

Appendix 1: KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Beverley Fordham, Cabinet Member for Education and Skills
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DECISION NUMBER:

26/00001

Executive Decision – key

26/00001 - Replacement of modular classrooms at Dover Grammar School for Girls

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, I:

- 1) APPROVE the allocation of £1,400,000 from the Children, Young People and Education Modernisation Capital Programme to enable the replacement of mobile buildings at Dover Grammar School for Girls;
 - 2) DELEGATE authority to the Director of Infrastructure in consultation with the Director of Education and SEND, and the Head of Law to take relevant actions, including but not limited to negotiating, entering into and finalising the terms of relevant contracts, contract variations or other legal agreements, as required, to implement the decision; and
 - 3) DELEGATE authority to the Director of Infrastructure to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant contractual agreements and to enter into such variations as envisaged under any of these contracts.
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Reasons for decision:

KCC has a mobile refurbishment/replacement programme as part of the modernisation programme. The condition of each mobile building on a maintained school site has been assessed. From the assessment, the refurbishment or replacement of each modular building has been prioritised.

Two mobile blocks at Dover Grammar School for Girls have been identified as needing replacement in the next 12 months.

A feasibility process has been completed to RIBA stage 3 which has identified the most cost effective solution to replace the buildings whilst ensuring they will meet the needs of the pupils in terms of both curriculum provision and accessibility.

Financial implications:

Across the three financial years 2025/26 to 2027/28, £18,900,000 has been budget to the Children, Young People and Education Modernisation Programme. The Programme is funded from a combination of the Schools Condition Allocation Grant (provided by Department of Education), developer contributions and prudential borrowing. This programme is used to upgrade existing facilities in KCC maintained schools along with the repair and replacement of mobiles on KCC maintained school site where they remain an essential part of the school's accommodation. The cost of replacing the two mobile blocks at Dover Grammar School for Girls is expected to be £1,400,000. This is affordable with the current programme commitments.

No revenue funding is required to support the proposal unless, the project was aborted, which is considered low risk.

Legal implications:

Planning permission will be required for the necessary related works.

KCC is the responsible body for capital works at Dover Grammar School for Girls. It also has duties, pursuant to the Education Act 1996, for ensuring sufficient school places are available. Replacement buildings are required by the school to ensure the school can accommodate all pupils and therefore deliver the curriculum efficiently.

Equalities implications:

An equalities impact assessment has been completed. No adverse impacts on protected groups have been identified. Replacing the existing modular buildings with a new DDA compliant facility will have a positive impact for staff and pupils with a disability.

Data Protection implications:

There are no data protection implications.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee considered and endorsed this decision at its meeting on 17th March 2026.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

Refurbishing the mobile units was considered and rejected. The condition of the buildings is such that refurbishment works would not provide good value for money.

The option of doing nothing was discarded. The buildings are life-expired and the space they provide is required by the school.

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Archi".

08/04/26

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Signed

Date