



Department
for Education

Local authority commissioned Special free schools

**Seeking proposals to establish a
Special free school**

Enfield Council

June 2017

Overview

Local authorities play a key role in placing pupils with statements or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans, so it is important that they help shape the range of provision in their area. Previously, proposals to establish special free schools have only been taken forward in consultation with local authorities. The Department for Education (DfE) has recently provided a further opportunity for local authorities themselves to identify where a new special free school would benefit their area, inform their Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC), and seek proposals for the new school they want. This opportunity is intended to identify and meet untapped demand for special free schools as a supplement to the LA's existing resources. If a strong proposal is received that both the local authority and the Secretary of State wish to take forward, DfE will provide capital funding and start-up grants subject to value for money assessments.

Information for proposer groups

Proposed timeline

The competition closes at mid-day on xx/xx/xxxx.

Contact details and further information

If you would like any further information or would like to discuss your application, please contact:

James Carrick
Assistant Director for Education
Email James.Carrick@enfield.gov.uk
Tel: 020 8379 8124

If you would like any further information or would like to discuss the site, please contact:

Keith Rowley
Director School Expansions and Asset Management Support
Email keith.rowley@enfield.gov.uk
Tel: 0208 379 2459

Neil Best
Stakeholder Manager School Expansions
Email neilg.best@enfield.gov.uk
Tel: 0208 379 5486

RSC's office: North West London and South Central England
Email: Martin.POST@education.gsi.gov.uk

Events

None planned as yet but all local stakeholders have been advised as to the proposal

Event:

Date:

Time:

Location:

Section 1 - THE SCHOOL

This section lists key details of the school proposed. Your application must be for a school that has these key characteristics.

Which local authorities are committed to commissioning places?	London Borough of Enfield. We have a written commitment from Barnet that 'in principle' they will commission places.
How many places have been commissioned and by which local authority?	70 Enfield currently
Type of SEN	Social and Emotional Mental Health Provision
Per-place funding you expected to be paid	£10k per place plus £20000 top up
Age range	11-19
Boys/Girls/Co-educational	Co-educational
Total number of places.	70
Early years provision?	None
16-19 provision?	20
Community use/shared facilities	Yes depending on the site secured. We would welcome co-location with other services that would enhance support not only to the pupils but their families as well.
Number of residential places	None

We have consulted widely on this proposal. The North London Strategic Alliance for SEN have been made aware that we are making this application. There have also been emails to colleagues in:

Hertford CC. L.B. Haringey, L.B. Waltham Forest, L.B. Barnet, L.B. Havering and L.B. Hackney.

Enfield Schools Forum are very well aware of the need for more SEMH provision within the authority through presentations on the budgetary pressures within the high needs block. Our partners in Social Care and Health as well as parental representatives on the SEND Strategic Board have been consulted and are fully supportive of this proposal.

The table below details the number of places that the local authority proposes for each year group at the point of opening until the school is full.

	No. of students in first year of opening	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Nursery provision								
Reception								
Year 1								
Year 2								
Year 3								
Year 4								
Year 5								
Year 6								
Year 7		10	10	10				
Year 8		10	10	10				
Year 9		5	10	10				
Year 10		5	10	10				
Year 11		5	10	10				
Year 12		5	10	10				
Year 13			5	10				
Totals		40	65	70				

Section 2 - THE PROPOSED LOCATION AND SITE

This section describes the provisional site.

ARK John Keats Academy

Bell Lane

Enfield

EN3 5PA

Note: The new special free school will be constructed on an off-site playing field. A sub-lease for the site will be granted to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). Please see attached plan for more information.

- Size of site: 17090 m2
- Current use including planning designation (if known): School playing field
- Estimated date the site would be available for works to commence: September 2017
- Tenure upon which the site will be made available (if agreed): Pepper corn details to be finalised
- If the site is co-located with another school, how will shared access work?

N/A

- Building specifications and high-level design plans (you will need to clearly note that these are not yet confirmed):

Building Bulletin 102: disabled children and children with SEN

Section 3 – RATIONALE AND CONTEXT FOR THE SCHOOL

The London Borough of Enfield context

Enfield SEND statistics

- Fourth largest borough in London
- Population increase of 3.4% between 2011 and 2014
- Over 500 additional statements or Education Health and Care Plans have been agreed since 2011, an increase of 29%
- 348 additional EHC Plans since Sept 2014
- Enfield Special School population has increased by 24%
- Proportion of Enfield children with a statement/EHCP being educated out of the borough has increased by 107 since 2011, a rise of over 200%.
- Profile of primary need has changed over time.
- Proportion of children more likely to require travel assistance has increased.
- Increases in diagnosis Social Emotional and Mental Health up 28% since 2010.

