

## EQIA Submission – ID Number

### Section A

**EQIA Title**

Proposed Increase of a Designated Number of Nexus Foundation Special School - Version 2

**Responsible Officer**

Paul Wilson - CY EPA

**Approved by (Note: approval of this EqIA must be completed within the EqIA App)**

Nicholas Abrahams - CY EPA

### Type of Activity

**Service Change**

No

**Service Redesign**

No

**Project/Programme**

Project/Programme

**Commissioning/Procurement**

No

**Strategy/Policy**

No

**Details of other Service Activity**

No

### Accountability and Responsibility

**Directorate**

Children Young People and Education

**Responsible Service**

Education, Planning and Access

**Responsible Head of Service**

Nicholas Abrahams - CY EPA

**Responsible Director**

Christine McInnes - CY EPA

### Aims and Objectives

To provide sufficient school places; Kent County Council (KCC), as the Local Authority (LA), has a statutory duty to ensure sufficient school places are available. The County Council's Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2024-28 (KCP) is a five-year rolling plan which is updated annually. It sets out our future plans as Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision across all types and phases of education in Kent.

The Commissioning Plan highlights the SEN place pressure that Kent has experienced, with the number of Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) having increased significantly in recent years. The demand for special school provision for children with Profound Severe and Complex needs within Tonbridge and the wider West Kent area has increased commensurately, and in recent years KCC has commissioned additional places at Nexus. Since the academic year 2021/22 Nexus has temporarily increased its intake to 16 on its main campus and to 6 for the Woudham satellite to meet the commissioned demand. The demand for places at Nexus is set to remain for the foreseeable future and therefore the proposed scheme provides the physical capacity to continue to admit the increased intakes on a permanent basis.

### Section B – Evidence

**Do you have data related to the protected groups of the people impacted by this activity?**

Yes
<b>It is possible to get the data in a timely and cost effective way?</b>
Yes
<b>Is there national evidence/data that you can use?</b>
Yes
<b>Have you consulted with stakeholders?</b>
Yes
<b>Who have you involved, consulted and engaged with?</b>
<p>9.2 An informal education consultation was held from 17 May 2024 to 21 June 2024. The consultation document was distributed by the Nexus to parents, members of staff and governors. The consultation was also emailed to all key stakeholders, including but not limited to the following groups:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Department for Education</li> <li>• The Diocese of Rochester, The Canterbury and Southwark</li> <li>• Elected Members (Kent County Council, District and Parish Councils)</li> <li>• Local MP</li> <li>• Trade Unions</li> <li>• Local Children’s Centres and pre-school providers</li> <li>• Schools in Maidstone area</li> </ul> <p>The consultation was advertised on the KCC and school websites and a drop-in information session was held on Tuesday 04 June 2024, 16:00 to 17:30 at the school.</p>
<b>Has there been a previous Equality Analysis (EQIA) in the last 3 years?</b>
No
<b>Do you have evidence that can help you understand the potential impact of your activity?</b>
Yes
<b>Section C – Impact</b>
<b>Who may be impacted by the activity?</b>
<b>Service Users/clients</b> Service users/clients
<b>Staff</b> No
<b>Residents/Communities/Citizens</b> No
<b>Are there any positive impacts for all or any of the protected groups as a result of the activity that you are doing?</b>
Yes
<b>Details of Positive Impacts</b>
The increase in Nexus' designated number and physical accommodation will enable more children from Tonbridge and the wider West Kent area to benefit from an appropriate local SEN place.
<b>Negative impacts and Mitigating Actions</b>
<b>19.Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Age</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for age?</b>
No
<b>Details of negative impacts for Age</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating Actions for Age</b>
Not Applicable

<b>Responsible Officer for Mitigating Actions – Age</b>
Not Applicable
<b>20. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Disability</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Disability?</b>
No
<b>Details of Negative Impacts for Disability</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Disability</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Disability</b>
Not Applicable
<b>21. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Sex</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Sex</b>
No
<b>Details of negative impacts for Sex</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Sex</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Sex</b>
Not Applicable
<b>22. Negative Impacts and Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Gender identity/transgender</b>
Not Applicable
<b>23. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Race</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Race</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Race</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Race</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Race</b>
Not Applicable
<b>24. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Religion and belief</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Religion and belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Religion and belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Religion and Belief</b>
Not Applicable
<b>25. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Sexual Orientation</b>
No

<b>Negative impacts for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Sexual Orientation</b>
Not Applicable
<b>26. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for mitigating actions for Pregnancy and Maternity</b>
Not Applicable
<b>27. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>
Not Applicable
<b>28. Negative impacts and Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>
<b>Are there negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities</b>
No
<b>Negative impacts for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Mitigating actions for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Not Applicable
<b>Responsible Officer for Carer's responsibilities</b>
Not Applicable