hearing Impairment Analysis.

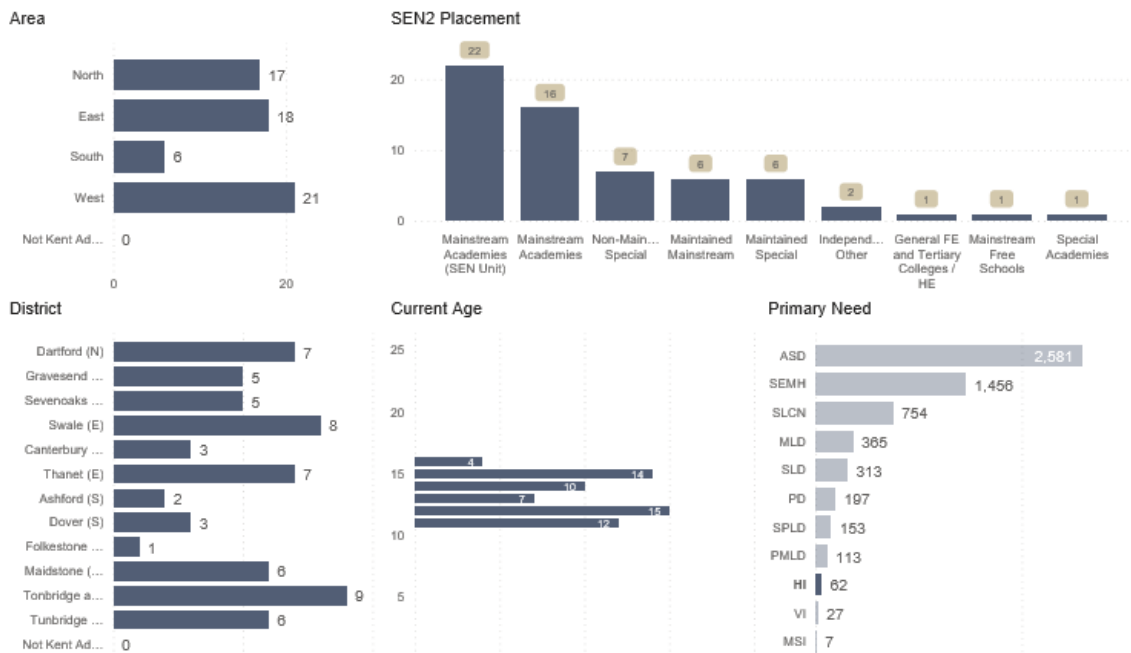
Year R-Y11 EHCPs for Hearing Impairment Oct 2021

Active EHCPs (132 cases)



Year 7 -11 EHCPs for Hearing Impairment Oct 2021

Active EHCPs (62 cases)



Primary Pupils with HI in EK and SK Feb 2021

District	Year 0			Year 1			Year 2			Year 3			Year 4			Year 5			Year 6			Total						
	Moderate	Severe	Profound	Moderate	Severe	Profound	Moderate	Severe	Profound	Moderate	Severe	Profound	Moderate	Severe	Profound	Moderate	Severe	Profound	Moderate	Severe	Profound	Moderate	Severe	Profound	Severe & Profound			
Ashford	3				1		1		1	1			1	1	1							1			6	3	2	5
Dover				1			4			1		1	1						1						8	0	1	1
Folkestone & Hythe					1		2	1	4			1		2				1							2	4	6	10
Canterbury	2	1		1		1				1						3	0	0	1						8	2	1	3
Swale	1						2			2	1		3			2			5						15	1	0	1
Thanet	1			1			1						2	1	1	1	1	2	2			2		1	8	3	4	7
Total	7	1	0	3	2	1	10	2	5	5	3	3	6	4	3	7	0	1	9	1	1	47	13	14	27			

Current HI SRP Provisions in Kent.

School	Primary/ Secondary	Area/District	Designated Number
Castle Hill Primary School	Primary	South/Folkestone & Hythe	8
Fleetdown Primary School	Primary	North/Dartford	14
Molehill Primary Academy	Primary	West/Maidstone	12
Slade Primary School	Primary	West/Tonbridge and Malling	6
Total primary SRP Places			40
Leigh Academy	Secondary	North/Dartford	9
Sittingbourne Academy	Secondary	East/Swale	25
St Gregory's Catholic School	Secondary	West/Tunbridge Wells	11
Total Secondary Places			45
Hartsdown	Secondary	East/Thanet	(5) Consultation for closure

Currently there is a gap in SRP provision for Secondary school aged children in the South and East. By closing the provision in Hartsdown Academy in Thanet and opening the SRP at Canterbury Academy where it is ideally located to provide places for pupils living in East and South of the County.

For more detail on the community visit –

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/information-and-data/Research-and-figures-about-Kent/area-profiles>

Adverse Impact,

No adverse impact identified.

Positive Impact:

- Pupils with Hearing Impairment needs in the East and South Kent will be able to attend a provision which is accessible and centrally located.
- There will be an increase in the total number of places available for children with Hearing Impairment in Kent.

JUDGEMENT

- **No major change** - no potential for discrimination and all opportunities to promote equality have been taken

Internal Action Required ~~YES~~/NO

There is potential for adverse impact on particular groups and we have found scope to improve the proposal...

Equality Impact Analysis/Assessment Action Plan

Protected Characteristic	Issues identified	Action to be taken	Expected outcomes	Owner	Timescale	Cost implications

Have the actions been included in your business/ service plan?

Yes/No

Appendix

Please include relevant data sets

Please forward a final signed electronic copy and Word version to the Equality Team by emailing diversityinfo@kent.gov.uk

If the activity will be subject to a Cabinet decision, the EqIA must be submitted to committee services along with the relevant Cabinet report. Your EqIA should also be published.

The original signed hard copy and electronic copy should be kept with your team for audit purposes