

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL EQUALITY ANALYSIS / IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EqIA)

Directorate:

Children, Young People and Education

Name of policy, procedure, project or service

Proposals to locate a Satellite of The Beacon Folkestone for up to 10 pupils at Castle Hill Community Primary School and to increase the designated number of The Beacon Folkestone to 380.

What is being assessed?

The following changes to The Beacon Folkestone are being proposed:

- The creation of a satellite unit of The Beacon Folkestone for 10 pupils with Profound, Severe and Complex Needs at Castle Hill Primary School
- The increase in the designated number of The Beacon Folkestone from 336 places to 380 places

Responsible Owner / Senior Officer

David Adams, Area Education Officer, South Kent

Date of Initial Screening

31 January 2019

Date of Full EqIA:

Update each revised version below and in the saved document name.

Version	Author	Date	Comment
1	Lee Round	31/1/2019	

Screening Grid

Characteristic	Could this policy, procedure, project or service affect this group less favourably than others in Kent? YES/NO If yes how?	Assessment of potential impact HIGH/MEDIUM LOW/NONE UNKNOWN		Provide details: a) Is internal action required? If yes what? b) Is further assessment required? If yes, why?	Could this policy, procedure, project or service promote equal opportunities for this group? YES/NO - Explain how good practice can promote equal opportunities
		Positive	Negative	Internal action must be included in Action Plan	If yes, you must provide detail
Age	No	Medium	None		Yes. Positive as the creation of a satellite unit will mean that local families with primary aged children will benefit from the specialist facilities provided by The Beacon Folkestone at Castle Hill Primary School. The increase in the designated number will enable more local pupils aged between 3-19 in need of a special school place to access a suitable school nearer to their home.
Disability	No.	High	None		Yes. There will be more places available to meet the needs of children with PSCN in the South of the County.
Gender	No	Low	None		The satellite provision will be for boys and girls aged between 4 and 11 years. The increase in the designated number at The Beacon Folkestone will increase special school places for boys and girls aged 3-19.
Gender identity	N/A	Unknown	Unknown		N/A
Race		Low	None		Yes – The Beacon Folkestone will accept statemented SEN children with PSCN naming the school on their statement, regardless of race or ethnicity.
Religion or belief		Low	None		Yes - The school will accept statemented SEN children with PSCN of faith or no faith who name it on their statement. The curriculum covers all religions.
Sexual orientation	N/A	Unknown	Unknown		unknown
Pregnancy	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A

Characteristic	Could this policy, procedure, project or service affect this group less favourably than others in Kent? YES/NO If yes how?	Assessment of potential impact HIGH/MEDIUM LOW/NONE UNKNOWN		Provide details: a) Is internal action required? If yes what? b) Is further assessment required? If yes, why?	Could this policy, procedure, project or service promote equal opportunities for this group? YES/NO - Explain how good practice can promote equal opportunities
		Positive	Negative	Internal action must be included in Action Plan	If yes, you must provide detail
and maternity					
Marriage and Civil Partnerships	N/A	N/A	N/A		N/A
Carer's responsibilities	N/A	N/A	N/A		The increase in the designated number will enable more local pupils in need of a special school place to access a suitable school nearer to their home.

Part 1: INITIAL SCREENING

Proportionality - Based on the answers in the above screening grid what weighting would

Low	Medium	High
Low relevance or insufficient information / evidence to make a judgement.	Medium relevance or insufficient information / evidence to make a Judgement.	High relevance to equality, / likely to have adverse impact on protected groups

you ascribe to this function – **LOW**

Context

Kent County Council (KCC) as the Strategic Commissioner of Education Provision in the County is responsible for ensuring there are sufficient high quality places for all learners, including pupils with Special Educational Needs.

We have published a strategy to improve the outcomes for Kent's children and young people with SEN and those who are disabled (SEND). Our current special school capacity has not kept pace with changing needs and we are spending too much on transporting children to schools far away from their local communities.

KCC has recognised the need to increase specialist provision as pupil numbers grow. The applications for an Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) has increased significantly in the last few years.

The Beacon Folkestone is designated to support pupils with Profound, Severe and Complex Needs. Within this designation the school supports pupils with a variety of need types including (but not limited to) Autistic Spectrum Condition, Speech, Language and Communication Needs and Profound and Multiple Learning Needs.

Aims and Objectives

The project is to:

- Locate a satellite unit of The Beacon Folkestone for 10 pupils with PSCN at Castle Hill Primary School.
- Increase the designated number at The Beacon Folkestone to 380.

Background documents are:

- Kent's Commissioning Plan for Education Provision 2019-2023
- Kent's SEND Strategy
- Bold Steps for Kent

Beneficiaries

- Local children with PSCN and their families who may benefit from specialist support and access to a mainstream school
- Children and young people across the south of the County who will benefit from access to a special school

Information and Data

The data used in the project is published data on pupil numbers.

Information for the schools is as follows: -

- The Beacon Folkestone is a Foundation Special School for pupils with Profound, Severe and Complex Needs (PSCN). The school has a designated number of 336 places.
- Castle Hill Primary School is a Community School, with a Published Admission Number of 58 and a total capacity of 406.

Involvement and Community Engagement**Consultation is currently underway with the community and other stakeholders, including the following groups:**

- Schools in Folkestone and Hythe
- All maintained special schools in Kent
- Elected Members (KCC, Folkestone and Hythe District Council)
- Folkestone and Hythe District Council
- Local Parish Councils
- Local MP
- Folkestone and Hythe Clinical Commissioning Group

Potential Impact**Adverse 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 Impact:

Some positive impacts identified are:

- That children with PSCN in the Folkestone and Hythe district will be able to attend provision local to their homes.
- More pupils in need of specialist provision across the south of the County will be able to access provision appropriate to their needs.

JUDGEMENT

Option 1 – Screening Sufficient YES/NO

Justification:

Option 2 – Internal Action Required YES/NO

Following this initial screening our judgement is that the outcome of public consultation will highlight any issues and if necessary, will initiate a further EqIA.

Option 3 – Full Impact Assessment YES/NOT KNOWN

Action Plan**Monitoring and Review**

Equality and Diversity Team Comments


Sign Off

I have noted the content of the equality impact assessment and agree the actions to mitigate the adverse impact(s) that have been identified.

Senior Officer

Signed:  Name: David Adams
Job Title: Area Education Officer Date: 31-1-2109

DMT Member

Signed:  Name: Keith Abbott
Job Title: Director: Education, Planning and Access
Date: 31-1-2019

Equality Impact Assessment Action Plan

Protected Characteristic	Issues identified	Action to be taken	Expected outcomes	Owner	Timescale	Cost implications
Age						
Disability						
Gender						
Race						
Religion or Belief						