Enfield currently has only one special school for learners with SEMH which has 44 places. They accommodate 20 primary learners and 24 secondary but the provision finishes at the end of KS4. Our proposal will allow for more continuity for this cohort and supported transitions into provision post 16 which would include a full educational programme up until the age of 19.

The Borough has a high rate of permanent exclusion in the secondary phase and this provision is designed to tackle this in a strategic manner. Our recent Local Area Ofsted Inspection stated that:

There are higher rates of exclusion for pupils with a statement or EHCP in Enfield than in other areas of the country. The SEMH needs of pupils attending secondary schools are sometimes not identified quickly enough, leading to some pupils becoming disengaged from their learning and being permanently excluded.

Currently, there is insufficient provision for pupils with diagnosed and undiagnosed SEMH in the Borough. This proposal would address this issue. We would want our chosen partner to provide expert support both in terms of full time placements and part time assessment placements as well as a comprehensive outreach programme to support inclusion in our mainstream schools of pupils with SEMH.

Our shared vision is to create a specialised school unlike any other that currently exists in Enfield.

Children would be admitted where their Education, Health and Care Plan names the school. However pupils can be admitted on a temporary basis for the purposes of having an assessment for an EHC plan, with the agreement of the LA, the Head Teacher and the parents or young person (YP). The assessment might include interviews with the in-house Educational Psychologist and counselling team, SALT, meetings with parents etc. The child or YP could remain admitted following an EHC needs assessment on a temporary basis until an EHCP is finalised or for a period of period of ten school or institution days after the local authority serves a notice under section 36(9) of the Act informing the child's parent or the young person that it does not propose to make an EHC plan.

The intention is that the school would offer each child a personalised programme that focused on their individual needs. It is self-evident that these needs change over time and we envisage a flexible approach to the learning program which could include time in the mainstream to access curricula that is not available in the school as well as full re-integration into the mainstream if the needs of the pupil could better addressed in that environment. The programme proposed would include the following:

- Developing confidence in Mathematics and English so that every child obtains at least grade 4 in both subjects
- Developing self-esteem through success but also through developmental and cognitive psychological therapy
- Developing learning skills so that every child has the opportunity to study for at least 5 GCSE subjects
- Developing personal skills and practical skills that include
 - Personal presentation
 - Life skills and looking after others
 - Horticulture
- Developing confidence and self-esteem through physical fitness
- Developing employment skills
- Developing personal skills through art, music and drama
- Developing community cohesion through engagement in local provision
- Ensuring that children are fully engaged by having a programme that starts at 8am and concludes at 6pm

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In Enfield there is a strong commitment to pupils with SEND and our expectation would be that any proposed partner would become an integral part of our carousel of provision. This would involve working closely with the special and mainstream sectors, as well as the Local Authority. The admissions arrangements for all learners to the school would still be undertaken by the Special Needs Department in Enfield.

Section 4 – VIABILITY OF THE NEW SPECIAL SCHOOL

Our proposal would provide an educational setting for those learners that are already part of our cohort who are currently educated outside of the authority. We have learners with SEMH as their primary need educated in the following authorities:

Haringey

Hertfordshire

Kensington and Chelsea

Camden

Barnet

Waltham Forest

We also currently have 28 learners in one independent SEMH school in a neighbouring borough. We want these pupils back in Enfield. The average cost of an independent placement is £50,000 plus the transport costs. This is not only a drain on scarce resources but it also dislocates the learners from their own community. All learners with SEMH face a particular set of challenges and our inability to educate all of them within Enfield just adds to these.

