

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL –RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,

Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform

DECISION NO:

14/00059

For publication

Subject: Proposal to expand Goldwyn School, Ashford

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Education and Health Reform I agree to:

Expand Goldwyn School by 55 places utilising accommodation currently occupied by the Brook PRU in Folkestone with effect from 1 September 2014.

Reason(s) for decision:

Kent's Strategy for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) aims to address, amongst other things, gaps in provision. Therefore, the Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent (2013-18) sets out the intention to commission 121 additional places for pupils with BESN. This expansion will provide 55 additional BESN places in South Kent and is linked to the proposal to redesignate Furness School, Swanley from BESN to ASD which will provide additional ASD places in North Kent.

In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

- the views expressed by those attending the public consultation meeting on 6 May, and those put in writing in response to the consultation;
- the views of the local County Councillors; Headteacher and Governing Body of Goldwyn School;
- the Equalities Impact Assessment and comments received regarding this; and
- the views of the Education and Young People's Services Cabinet Committee which are set out below

Financial Implications

- a. Capital – There are no capital costs involved with this proposal, beyond some basic refurbishment of the Brook premises.
- b. Revenue - The school will receive increased funding through the Delegated Budget. Special schools are funded using the DfE Place Plus funding methodology for High Needs Pupils. For September 2014 the Local Authority has agreed to purchase a total of 120 places at Goldwyn School (75 places at the Ashford site and 45 places at Goldwyn Brook.
- c. Human – Staff currently employed at the Brook PRU will transfer to Goldwyn School and there will therefore be no redundancies.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

14 March 2013: The Education Cabinet Committee recommended to the Cabinet Member for Education & Health Reform that a consultation take place on the proposal to expand Goldwyn School.

4 December 2013

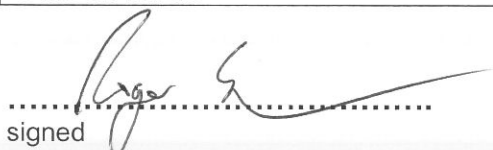
The Education Cabinet Committee endorsed the actions to implement key proposals set out in the SEND Strategy; and the Cabinet Member's recommendation to proceed with these plans be noted.

Any alternatives considered:

The SEND Strategy explored all options and the expansion of this provision was deemed the suitable option.

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

signed



date

10 June 2014