

WANDSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCILEDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE – 7TH FEBRUARY 2019EXECUTIVE – 11TH FEBRUARY 2019

Report by the Director of Children's Services on the development of a resource base at Saint John Bosco College, SW11 (St. Mary's Park) for children and young people with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or Social Communication Disorder (SCD) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs

SUMMARY

A report (Paper No. 18-44) was made to the Education and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 8th February 2018 on the outcome of a review of educational provision for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). The report outlined the growth in numbers and complexity of needs of children and young people with SEND and the resulting increase in costly school placements in the independent school sector. It outlined proposals being considered to meet the increasing demand, one of which was the development of a second resource base at Saint John Bosco College, SW11 (St. Mary's Park).

Saint John Bosco already offers resource base provision for up to 25 pupils with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) who need additional support to access the mainstream curriculum. Since October 2018, the College has been piloting a resource base offer for young people with an ASD or Social Communication Disorder (SCD) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. Building adaptations took place over the summer 2018 period in preparation for their admission. This was included as part of the Council's capital programme and was presented to the Finance and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee in September 2018, Paper No. 18-330.

Following a successful pilot, the Council, with the support of the College, is now proposing to start the necessary consultation process to establish formally this provision. This report seeks agreement to publish a statutory notice and full proposal to establish a resource base for up to seven children with an ASD or SCD and SEMH needs at Saint John Bosco College from 1st September 2019.

Outcome of consultation on educational provision for children with SEND

The outcome of the statutory consultation would be brought to this committee in the June 2019 committee cycle.

GLOSSARY

ASD	Autistic Spectrum Disorder
BAME	Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic
DSG	Dedicated Schools Grant
DFE	Department for Education
EINA	Equality Impact Needs Assessment
EHCP	Education, Health and Care Plan
SCD	Social Communication Disorder
SEMH	Social, Emotional and Mental Health
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disability

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Education and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to support the recommendation in paragraph 3 below.
2. If the Overview and Scrutiny Committee approve any views, comments or recommendations on the report, these will be submitted to the Executive for their consideration.
3. The Executive are recommended to approve the publication of a statutory notice and full proposal to formally establish a resource base for up to seven children and young people in Years 7 to 13 with an ASD or SCD and SEMH at Saint John Bosco College from 1st September 2019.

BACKGROUND

4. As required by the Department for Education (DFE), the Council undertook a strategic review of educational provision for children and young people with SEND and reported the outcome to the Education and Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee in February 2018, Paper No. 18-44. The report set out the growth in numbers and complexity of needs of Wandsworth children and young people and explained that the Council was increasingly having to place them in the independent and non-maintained specialist sector. It set out options that were being explored for the development of specialist provision where there was a shortfall within the Borough. This included developing a resource base at Saint John Bosco College for young people with an ASD or SCD and SEMH.
5. A shortfall in provision had been identified for young people with ASD or SCD and SEMH needs that were sufficiently severe to prevent them from accessing mainstream schools but were cognitively more able or had mild learning difficulties.

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These young people were generally placed in independent special schools where annual placement costs ranged from £55,000 to £74,000. Whilst the young people required a mainstream curriculum they were unable to sustain long periods of the day in mainstream classrooms or the environment of a mainstream school without the support of a secondary resource base.

6. Saint John Bosco College already has the existing Savio Base, which caters for up to 25 young people with an ASD. This operates very successfully, as highlighted during the College's Ofsted Inspection in May 2017, which found that leadership of the Savio provision was effective and pupils were well integrated into the full life of the school. It also became the first Wandsworth provision to be awarded the Council's ASD Quality Mark. It was proposed to develop the additional resource base as a pilot operating within the authorised capacity of the Savio Base and therefore, not requiring an extension to the approval for Savio.

