

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,  
Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

DECISION NO:

17/00056

For publication

**Subject: Proposal to approve a new 2FE primary school with a 26FTE place nursery, and specialist provision for pupils with Autistic Spectrum disorder, at Chilmington Green, Ashford**

Decision:

**As Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education I agree to:**

- a) Allocate £7.2m from the Education and Young People's Service Capital budget;
- b) To authorise the Director of Infrastructure in consultation with the General Counsel to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council; and
- c) Authorise the Director of Infrastructure to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts. Variations to contract value to be no more than 10% above the capital funding agreed by the Cabinet Member without requiring a new Record of Decision.

Reason(s) for decision:

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent (2017-21) sets out the intention to commission additional school places in Ashford. The Plan also mentioned a specific need for a 2FE school in Chilmington Green.

In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

- The need for extra school places required in Chilmington Green due to housing developments;
- The views of the Area Education Officer;
- The Equalities Impact Assessment and comments received regarding this; and
- The views of the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee which are set out below

**Financial Implications**

- a. Capital –The estimated cost of the new school is in the region of £7.2m. Developer contributions totalling £6m have been agreed towards the school with KCC providing the residual funding from the Children, Young People and Education capital budget. Capital funding will also be allocated to enable the School to resource each new classroom as they come on line, presently at a value of £6,000 per classroom.

- b. Revenue - A one-off £25,000 grant will be provided to the successful sponsor by the Department for Education to cover legal expenses. KCC will provide a budget of £50,000 for start-up costs which will typically commence from January through to 31 August prior to the new school opening on 1 September 2018. The school will receive funding through its GAG, via the Education and Skills Funding Agency. In accordance with the Pupil Growth Policy established by KCC and its Schools' Funding Forum, the school will receive guaranteed funding during the first three years. The growth fund will support the school financially to ensure it can put in place a staffing structure to provide the places commissioned. For the purposes of providing a guaranteed budget we are assuming the organisation as laid out in figure 4. We will review the admission numbers and the school structure with the successful sponsor regularly, to ensure sufficient capacity will be in place when required without a significant overcapacity that will place an unnecessary pressure on the growth fund.

**Figure 4: Proposed Admissions Numbers at the new school over the first 3 years**

	Yr. R	Yr. 1	Yr. 2	Yr. 3	Yr. 4	Yr. 5	Yr. 6	Number of Classes Funded	Pupil Numbers Funded
2018/19	30	15	15	15	15	0	0	3	90
2019/20	30	30	30	15	15	15	0	5	150
2020/21	30	30	30	30	15	15	15	6	180

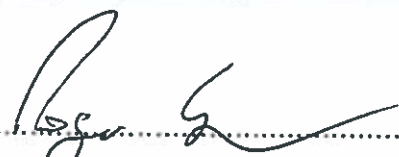
- c. Human – The school will appoint additional staff as required, as the school size increases and the need arises, utilising its revenue budget.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

**At a meeting of the CYPE Cabinet Committee on June 22<sup>nd</sup> 2017, Members endorsed the proposed decision.**

Any alternatives considered:

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

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 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Signed

Date