

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – PROPOSED RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills

DECISION NO:

22/00012

For publication [Do not include information which is exempt from publication under schedule 12a of the Local Government Act 1972]

Key decision: YES

Key decision criteria. The decision will:

- a) result in savings or expenditure which is significant having regard to the budget for the service or function (currently defined by the Council as in excess of £1,000,000); or
- b) be significant in terms of its effects on a significant proportion of the community living or working within two or more electoral divisions – which will include those decisions that involve:
 - the adoption or significant amendment of major strategies or frameworks;
 - significant service developments, significant service reductions, or significant changes in the way that services are delivered, whether County-wide or in a particular locality.

Title of Decision

Proposal to make prescribed changes to Foreland Fields (Foundation) Special School from September 2022

- Establish a satellite provision for 6 Year R/Key Stage 1 primary aged pupils at Garlinge Primary School and Nursery.
- Establish a satellite provision for 12 Key Stage 4 students and 12 Post -16 students at EKC Group (Broadstairs College).
- Increase the designated number from 200 to 230.

Decision:

Cabinet Member for Education and Skills, I agree to:

Issue a public notice to:

- (i) Establish a satellite provision for 6 Year R/Key Stage 1 primary aged pupils at Garlinge Primary School and Nursery.
- (ii) Establish a satellite provision for 12 Key Stage 4 students and 12 Post -16 students at EKC Group (Broadstairs College).
- (iii) Increase the designated number from 200 to 230

And, subject to no objections being received to the public notice:

- (i) Establish a satellite provision for 6 Year R/Key Stage 1 primary aged pupils at Garlinge Primary School and Nursery.
- (ii) Establish a satellite provision for 12 Key Stage 4 students and 12 Post -16 students at EKC Group (Broadstairs College).
- (iii) Increase the designated number from 200 to 230

Reason(s) for decision:

Foreland Fields School is unable to expand on its main school site and demand for PSCN Special school places in Thanet district is increasing. The establishment of satellite provisions on mainstream education sites provides additional capacity whilst also enabling the school's expertise

to be shared with the host school and provide Foreland Fields students the opportunity to integrate, (where appropriate) with mainstream peers.

Background

Foreland Fields (Foundation) Special School is a day provision providing for pupils aged 2 to 19 with Profound, Severe and Complex Needs (PSCN) including Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).

Foreland Fields moved into their new purpose-built school in February 2017. In addition to the main building, the school already operates a primary satellite provision at Garlinge Primary and Nursey School for Key Stage 2 pupils. The new satellites will provide additional opportunities and choice for integration for both primary, secondary and post -16 Foreland pupils.

Financial Implications

Capital

Garlinge Primary School and EKC Group have identified areas which will be reconfigured to provide the space needed to create the satellite provisions.

Capital costs for Garlinge Primary School satellite £59,471

Capital costs for EKC Group satellite £65,000

The total project costs are £124,471 and will be funded from KCC's Basic Need Capital Budget.

Revenue

As per KCC policy a total of £6,000 per newly provided classrooms will be provided to the school from the DGS revenue budget

Legal implications

Equalities implications

An Equality Impact Assessment has been produced and the assessment identified the following positive impacts:

- Pupils with Complex Needs and ASD will be able to attend satellite provisions in mainstream primary and Key stage 4 and post 16 College
- The Key Stage 1 and Reception satellite will provide continuity through to the current Key Stage 2 provision of Foreland Fields at Garlinge Primary School.
- The Key Stage 4 and Post 16 satellite classes proposed for East Kent College will enable students assessed as suitable to attend these to develop greater independence and the skills required to continue their education and training successfully to adulthood.
- There will be an increase in the total number of Specialist places available for Children with Complex needs and ASD.

No adverse impacts were identified during the assessment.

Other Alternatives Considered and risks if decision isn't taken.

There is currently a Key Stage 2 satellite at Garlinge Primary School and it is therefore logical that the proposed Key Stage One class is established at this same school.

There is only one college provider in Thanet. EKCG runs a 14-16 school on the Broadstairs College site and therefore this provides the opportunity for the establishment of satellite classes covering both Key Stage 4 and Post 16.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The Children's and Young People Cabinet Committee considered the decision on 1 March 2022.

Any alternatives considered and rejected:

The Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2022-2026 sets out KCC's commissioning intentions and identified the need for additional Special School capacity. The proposal to expand Foreland fields by establishing satellite provisions to help meet this need is set out within the current Plan.

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/strategies-and-policies/education-skills-and-employment-policies/education-provision>.

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