THE PILOT AND FUTURE PROPOSALS FOR SAINT JOHN BOSCO COLLEGE

7. The College started the pilot in October 2018 with the admission of two students. It is known as the Devereux Base after a young man who had links both as a pupil and member of staff with the Salesian family of schools. The curriculum is being delivered largely in 1:1 or small group settings and the students are being provided with highly personalised wrap around support that considers their mental health, emotional and academic needs. It is intended that over time, these pupils will be able to transition to the Savio Base and possibly access elements of the mainstream school environment. The College reports a positive start to the pilot and would like to continue offering this provision long-term to up to seven pupils. A further three students are expected to join the Devereux Base early in the Spring term 2019.
8. Building adaptations were completed in the main school building over the summer holiday period 2018 in preparation for the pilot. These works provide students with distinct, purposely designed areas, with a separate entrance that gives access to the Devereux base and the mainstream school yet is self-contained enough to allow the young people to have lessons in a small setting away from the main corridors. The base area has a separate outside space, social area and dedicated teaching and therapy areas, and a multi-sensory room. The costs of the works of £100,000 were met from the General Fund Capital Programme and were reported to the Finance and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee in September 2018, Paper No. 18-330 and subsequently approved by Executive.
9. Revenue funding for the pilot has ensured that the costs of setting up the Base are met. From September 2019 the Base will be funded using the Age Weighted Pupil Unit, place factor for 7 places and top up for individual pupils. It is expected that this will result in reduced costs to the Council in the order of £140,000 when the Base is full over equivalent places in the independent sector. Importantly placement in Devereux gives a young person the opportunity to progress over time

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to the school's Savio Base, should this be appropriate, and possibly to access mainstream classes on a flexible basis. The costs of the Base will be met by the proposed funding arrangement and not be a charge on the main school budget. The opportunity for Devereux and Savio Bases to work together, with joint management oversight, will strengthen the range of skills and expertise available in both Bases as well as supporting inclusion in the main school.

CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENTS

10. A public notice and full proposal will be published early in the Summer term 2019 to ensure that the outcome of the consultation can be reported to this committee in the June 2019 cycle of meetings and Executive can determine the proposal within the necessary statutory timescales. The notice will appear in a local newspaper; the full proposal will be made available on the Council's website; and the Council will comply with all additional statutory consultation requirements in relation to the proposed resource base. The College's senior leadership team is supportive of the proposal and is keen to establish this new resource base formally following a successful pilot.

EQUALITIES IMPACT NEEDS ASSESSMENT (EINA)

11. An EINA has been undertaken on the establishment of the resource base at Saint John Bosco College and is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. The resource base will address a shortfall in places for secondary-aged young people with ASD or SCD and SEMH. It will ensure that these young people who will benefit from a mainstream curriculum but require additional specialist support to access it will receive the support required to enable them to be included in a mainstream school. The expertise and skills of base staff will enhance the expertise available to all children within the school. If these local places were not available, the Council would have to source sufficient places out of borough involving the children travelling greater distances to school.

COMMENTS OF THE DIRECTOR OF RESOURCES

12. The cost of the consultation process will be met from existing departmental budgets. In addition to the educational benefits generated, the creation of specialist places within mainstream schools continues to be a cost effective option for the Council as an alternative to independent provision. When full the Base is anticipated to generate a net reduction in costs to the Dedicated Schools Budget of £140,000.

CONCLUSION

13. This report comments on the successful pilot at Saint John Bosco College during which students accessed a new resource base offer. It seeks agreement to

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publish a statutory notice and full proposal to formally establish a resource base for up to 7 children with an ASD or SCD and SEMH needs at Saint John Bosco College. This proposal will benefit secondary-aged pupils with an ASD or SCD and SEMH needs who would benefit from a mainstream curriculum but who are currently unable to access it for any length of time.

The Town Hall,
Wandsworth,
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JOHN JOHNSON
Director of Children's Services

30th January 2019

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Background papers

There are no background papers to this report.

All reports to Overview and Scrutiny Committees, regulatory and other committees, the Executive and the full Council can be viewed on the Council's website (www.wandsworth.gov.uk/moderngov) unless the report was published before May 2001, in which case the Democratic Services Manager (Rachel Williamson on 020 8871 7857; rachel.williamson@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk) can supply it if required.

