

# PROPOSAL TO EXPAND SANDGATE SCHOOL

**Section 19(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.**

**1. The name and contact details of the LA or governing body publishing the proposal, and the name, address and category of the school proposed for expansion.**

The school proposed for expansion is Sandgate School, Sandylands Road, Kendal LA9 6JG. Tel no: 01539 792100. This is a community special school. This proposal is being published by the Governing Body of Sandgate School.

**2. Description of alteration.**

The school operates over two sites. The primary site is located on Sandylands Road and the secondary site is co-located at Queen Katherine School on Appleby Road in Kendal. Additional space has become available at the Queen Katherine site and this could allow Sandgate School to increase the number of places it can offer. The school has previously had space to accommodate 80 children, and this is now proposed to increase to 120.

**3. Evidence of demand**

Cumbria County Council's Special Educational Needs and Disability Services have been facing pressures arising from increased demand for specialist education placements for a number of years. This increase in demand is in line with a national trend due to advances in medical technology and higher survival rates of children with complex needs and increases in medical diagnoses for conditions such as autism. Significant numbers of children are presenting with needs which cannot be met in mainstream schools, and the shortage of places within the county means that many have to be educated elsewhere. Sandgate School has already exceeded its previous capacity in order to meet an increased level of demand, and the formal increase 120 places will provide further scope for children with the most complex needs to be educated in a specialist facility in line with their parents' wishes, close to their home.

**4. Objectives of proposal.**

The objective of the proposal is to provide additional capacity within the county for children with complex special educational needs and disabilities. This is in response to the recently increased roll at the school, the likelihood is that this pressure will continue into the future, and the county council's policy to decrease the number of children with SEND who have to be educated outside the county.

This will provide a sustainable and well equipped facility in the local area for children with special needs.

#### **5. The effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area**

The extra capacity will benefit other mainstream schools in the area by providing additional places for children with complex special educational needs and disabilities. The next nearest special school is approximately 25 miles away in Ulverston.

The schools will deal with distinct cohorts of children and, as such, will not be 'competing' for roll numbers.

#### **6. Project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved**

No costs.

Space has become available at Queen Katherine School that makes the expansion possible.

#### **7. Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation.**

The proposal would be implemented in full on 1 November 2020.

#### **8. Objections and comments**

Within four weeks of the publication of this notice, i.e. by 10 September 2020 any person wishing to raise objections or make comments on the proposal may do so in writing to the School Organisation Team, Cumbria County Council, Parkhouse Building, Baron Way, Kingmoor Business Park, Carlisle CA6 4SJ or by emailing [school.organisation@cumbria.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@cumbria.gov.uk).