

SSA EQUALITY IMPACT NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Directorate	Children's Services
Service Area	Special Educational Needs and Disabilities
Service/policy/function being assessed	Sufficiency of school places for children with Education, Health and Care Plans
Which borough (s) does the service/policy apply to	Wandsworth
Staff involved	Commissioning Lead for SEND
Date approved by Policy and Review Manager	

SUMMARY

Wandsworth Local Authority has a duty to keep under review the sufficiency of specialist places for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Following a review of Wandsworth's SEND provision, a set of proposals have been formulated that will provide a local school place, where appropriate, for children with SEND in the medium to longer term. This will reduce the need to make new placements out of area; provide improved value for money; and enable some of the current out of area placements to be brought back into local provision at transition points. In addition, the proposals will ensure that existing local specialist provision is compliant and operating within their approved capacities and secures long-term viability for those operating under capacity.

These proposals are:

a) To open new resource bases at:

Swaffield Primary School for up to 16 children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs, including children with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD);

Granard Primary School for up to 42 children with an ASD associated with Learning Difficulties (LD) and / or SEMH needs; and

Burntwood Secondary Academy for up to 12 girls with SEMH needs.

b) To expand the existing resource bases at:

Savio, Saint John Bosco College from 25 to 45 students with an ASD, and from 16 to 18 years of age; and

Devereux, Saint John Bosco College from 9 to 20 students with an ASD and SEMH needs.

In addition, it is proposed to formally increase the authorised capacity of Garratt Park Special School from 178 to 210.

Statutory consultation is required for opening resource bases and making changes to existing specialist provision. Stakeholders will be invited to contribute their views as part of this process and the outcome will be reported to Councillors in the November committee cycle.

1. Background

Over the past 5 years, the number of Wandsworth children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) has increased by 78%, causing significant pressure on school places for specific cohorts of children with SEND. The overall Wandsworth 0-24 years population is predicted to rise by 8.9% between the years 2021 and 2031. Based on the assumption that the number of EHCPs in Wandsworth will remain at 2.89% of the 0-24 population, the projected changes in EHCPs is a rise from 2,488 in 2021 to 2,700 in 2031.

Wandsworth already has an extensive range of provision for children and young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND). However, with a few exceptions, provisions are operating either at or above their approved capacities and therefore, the LA is unable to offer local places to some cohorts of children with SEND. During 2020/21, Wandsworth had a total of 153.4 FTE children with EHCPs in the independent and non-maintained specialist sector (INMSS). These placements cost £7,802,378 pa and there was also additional costs of travel assistance and a small number having contributions from social care and/or the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG).

The proposals in the committee report will provide a local school place, where appropriate, for children with SEND in the medium to longer term.

2. Analysis of need and impact

Protected group	Findings																					
Age	The proposals relate to children from Reception through until Year 14 and therefore that proportion of the population will specifically benefit from the additional local SEND provision.																					
Disability	<p>Over the past 5 years, the number of Wandsworth children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) has increased by 78%. The SEN2 2021 return reported 2,488 children and young people with an EHCP, which represented 2.89% of the 0-24 resident population.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Age range</th> <th>Children with EHCPs (SEN2 21)</th> <th>Wandsworth population (GLA 20)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Under 5</td> <td>116</td> <td>20,149</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5 to 10</td> <td>865</td> <td>21,649</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11 to 15</td> <td>850</td> <td>16,458</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16 to 19</td> <td>515</td> <td>10,844</td> </tr> <tr> <td>20 to 24</td> <td>140</td> <td>16,918</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>2,486</td> <td>86,018</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Age range	Children with EHCPs (SEN2 21)	Wandsworth population (GLA 20)	Under 5	116	20,149	5 to 10	865	21,649	11 to 15	850	16,458	16 to 19	515	10,844	20 to 24	140	16,918	Total	2,486	86,018
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	<p>The percentage figure of 2.89% compares with 2.45% for statistical neighbours and 2.58% for England.</p> <p>The proposals will specifically benefit children with SEND.</p>		
Gender (sex)	<p>The projected population statistics for all 0-19s in Wandsworth is 48.1% males and 51.8% females. SEND is more prevalent in boys than girls. The gender split for children with EHCPs is 72% male and 28% female and therefore, the proposals will have a more beneficial impact on boys.</p>		
Gender reassignment	Not known.		
Marriage and civil partnership	N/A		
Pregnancy and maternity	N/A		
Race/ethnicity		% Wandsworth 0-19 population – GLA data 2020	% of children with EHCPs – Jan 2020
	White	70.1%	39%
	BME	29.9%	59%
	Asian or Asian British	10.3%	13%
	Black or Black British	10.8%	26%
	Mixed and other	8.9%	20%
	Unknown	0%	2%
	<p>Children from ethnic minority backgrounds are significantly overrepresented in children with EHCPs compared to the borough average and therefore, they will disproportionately benefit from the proposals.</p>		
Religion and belief, including non-belief			
	Faith	% of Wandsworth population	
	Buddhist	0.8	
	Christian	53	
	Hindu	2.1	
	Jewish	0.5	
	Muslim	8.1	
	Sikh	0.3	
Other religion	0.4		

