



## Public Consultation Document Laleham Gap School



The Secondary Department  
Margate



The Primary Department  
Broadstairs



Kent County Council would like to hear your views on a proposal to relocate Laleham Gap (Community Special) School into purpose-built buildings on a single site at Newlands Lane, Broadstairs

**Date of Public Meeting: Monday 30 November at 7.00 pm**

This document is also available at:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-learning/about-education-service/consultations/>



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## 1. INTRODUCTION

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Laleham Gap School was established in April 2005 as the county's specialist provision for high functioning pupils aged 3 to 16 years with Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or Speech and Language disorders. The new school was established from the amalgamation of Laleham School and Gap House School and since 2005 has continued to operate across both sites.

Through the Government's Building Schools for the Future programme, secondary and special schools in Thanet are benefiting from substantial capital investment. This has enabled Kent County Council to bring forward this proposal to build a new school for Laleham Gap School to a design of the highest quality. It will mean that for the first time the school can be consolidated in purpose built buildings on a single site.

This document contains details of why Kent County Council is proposing to relocate Laleham Gap School and gives details of how you can respond to this consultation.

Implementation of the proposal is subject to the outcome of this consultation and decision making process and the timescale is outlined on page 6.

**Martyn Doole**  
**Area Children's Services Officer**  
**Thanet & Dover**  
**Kent County Council**  
**Children, Families and Education**



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## 2. THE PROPOSAL

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The proposed location of the new school buildings is on greenfield space which currently is exclusively occupied by the new Ellington and Hereson School. The site is large and was always envisaged as being suitable for up to 3 schools.

Although Laleham Gap School and The Ellington and Hereson School would be relatively close, they would each retain their own separate and distinct buildings and facilities, although the possibility of deriving added value from the sharing of sports facilities would be carefully explored.

The Kent County Council Building Schools for the Future team would work with the school on 'visioning' for their new school buildings. The new school buildings would be designed to provide innovative accommodation to suit the needs of the pupils and provide the best possible learning environment.

The new buildings would accommodate 164 pupils, 44 places for pupils aged 3 to 11 years, 120 places for pupils aged 11 to 16 years, and include 60 residential spaces.

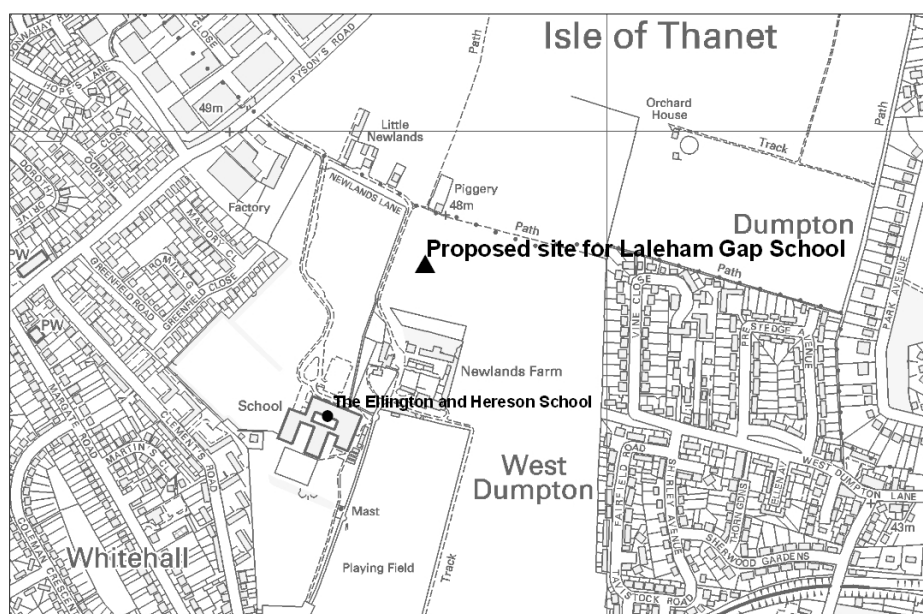
There is a public right of way running through the proposed location of the new building. Careful consideration will be given to this to ensure that the footprint of the new buildings makes optimum use of available space. Consideration will also be given to ensuring that access to the site is suitably adapted to accommodate the needs of Laleham Gap students.



