

## KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

**DECISION TAKEN BY:**

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

**DECISION NO:**

19/00023

**For Publication**

**Subject:** Proposed expansion of The Maplesden Noakes School, by increasing the published admission number (PAN) from 180 places to 240 places from September 2021.

**Decision:**

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

- (i) Allocate £6.0 million from the Basic Needs budget to fund the permanent expansion of The Maplesden Noakes School.
- (ii) Authorise the Director of Infrastructure in consultation with General Counsel to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council
- (iii) 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

This decision is conditional upon planning permission being granted. The costs of the project are estimates and these may increase as the project is developed. If the cost of the project were to be greater than 10%, the Cabinet Member would be required to take a further decision to allocate the additional funding.

**Reason(s) for decision:**

In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

- the views expressed by those who responded to the public education consultation
- the views expressed by those put in writing by the Area Education Officer, the School and the Governing Body.
- the Equalities Impact Assessment regarding this; and
- the views of the Children, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee which are set out below

**Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:**

The Minute extract from the CYPE Cabinet Committee its meeting on 28 March 2019 are as follows:

**Minutes:**

*Mr Adams (Area Education Officer (South Kent)), Ms White (Area Education Officer (East Kent)) and Mr Watts (Area Education Officer (North Kent)) were in attendance for this item.*

1. The Chairman set out the proposed decisions to expand or alter the following schools: The Maplesden Noakes School, Stone Bay Community Special School, The Beacon Folkestone, Saint George's Church of England School, Sellindge Primary School, Deal Parochial Church of England Primary School and Whitfield Aspen Primary School.

2. In response to a question relating to the proposed decision to expand The Maplesden Noakes School, Ms White said that a pre-planning consultation would be undertaken to address any transport and highways issues concerning the decision.

3. In response to a question relating to the proposed decision to expand Saint George's Church of England School, Mr Watts talked about the positive working relationship between Kent County Council and Aletheia Anglican Academies Trust and explained that Saint George's Church of England School were their own admissions authority.

4. In response to a question relating to the proposed decision to expand Saint George's Church of England School, Mr Watts talked about the communications that had been made to communities in relation to the proposal and the 'drop-in' session. He added that although Kent County Council were funding the proposed expansion, the planning application would be dealt with by the borough council.

5. In response to a question relating to the proposed decision to expand Saint George's Church of England School, Mr Watts talked about the positive impacts that the proposed school expansion would bring, including school places being made available to students with and without faith-based backgrounds.

6. In response to a question relating to the proposed decision to expand Saint George's Church of England School, Mr Watts said that as part of the planning application process, a full consultation would take place which would seek to address any highway issues.

7. RESOLVED that

a) the decision (19/00023) proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education to allocate £6.0 million from the Basic Need budget to fund the permanent expansion of The Maplesden Noakes School, authorise the Director of Infrastructure in consultation with General Counsel to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council, and 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, be endorsed.

b) the decision (19/00024) proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education to issue a public notice to permanently change the age range of Stone Bay (Community Special) School and subject to no objections being received to the public notice, and to change the age range from 8-19 years to 5-19 years in order to provide KS1 places to help with the demand for specialist places for pupils at KS1, be endorsed.

c) the decision (19/00025) proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education to authorise the Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education to issue Public Notice to increase the designated number of The Beacon Folkestone from 336 to 380 places, be endorsed.

d) the decision (19/00026) proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education to allocate £2.6m from the Children, Young People and Education Capital Budget, to fund any necessary additional works or variations to accommodation in relation to the permanent expansion of the Secondary provision at Saint George's Church of England School, Gravesend, and authorise the Director of Infrastructure in consultation with the General Counsel to enter into any necessary contracts/ agreements on behalf of the County Council, be endorsed.

*(Dr L Sullivan asked that her vote against recommendation (d) be recorded in the minutes)*

e) the decision (19/00029) proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education to allocate £1,500,000 from the Children's, Young People and Education Capital budget to construct a six-classroom block at Sellindge Primary School enabling the school to expand to 1FE, authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support in consultation with

the Director of Governance and Law to enter into any necessary contracts/agreements on behalf of the County Council, and authorise the Director of Property and Infrastructure Support to be the nominated Authority Representative within the relevant agreements and to enter into variations as envisaged under the contracts, be endorsed.

f) the decision (19/00032) proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education to revoke the decision to expand Deal Parochial CE Primary School by 1FE, and the associated increase in the published admissions number to 60, and authorise the Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education to issue Public Notice to revoke the planned expansion of expand Deal Parochial CE Primary School by 1FE and the associated increase in the published admissions number to 60, be endorsed.

g) the decision (19/00033) proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education to authorise the Corporate Director of Children, Young People and Education to issue Public Notice to increase the designated number of the Aspen Specialist Resource Provision at Whitfield Aspen Primary School from 96 to 112 places, be endorsed.

Maplesden Noakes, with support from KCC, are in the process of completing a public consultation on the education case for expansion prior to submitting their fast track business case. The consultation is scheduled to run from 25 February 2019 to 25 March 2019 (midnight). The consultation document has been distributed to parents/carers, school staff and governors, County Councillors, Member of Parliament, the Diocesan Authorities, local libraries, Parish Councils, Maidstone Borough Council and others. The consultation document, together with an Equality Impact Assessment, have also been posted to KCC's website and can be accessed via the following link: <http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/school-consultations>

Any alternatives considered:

The alternatives were all explored in the Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2019-23 and the report presented to CYPE Cabinet Committee 28 March 2019

Any interest declared when the decision was taken and any dispensation granted by the Proper Officer:  
None

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Signed

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Date

17 April 2019

