



PROPOSAL TO EXPAND GREENVALE SCHOOL

Notice is given in accordance with Section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013/3110 that Lewisham Council intends to expand the permanent capacity of Greenvale School from 117 places to 210 places with effect from September 2019.

Name, address and contact details of proposer:

Lewisham Council, Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, London SE6 4RU

Name, address and category of school:

Greenvale School, Waters Road, London SE6 1UF
This is a community special school.

Description of alteration:

The Council proposes that Greenvale School's capacity should permanently increase from 117 to 210 pupils from September 2019.

The proposal means that over time the school will cater for a cohort that has increased by 93 students.

To achieve this expansion, the Council will be utilising an additional site due to the site constraints at Waters Road. The additional site (the old Brent Knoll School site, Mayow Road, London SE23 2XH) is an unoccupied educational site that will be redeveloped to provide a suitable environment for the more able students within the school, with those with more complex needs remaining on the existing site which has additional facilities (hydrotherapy pool etc). This approach ensures that pupil movement will be kept to a minimum.

Construction work at the Mayor Road site will be necessary to realise the permanent increased capacity. It is anticipated that this will be completed by September 2019.

Evidence of demand:

The council conducted a SEND review in summer 2016. This review confirmed the growing SEND population within the Borough and highlighted four key areas around place planning which should be further explored regarding existing provision.

Specifically relevant to this proposal was the need to provide additional Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD) places, to cater for the increase in number of children and reduce the need to place out of Borough.

Following this review, further analysis has been conducted by the Children with Complex Needs (CWCN) service to better understand what exactly the place requirement is, but also how best to meet it. In completing this analysis, the CWCN service have considered how the system currently works, what best practice looks like, where young people are currently being placed and how the rise in young people with SEND relates to population growth.

Specifically in relation to this proposal, the analysis identified the need for an additional 93 Secondary SLD places.

The need for a number of these places already exists, as can be shown by existing demand to place young people with SLD needs in Greenvale School which is currently full and in effect oversubscribed. As a result, the Council is having to commission places outside of the Borough, often in expensive, and distant, independent provision.

Objectives:

The objective of the proposal is to create additional capacity to accommodate the increase in demand for Secondary SLD provision within the borough and reduce the need to commission out of borough placements, as placing young people in provision that is further afield does not benefit the young person in terms of social inclusion or a sense of community. There is often an extensive amount of travel time (often in isolation) which is disadvantageous also. The ability to cater for our young people and their families close to home will allow the wider range of support systems to function in the best interests of those young people and their families.

The proposal would build on the outstanding standards for teaching and learning already in place at the school and provide additional places without having any negative impact on other schools, academies and educational institutions in the area. The proposal would also have a positive impact on travel distance/time for some students.

This proposal forms part of Lewisham Council's response to the statutory obligation to provide sufficient school places.

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation:

The additional places proposed would enable the school to grow to admit up to 210 pupils in total. This will not occur on the date of first expansion, but will grow organically over a number of years. It is not possible to be more specific as each year group is a different size, dictated by need.

Effect on other educational institutions in the area:

It is not anticipated that the proposed expansion of Greenvale School will have any impact on other educational facilities within the local area. The proposal has been made to accommodate the increase in pupil numbers that is being experienced within the Borough and to reduce the reliance on out of borough provision.

Project Costs:

The final design solution is subject to detailed design and development and therefore it is not yet possible to estimate the full cost of delivery. The project will be funded by a combination of Lewisham Council capital funding, Basic Need Grant funding and SEND Capital Grant funding received from the Department for Education (DfE), and any relevant Section 106 developer contributions.

Commenting on the proposal:

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal (by 12 noon, 9 February 2018), any person may comment on, support, or object to the proposal via the Lewisham Consultation Portal www.lewisham.gov.uk/consultation or in writing to Matt Henaughan, Strategic Service Planning and Business Change, 3rd Floor Laurence House, 1 Catford Road, London SE6 4RU, matt.henaughan@lewisham.gov.uk

Signed: Matt Henaughan, Strategic Service Planning and Business Change, Children and Young People's Services

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