

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TO BE TAKEN BY:

Roger Gough,

Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education

DECISION NO:

18/00057

For publication

Subject: Proposal to establish a new 14 place Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) at John Wesley Church of England Methodist Primary School for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) from September 2019.

Decision:

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

issue Public Notice to establish a new 14 place Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) at John Wesley Church of England Methodist Primary School for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) from September 2019.

Should objections, not already considered by me when taking this decision, be received during the public notice period a separate decision will be required in order to continue the proposal and allow for a proper consideration of the points raised.

Reason(s) for decision:

In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

- Over the 5 years 2013/14 to 2017/8 the number of statements issued for pupils with SLCN as their primary need increased from 1,002 to 1,584, this is a 58% increase over the 5 year period.
- SLCN is second only to ASD as the most prevalent need type for which an EHCP is issued.
- As total school rolls continue to rise across the County we would expect to see further increases in the numbers of pupils in need of specialist support and it is the responsibility of the Local Authority to commission these places.
- The views expressed by those attending the public consultation meeting on 19 September 2016, and those put in writing in response to the consultation;
- The views of the local County Councillor, Area Education Officer; Interim Head of SEN, Headteacher and Governing Body of John Wesley CE Methodist Primary School;
- The Equalities Impact Assessment and comments received regarding this; and
- the views of the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee which are set out below

Financial Implications

- a) Capital –No addition capital funding is needed as the school has capacity to host the SRP in present accommodation
- b) Revenue - The School will receive increased funding through the delegated budget. This amounts to £10,000 per commissioned place plus the 'Top Up' funding in line with KCC policy. This varies according to need type.
- c) Human – The School will appoint additional staff as required, as the SRP size increases and the need arises.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

At its meeting on 29th November 2018:

Marisa White (Area Education Officer - East Kent), Ian Watts (Area Education Officer – North Kent), David Adams (Area Education Officer - South Kent) and Jared Nehra (Area Education Officer - West Kent) were in attendance for this item.

1. Ms White, Mr Watts, Mr Adams and Mr Nehra introduced the reports which set out the proposed decisions to expand or alter the following schools: John Wesley Church of England Methodist Primary School, Ashford, Kings Farm Primary School, Gravesend, The Westlands (Secondary Academy) School, and the changes to specialist provision in Maidstone and Malling.

2. Officers answered questions from Members of the Committee and comments were noted.

The recommendations for each of the four proposed decisions were as follows:

3. RESOLVED that the decision proposed to be taken by the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education, to


a) issue Public Notice to establish a new 14 place Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) at John Wesley Church of England Methodist Primary School for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) from September 2019,

be endorsed.

Any alternatives considered:

These were outlined in the report to CYPE Cabinet Committee on 29 November 2018.

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


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6 / 12 / 2018
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Signed

Date