APPENDIX 1 - SSA EQUALITY IMPACT AND NEEDS ANALYSIS

Directorate	Children's Services
Service Area	Special Needs, Disability and Psychology Service
Service/policy/function being assessed	Proposal to establish a resource base for children and young people with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder or Social Communication Disorder and Social Emotional and Mental Health Needs at Saint John Bosco College
Which borough (s) does the service/policy apply to	Wandsworth
Staff involved	Head of Special Services Planning Planning and Commissioning Officer, Special Services Planning
Date approved by Policy and Review Manager	

SUMMARY

The proposal to establish a resource base at Saint John Bosco College is beneficial for secondary-aged young people with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or Social Communication Disorder (SCD) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs as there is currently a gap in Wandsworth provision resulting in placement in independent specialist settings. Creating additional local specialist provision will avoid the young people having to travel long distances to get to school. The combination of a specialist base with access to mainstream provision has proven a successful model in other schools with specialist bases and provides benefits for all students in the school.

Development of the Devereux resource base at Saint John Bosco College

1. Background

A statutory notice and full proposal will be published to formally establish a resource base for up to 7 young people with an Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) or Social Communication Disorder (SCD) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs at Saint John Bosco College from September 2019.

The College’s senior management team expressed an interest in extending their SEND provision to a different cohort of young people and were willing to start a pilot during the Autumn term 2018. Following its success, the College would now like to offer this provision long term. To formally open a base requires the publication of a statutory notice and full proposal for consultation. The Council will comply with all applicable statutory requirements and seek views on the proposed resource base. Parents of young people being considered for placement at the Base will be consulted as part of the education, health and care assessment process.

2. Analysis of need and impact

Protected group	Findings											
Age	<table border="1" data-bbox="451 1146 1170 1539"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="451 1146 810 1262">Age range</th> <th data-bbox="810 1146 1170 1262">% of Wandsworth population</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="451 1262 810 1329">0 to 4</td> <td data-bbox="810 1262 1170 1329">6.8</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="451 1329 810 1398">5 to 9</td> <td data-bbox="810 1329 1170 1398">9.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="451 1398 810 1467">10 to 14</td> <td data-bbox="810 1398 1170 1467">4.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="451 1467 810 1539">15 to 19</td> <td data-bbox="810 1467 1170 1539">3.9</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p data-bbox="451 1539 964 1577">GLA projected age breakdown 2018</p> <p data-bbox="451 1608 1390 1730">100% of the 7 users will be aged 11 to 18 and therefore the new resource base will disproportionately affect this group compared to the whole borough population.</p>		Age range	% of Wandsworth population	0 to 4	6.8	5 to 9	9.6	10 to 14	4.6	15 to 19	3.9
Age range	% of Wandsworth population											
0 to 4	6.8											
5 to 9	9.6											
10 to 14	4.6											
15 to 19	3.9											
Disability												

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	<p>In 2018 there were 1,051 Wandsworth resident children aged 5 to 18 years of age with a diagnosis of ASD, which was 2.38% of the Wandsworth 5 to 18 population. All the students attending the new resource base will have a profile of needs within the autistic continuum and have social, emotional and mental health needs and therefore the new base will disproportionately benefit this group compared to the Wandsworth population.</p>			
Gender (sex)	<p>GLA projected gender breakdown for 2018 for Wandsworth is 156,048 males (48.1%) and 168,352 females (51.9%). In 2018, 77.4% of Wandsworth resident children of school age with a diagnosis of ASD were male. Therefore, the new resource base will disproportionately benefit the male group.</p>			
Gender reassignment	<p>Not known.</p>			
Marriage and civil partnership	<p>N/A</p>			
Pregnancy and maternity	<p>N/A</p>			
Race/ethnicity		<p>% Wandsworth 0-19 population – GLA data</p>	<p>% children with EHCPs May School Census 2018</p>	
	<p>White</p>	<p>64%</p>	<p>40.8%</p>	
	<p>BME</p>	<p>36%</p>	<p>56.1%</p>	
	<p>Asian or Asian British</p>	<p>12.4%</p>	<p>17.4%</p>	