	No religion	27
	No response	7.9
Source Census 2011		
Children access a specialist school place on the basis of their SEND. The proposals will not disproportionately offer places to any faith group.		
Sexual orientation	Not known.	
Across groups i.e. older LGBT service users or BME young men	These proposals involve children and young people from Reception year to Year 14 who have SEND and who also cross over into other protected characteristic groups.	

3. Data gaps

Data gap(s)	How will this be addressed?
Sexual orientation and gender assignment.	As part of ongoing service development there will be a requirement to maintain a comprehensive data set including appropriate information on protected groups but the main focus will be on disability, age, gender, ethnicity and where appropriate, data on sexual orientation and gender reassignment.

4. Impact

Protected group	Positive	Negative
Age	<p>The proposals are intended to create additional in-borough provision and improved facilities for children and young people from Reception year through to Year 14.</p> <p>The proposals will ensure that these children can be educated locally and not have long travelling times to out of borough provision.</p>	<p>Pupils may be on site during any necessary building adaptations. Action will be taken to ensure that noisy and dusty work takes place during holiday periods where possible.</p> <p>Risk with programme slippage and places not being available when needed resulting in uncertainty /disruption for families. Officers will monitor the programme, consider contingency plans if programme milestones are not being met and</p>

		ensure all stakeholders are updated on programme progress.
Disability	<p>The additional places will address a shortfall in local places for children with SEND, in particular for the following cohorts:</p> <p>Autistic Spectrum Disorder;</p> <p>Social, Emotional and Mental Health / anxiety;</p> <p>Speech, Language and Communication Needs;</p> <p>Learning Difficulties.</p> <p>Without the provision the children would be placed outside the borough and away from their local communities.</p>	As detailed above.
Gender (sex)	As a result of the gender imbalance in children with SEND, this proposal will have more benefits for boys.	As detailed above.
Gender reassignment	Data not collected. Any positive impacts identified will impact on all young people with SEND.	Data not collected. Any negative impacts identified will impact on all young people with SEND.
Marriage/ civil partnership	N/A	N/A
Pregnancy and maternity	N/A	N/A
Race/ethnicity	There are significantly more children with ethnic minority backgrounds with SEND and therefore the positive impacts detailed above will impact more on them.	There are significantly more children with ethnic minority backgrounds with SEND and therefore the negative impacts detailed above will impact more on them.
Religion and belief, including non-belief	The admission criteria for the new school places will be on the basis of a child's SEND. The positive impacts detailed above will benefit all the children on roll regardless of	The admission criteria for the new school places will be on the basis of a child's SEND. The negative impacts detailed above will impact all the children on roll regardless of

	their religion and belief, including non-belief.	their religion and belief, including non-belief.
Sexual orientation	N/A	N/A

5. Actions

Action	Lead Officers	Deadline
To update this EINA in the light of any consultation outcomes.	Clare Devane	November 2021
There will be ongoing monitoring of the proposals to mitigate any negative impact on children and young people.	Clare Devane	From September 2022

6. Consultation

Statutory consultation will be scheduled for the Autumn term 21. Stakeholders will be invited to contribute their views as part of the consultation process.