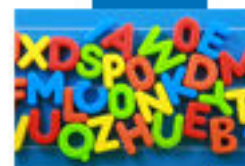
### 3. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THIS PROPOSAL?

- Currently Laleham Gap School is located on two sites and this proposal would consolidate the school on one site. Secondary aged students currently attend the Laleham site in Margate and primary aged students attend the Gap House site in Broadstairs. The existing Laleham site itself is divided by a footpath and the accommodation on both sites is unsuitable for the long term needs of the school.
  - It would be very difficult to adapt the existing Laleham Gap sites because of the space available and the constraints of the existing accommodation.

*Map showing the proposed new location for Laleham Gap School*



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- This proposal would provide the school with purpose built accommodation to meet the needs of the pupils.
  - The school would be involved from the beginning in helping to create buildings designed to provide the best possible educational environment for all its pupils.

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## 4. HOW TO GIVE YOUR VIEWS

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▶ **Complete and return the response form (on page 7) to:**

Martyn Doole, Area Children's Services Officer  
East Kent Education Office, Clover House,  
John Wilson Business Park, Thanet Way,  
Whitstable, Kent CT5 3QZ.

Fax: 01227 772290

(your comments must reach us by 11 January 2010)

▶ **Come to a public meeting**

on: **Monday 30 November at 7.00 pm**

at: **Laleham Gap School**

**Northdown Park Road, Margate, Kent CT9 2TP**

- An elected member of Kent County Council will chair this meeting, at which all interested parties will have an opportunity to put forward their views.
- Officers from the Local Authority will also be present to clarify points of detail.

▶ **Email your comments to:**

**[school.consultations@kent.gov.uk](mailto:school.consultations@kent.gov.uk)**

(We will note all you say, but will not be able to respond individually to response forms, letters or emails)



## 5. CONSULTATION & DECISION MAKING TIMETABLE

|   |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| Public Consultation Period  | 16 November 2009 to 11 January 2010 |
| Public Meeting  | 30 November at 7.00 pm              |
| Report Back to the Kent County Council School Organisation Advisory Board * | 4 February 2010                     |
| Public Notice Issued (subject to Cabinet Member decision)                   | 12 March 2010                       |
| Public Notice Expires   | 23 April 2010                       |
| Decision by Local Authority   | May 2010                            |
| Adjudication (if required)  | June/July 2010                      |
| Building work commences   | Late 2010                           |
| Implementation  | April/September 2012                |

\* The School Organisation Advisory Board meeting is held at County Hall, Maidstone and the webcast can be watched via the [kent.gov.uk](http://kent.gov.uk) website.

**The meeting is open to the public.**

## 6. WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

- Following this consultation, all views received, either in writing, by email or at the Public Meeting, will be reported to the School Organisation Advisory Board of Kent County Council.
- A Cabinet Member decision will be made on whether to take the proposal forward.
- If so, a Public Notice will be published in a local newspaper, at the school and in public places like the library. The Public Notice will run for six weeks. Representations about the proposal can be made.
- A determination will then be reached on whether the proposal is to be implemented.
- In certain circumstances this could include referral to the statutory Schools Adjudicator.
- All views will be considered before a decision is made.



## Public Consultation Response Form

### The proposed relocation of Laleham Gap School

PLEASE RETURN NO LATER THAN 11 January 2010

To: Martyn Doole, Area Children's Services Officer  
East Kent Education Office, Clover House,  
John Wilson Business Park, Thanet Way,  
Whitstable, Kent CT5 3QZ.

Fax: 01227 772290

You can also email your views to: [school.consultations@kent.gov.uk](mailto:school.consultations@kent.gov.uk)

Do you agree with the proposal?

Yes

No

I am: (please tick as appropriate)

The parent/carer of a pupil  
at Laleham Gap School

A Governor of Laleham Gap  
School

A member of staff at  
Laleham Gap School

A pupil at Laleham Gap  
School

Other interested party

Name of other school or interested party

Name:

Address:

Kent County Council is a data controller under the Data Protection Act 1998 and will comply with the requirements of the Act at all times. We will ensure that your personal information is processed fairly and lawfully and in this instance used only for the purpose of validation, which will enable a fair and just consultation.

PLEASE WRITE YOUR COMMENTS OVERLEAF



My comments are as follows:

*Please continue on another sheet if necessary*