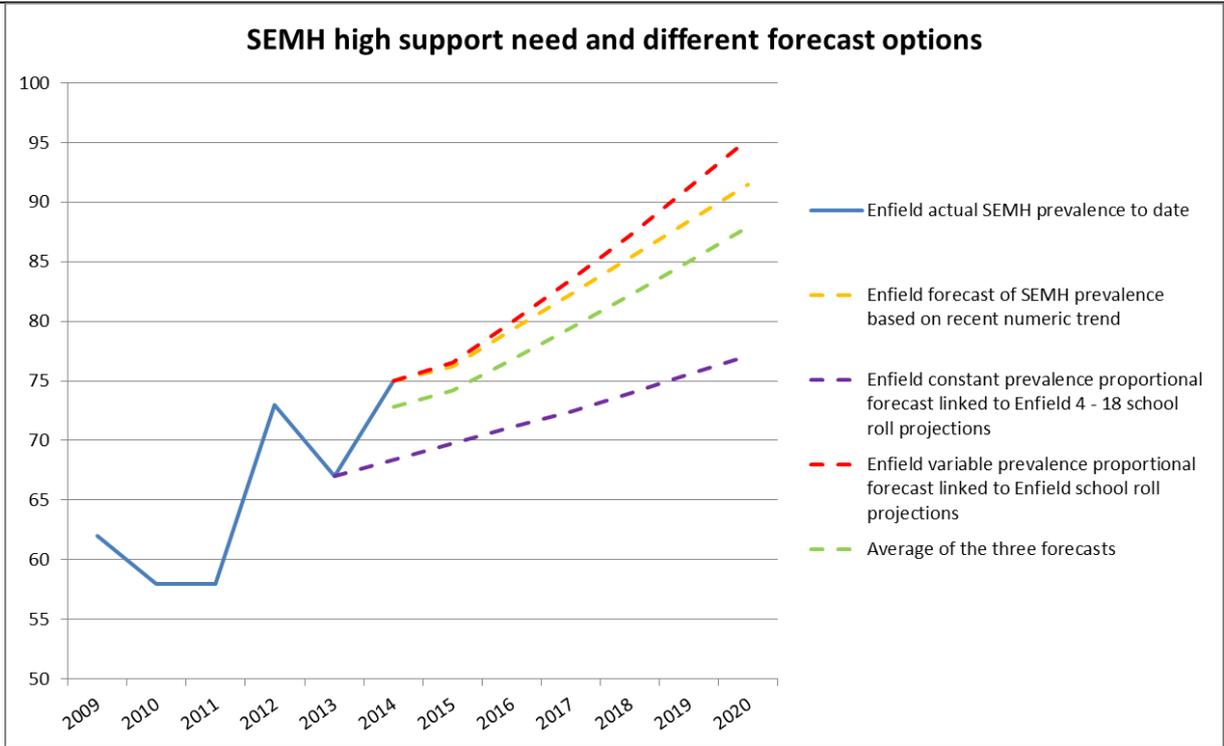
We also have 22 learners under the age of 19 who are on roll at local FE Colleges in Enfield, Haringey, Waltham Forest and Hertfordshire. For some of them this is probably the most suitable provision given the programme of study being offered. However it is currently the only choice they have as we do not have specialised post 16 provision. There is no doubt that this proposal would help to nurture and support those learners who are not ready to make the transition to FE or to other post 16 opportunities.

As already stated one of the key components of this provision would be the facility for both outreach support and additional assessment opportunities for pupils in mainstream schools. Our hope would be that this would at least maintain the balance of learners with SEMH SEN needs in the mainstream and might enhance the resilience and expertise in our secondary schools to enable them to include more learners with this need.

Currently the high needs budget pays for all of the learners described above that are attending independent SEMH provision both inside and outside of Enfield. The cost is considerable so we believe that the funding for this new school could be secured by diverting some of these resources to account for the proposed top up fee of £20k per place.

Section 5 – PUPIL DATA - TRENDS IN SPECIALIST PROVISION FOR ALL CHILDREN WITH EHC PLANS WITH SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL, MENTAL HEALTH IDENTIFIED AS THE PRIMARY NEED

SEMH Provision and Pupils	No. of Settings	Please indicate the no. of pupils with an EHC plan living in your local authority who are placed within these settings		
		2012	2016 (as at Sep 2016)	2020
Resourced provision and units inside LA				
Resourced provision and units outside LA				
Special schools (either maintained or academies) inside LA	3	24	49	60
Special schools (either maintained or academies) outside LA	6		8	10
Independent / non-maintained special schools inside LA	2		7	0
Independent / non-maintained special schools outside LA	15		38	0
Mainstream schools inside LA	12		57	65
Mainstream schools outside LA	13		13	15
General FE colleges (if relevant) inside LA	2		7	10
General FE colleges (if relevant) outside LA	4		15	10
Specialist FE providers (if relevant) inside LA				
Specialist FE providers (if relevant) outside LA				



The forecasting for demand of SEMH suggests that pressure on capacity is only going to increase. Whilst the use of out-of-borough placements means that the likely level of demand for September 2017 can be met, the financial implications are significant. Enfield children placed out of borough are likely to remain out of borough which exacerbates the long-term financial burden on education budgets as well as dislocating the pupils from their community.

We would welcome interest from any proposer groups who feel that they have the necessary expertise to run our SEMH Free school. Enfield is a vibrant and diverse borough and we believe that this is a great opportunity to become part of our community and play an important role in the development of our specialised portfolio of provision.