

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL – RECORD OF DECISION

DECISION TAKEN BY:

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

DECISION NO:

19/00025

For publication

Subject: Proposal to increase the designated number of The Beacon Folkestone to 380 places and to open a satellite classroom at Castle Hill Community Primary School

Decision:

As Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education I have noted the commissioning intentions for SEN provision as outlined in this paper and agree to:

Authorise the Corporate Director - Children, Young People and Education to issue Public Notice to:

- (i). Increase the designated number of The Beacon Folkestone from 336 to 380 places.

Reason(s) for decision:

In reaching this decision I have taken into account:

- The increase in the number of pupils with an EHCP in need of specialist provision.
- The views of the Local Members, Area Education Officer, Headteacher and Governors of The Beacon Folkestone and Castle Hill Community Primary School,
- The responses to the public consultation,
- The views of the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee which are set out below

Financial Implications

- a. Capital – No additional Capital funding is required as there is sufficient capacity with the Beacon Folkestone to accommodate an increase in the designated number and Castle Hill Community Primary School has capacity to accommodate the satellite.
- b. Revenue – Special school places will be funded in line with the funding allocated to special schools through KCC's funding formula.

£30,000 will be allocated from the SEN revenue budget towards the refurbishment of rooms at Castle Hill Community Primary School in preparation for The Beacon Folkestone satellite.

- c. Human – Schools will appoint additional staff as required, as the school size increases and the need arises.

Cabinet Committee recommendations and other consultation:

The CYPE Cabinet Committee considered the proposal on 28 March 2019 and the Minutes extract is 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.

Any alternatives considered:

All alternatives have been considered in the Commissioning Plan for Education in Kent

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/schools/education-provision/education-provision-plan>

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

Signed

Date

17 April 2019

