



CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PLACES FOR LEARNERS WITH SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITIES (SEND) AT SANDGATE SCHOOL (KENDAL)

Introduction

This consultation is being undertaken to advise you of proposals concerning Sandgate School and to invite you to tell us what you think of the proposals. This is part of the statutory consultation process that Cumbria County Council and Sandgate school are managing in collaboration with each other. The proposal is:

- To create 40 additional places for learners with SEND increasing our Pupil Admissions Number from 80 to 120.

The current number on roll (NOR) at Sandgate School is 100 with 106 students expected in September 2020. Sandgate are above our Pupil Admissions Number (PAN) which is presently set at 80. The new places would become available once the county council's Cabinet has approved the expansions proposals, i.e. from 1 November 2020.

Why change?

Countywide there is a growing demand for Special School places and existing provision is approaching capacity.

Other Special Schools outside of our catchment are at or approaching PAN with limited opportunity for expansion due to the physical limitations of their buildings. Sandgate School is presently awaiting a new build development that will allow a greater number of students to be educated over our two sites. Sandgate School has managed a short term expansion of our existing collocated provision (Sandgate at QKS) due to the availability of class space at QKS.

There continues to be pressure on Sandgate admissions due to the high number of students within the geographical catchment area.

Specific proposals

The accommodation associated to the planned new build (Sandgate School KS3 collocation) should be of a size to allow growth, both now and into the future.

As an interim, short term measure (until the completion of the new build) additional students above PAN will where possible be accommodated within collocated classrooms.

Impact

Sandgate School provides an excellent environment for its learners with special educational needs and disabilities. There may be some concerns about whether increasing the numbers attending would impact on the pupils already on roll, but these proposals have been carefully considered by the school to mitigate that risk.

An increase of PAN to 120 will allow Sandgate school to have the potential of 3 classes per key stage. A three class intake will allow age appropriate groupings within each cohort, leading to a higher quality of Teaching and Learning. We have a present application in process for Sandgate School to run a class for students with a diagnosis of ASC (High Functioning), that are presently out of education or at risk of being out of education. These students are at risk of having to attend an out of County place, which would place a substantial financial burden on the Local Authority.

Educating a higher number of students within our geographical remit where there is need provides a vital service for those who can't have their needs met in mainstream education.

Funding

The long term cost is associated to the occupancy of the new build project.

How to make your views known?

Please fill in the consultation document via Survey monkey by the 10th July 2020:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/KH25QB8>

Timeline

Task	Time Required	Dates	Comment
Inform Area Managers for SL to notify members (CCC)		12/06/20	A report does not need to go to Local Committee; area managers to notify elected members.
Consultation (School)	4 weeks	15/06/20 – 10/07/20	Document to all parents, other special schools, LA etc.
Governors meet to consider response and decide next steps	1 day	11/07/20 (or ASAP afterwards)	Governors must consider all responses and decide whether to publish formal notices.
Publish notice and full proposals (School)	1 day	17/07/20	Or 24 th if need more time for publication deadlines. CCC will draft notice and undertake legal checks on behalf of governors. School to draft full proposal (with input from CCC as required). School to cover cost of publication.
Representation period (statutory)	4 weeks	17/07/20 – 14/08/20	Further opportunity for parents/others to comment.
Pro-forma for forward plan for September Cabinet (CCC)	1 day	20/07/20	Internal county council process. No later than 2 months before Cabinet.
Summer holidays	6 weeks	20/07/20-01/09/20	
Deadline to LDS for CMT/CB/CAB (CCC)	1 day	CMT - 05/08/20 CB – 25/08/20 CAB – 04/09/20	Internal county council reporting deadlines.
Cabinet for final decision (CCC)	1 day	24/09/20	Decision <u>must</u> be taken within 2 months of end of representation period.
Call in (CCC)	5 days	30/09/20 – 06/10/20	Internal county council process.
Implementation	1 day	01/11/20	