

**Kent County Council  
Equality Analysis/ Impact Assessment (EqIA)**

**Directorate/ Service:** Children, Young People and Education

**Name of decision, policy, procedure, project or service:**

Stone Bay Special School

- Change the age range from 8-10 to 5-19 years in order to provide KS1 places to help with the demand for specialist places for KS1 in Thanet

**Responsible Owner/ Senior Officer:** Marisa White

**Version:** 1

**Author:** Lorraine Medwin

**Pathway of Equality Analysis:** N/A

**Summary and recommendations of equality analysis/impact assessment.**

- **Context**

KCC does not have enough local specialist provision and too many children and young people have to go to a Special School far from home to have their education, health and care needs met.

We have published a Strategy to improve the outcomes for Kent's children and young people with SEN and those who are disabled (SEND) as 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's SEND Strategy 2017-2019 includes the aims to: -

- Increase the educational, health and emotional wellbeing outcomes for Kent's children and young people with SEN and disabilities.
- Ensure Kent delivers the Statutory changes (required by the Children and Families Act 2014)
- Address gaps in provision for children and young people with SEN and disabilities, improve the quality of provision, develop the broadest range of providers, and encourage a mixed economy of provision.

The Commissioning Plan for Education provision in Kent 2019-2023 sets out our commissioning intentions for future plans including the SEND provision to be commissioned.

**Aims and Objectives**

- Ensure there are sufficient Key Stage 1 special school place available for children in the Thanet district with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder (ASD), profound, severe and complex needs and additional comorbidities.

### Summary of equality 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 impacts have been identified are:

- Key stage 1 children with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD), profound, severe and complex needs and additional comorbidities needs in the Thanet district will be able too attend provision local to their homes.
- There will be an increase in the total number of places available for children with Complex Needs and ASD.

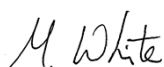
### Adverse Equality Impact Rating **Low**

#### Attestation

I have read and paid due regard to the Equality Analysis/Impact Assessment concerning Stone Bay. I agree with risk rating and the actions to mitigate any adverse impact(s) that has /have been identified.

#### Head of Service

Signed:



Name: Marisa White

Job Title: Area Education Officer

Date:

#### DMT Member

Signed:

Name: Keith Abbott

Job Title: Director of Education Planning and Access

Date:

**Part 1 Screening**

Could this policy, procedure, project or service, or any proposed changes to it, affect any Protected Group (listed below) less favourably (negatively) than others in Kent? Could this policy, procedure, project or service promote equal opportunities for this group?

Protected Group	Please provide a brief commentary on your findings. Fuller analysis should be undertaken in Part 2.			
	High negative impact EqIA	Medium negative impact Screen	Low negative impact Evidence	High Positive Impact Evidence
<b>Age</b>				This proposal is part of the wider implementation of Kent's SEND Strategy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the additional places will mean that more families and children will benefit from the specialist facilities provided by the school.</li> </ul>
<b>Disability</b>				There will be more places available to meet the needs of children with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD), profound, severe and complex needs and additional comorbidities.
<b>Gender</b>				The provision is to be for boys and girls aged between 5 and 19 years.
<b>Gender identity/ Transgender</b>				The provision will accept Children with an Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) naming the school on their statement regardless of gender identity
<b>Race</b>				The school will accept SEN Children with an Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) naming the school on their statement, regardless of race or ethnicity.
<b>Religion and Belief</b>				The school will accept SEN children of faith or no faith who name it on their Children with an Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) The curriculum covers all religions.
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>				N/A
<b>Pregnancy and Maternity</b>				N/A
<b>Marriage and Civil Partnerships</b>				N/A
<b>Carer's Responsibilities</b>				N/A

## **Part 2**

### **Equality Analysis /Impact Assessment**

#### **Protected groups**

#### **Information and Data used to carry out your assessment**

The Information and Data used to carry out the assessment is published data on pupil numbers.

- SEN Needs Analysis
- 2017 Special School Summary Sheet
- School performance data
- Data relating to children and young people with specialist educational needs and /or disabilities.
- January 2018 SEN Needs analysis

#### **Who have you involved consulted and engaged?**

Consultation on the proposal will be with the community and other stakeholders including the following groups

- Schools in Canterbury
- All maintained special schools in Kent
- Parents/carers at Stone Bay

#### **Analysis and information on SEN Need in Thanet District.**

The number of pupils in Thanet District with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) in January 2018 was 1214 an increase of 13% from 2017. Higher than the national increase of 12.1%.

As at January 2018, 3.1% of the pupils in Schools located in Kent were subject to an EHCP. This compares to 2.9% nationally. As at January 2018, 54% of all Kent pupils with an EHCP were receiving their education in Special Schools, 40% in mainstream schools/colleges and 6% educated otherwise. Of those in mainstream, 11% were placed in specialist resourced provisions (SRPs). The proportion of Kent pupils educated in a mainstream was below the national average of 45%.

ASD continues to be the most prevalent and fastest growing need type with 4120 EHCPs as of January 2018 in Kent. ASD as the primary need type now accounts for 40% of all EHCPs in Kent, notably higher than the national figure of 28.2%.

Since 2014, the number of EHCPs for ASD across Kent has increased by 67.7%.

Current breakdown of need within the Thanet District by EHCP Primary Need  
- Year R to Year 11

	ASD	HI	MLD	PD	PMLD	Severe LD	SEMH	Specific LD	SLCN	VI	Grand Total
Thanet	352	8	26	27	29	38	196	179	140	9	833

Increases in the Kent school population has also led to an increase in the number of pupils subject to EHCPs. Kent has a range of approaches to providing earlier and more effective support to pupils with SEN, including high needs funding for pupils in mainstream, it is anticipated that the demand for specialist places will continue to increase with the overall population growth.

For more detail on the community visit –

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/about-the-council/information-and-data/Research-and-figures-about-Kent/area-profiles>

### Analysis and information on Stone Bay School

Stone Bay Special School is a community school currently providing education for children and young people aged 8 -19 who have autistic spectrum disorder (ASD), profound, severe and complex needs and additional comorbidities. The school has a designated number of 80.

There are currently 55 children on roll with 100% of students with an Education, Health and Care Plan.

27.3% of children are eligible for Free School Meals

#### Adverse Impact,

No adverse impact identified.

#### Positive Impact:

- Key stage 1 children with autistic spectrum disorder (ASD), profound, severe and complex needs and additional comorbidities needs in the Thanet district will be able to attend provision local to their homes.
- There will be an increase in the total number of places available for children with Complex Needs and ASD.

### JUDGEMENT

- **No major change** - no potential for discrimination and all opportunities to promote equality have been taken

#### Internal Action Required ~~YES/NO~~

There is potential for adverse impact on particular groups and we have found scope to improve the proposal...

## Equality Impact Analysis/Assessment Action Plan

Protected Characteristic	Issues identified	Action to be taken	Expected outcomes	Owner	Timescale	Cost implications

**Have the actions been included in your business/ service plan?**

Yes/No

### Appendix

Please include relevant data sets

Please forward a final signed electronic copy and Word version to the Equality Team by emailing [diversityinfo@kent.gov.uk](mailto:diversityinfo@kent.gov.uk)

If the activity will be subject to a Cabinet decision, the EqIA must be submitted to committee services along with the relevant Cabinet report. Your EqIA should also be published.

The original signed hard copy and electronic copy should be kept with your team for audit purposes