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	Black or Black British	16.4%	21.4%	
	Mixed	7.2% mixed and other	12.7%	
	Other		4.6%	
	Unknown	0%	3.1%	
	<p>Percentages may not equal 100% due to rounding.</p> <p>A higher proportion of children with EHCPs in Wandsworth schools are BME compared to the borough average and therefore, the new resource base will disproportionately benefit this group.</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	
	<p>Source Census 2011</p> <p>Saint John Bosco is a catholic college that admits pupils from a wide range of faiths. Admissions into the new resource base will be made on the basis of a child's SEN and the College's normal admission</p>			

Outcome of consultation on educational provision for children with SEND

	<p>criteria will not apply. Therefore, the new base will not disproportionately admit pupils from any faith group.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; height: 30px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> <td style="width: 50%;"></td> </tr> </table>		
Sexual orientation	Not known.		
Across groups i.e. older LGBT service users or BME young men	Not known.		

Data gaps.

Data gap(s)	How will this be addressed?
Sexual orientation and gender assignment.	It is not considered appropriate to record this information due to age.

3. Impact

Protected group	Positive	Negative
Age	<p>The proposals are intended to meet a shortfall in specialist provision for secondary-aged children with ASD or SCD and SEMH needs.</p> <p>The provision of a base at Saint John Bosco will ensure that children receive specialist support on a flexible basis</p>	No negative impacts have been identified.

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	within the base and support for inclusion in mainstream.	
Disability	<p>The Base will address a shortfall in places for children with ASD or SCD and SEMH. Without the provision the children would be placed outside the borough and have reduced access to specialist teaching and facilities or could fall out of the education system and become school refusers.</p> <p>The base will ensure that children with ASD or SCD and SEMH who will benefit from a mainstream curriculum but require additional specialist support to access it will receive the support required to enable them to be included in a mainstream school.</p> <p>The expertise and skills of base staff (both teaching and therapy) will enhance the expertise available to all children within the College.</p>	<p>There may be some concern that the education of mainstream children may be adversely affected by the inclusion of children with ASD or SCD and SEMH in their classes. The Council has established a number of bases and the proposed model at Saint John Bosco of a flexible offer between time in the base and mainstream has been shown to work well. Saint John Bosco already has 34 children with an EHCP and 82 children receiving SEN support (School Census October 2018) – the additional expertise will benefit both them and wider teaching within the school. Above all they will be part of an inclusive and diverse environment.</p>
Gender (sex)	<p>As a result of the gender imbalance in children diagnosed with ASD girls may struggle to find a peer group of other girls in specialist settings. A base that gives access to a wider school community is therefore a positive option for them.</p>	<p>No negative impacts have been identified.</p>

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Gender reassignment	Data not collected. The positive impacts outlined above will impact on all young people accessing the base regardless of whether they have had gender reassignment.	Data not collected. The impacts outlined above will impact on all young people accessing the base regardless of gender reassignment.
Marriage/ civil partnership	N/A	
Pregnancy and maternity	N/A	
Race/ethnicity	There are more children with BAME backgrounds with SEND on the roll of the College and therefore the positive impacts detailed above will impact more on them.	There are more children with BAME backgrounds with SEND on the roll of the College and therefore the negative impacts detailed above will be more on them.
Religion and belief, including non-belief	75% of children in Years 7 to 11 are Christian or Roman Catholic and therefore, the positive impacts detailed above will impact more on them.	75% of children in Years 7 to 11 are Christian or Roman Catholic and therefore, the negative impacts detailed above will impact more on them.
Sexual orientation	Data not collected. The positive impacts outlined above will impact on all young people accessing the base regardless of their sexual orientation.	Data not collected. The impacts outlined above will impact on all young people accessing the base regardless of their sexual orientation.

4. Actions

Action	Lead Officer	Deadline
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The Saint John Bosco Base will have access to a network of ASD Bases and the opportunity to share good practice. They will have ongoing access to the support of the ASD Development Consultant.	ASD Development Consultant	From October 2018
There will be ongoing monitoring of the main college provision to ensure that there is no negative impact on pupils.	ASD Development Consultant	From October 2018

5. Consultation

Consultation will take place during the Summer term 2019. This EINA will be updated based on that consultation.