

Appendix 5

The SEND Improvement Test

Section 39 of the School Organisation Maintained Schools, Annex B: Guidance for Decision Makers (January 2014) states:

In planning and commissioning SEN provision or considering a proposal for change, LAs should aim for a flexible range of provision and support that can respond to the needs of individual pupils and parental preferences. This is favourable to establishing broad categories of provision according to special educational need or disability.

Decision-makers should ensure that proposals:

<p>take account of parental preferences for particular styles of provision or education settings;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) The proposals are to expand provision for children with special educational needs in line with current parental preference in Southampton. ii) The consultation will take into account the changing needs for specialist resourced provision in mainstream schools and will lead to improved support for primary aged pupils with special educational needs. iii) The availability of suitable provision would also increase choice for parents and pupils.
<p>take account of any relevant local offer for children and young people with SEN and disabilities and the views expressed on it;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Southampton is committed to promoting integration between special educational provision, health and social care provision to promote well-being and improve the quality of provision, in line with the SEND Code of Practice 2014. ii) The consultation process will involve all interested parties and will take account of the Local Offer and all views expressed on it.

<p>offer a range of provision to respond to the needs of individual children and young people, taking account of:</p> <p>collaborative arrangements (including between special and mainstream);</p> <p>extended school and Children’s Centre provision;</p> <p>regional centres (of expertise) and regional and sub-regional provision;</p> <p>out of LA day and residential special provision;</p>	<p>i) The proposal is intended to allow Springwell Special School to continue to provide a range of provision.</p> <p>ii) The school provides additional provision (Resourced Provision and Co-Located Places) at three mainstream schools in the City. These proposals will allow Springwell School to make best use of those places.</p> <p>iii) The Springwell Outreach team supports pupils with SEND, their teachers and assistants in primary mainstream settings across the City and supports parents via a Family Link Officer.</p> <p>iv) Springwell School is accredited as a National Support School and provides on-going support, advice and training for both special and mainstream schools.</p> <p>v) N/A</p>
<p>take full account of educational considerations, in particular the need to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum, within a learning environment where children can be healthy and stay safe;</p>	<p>i) Springwell Special School was judged to be Outstanding in its last two Ofsted inspections.</p> <p>ii) Expanding provision at Springwell School will provide more pupils with access to a broad and balanced curriculum, differentiated to their specific needs.</p> <p>iii) Following this consultation, any works to expand provision, either at the Springwell School site or under any other option, will take account of Building Bulletin 102: Designing for Disabled Children and Children with SEN (2014).</p>

<p>support the LA’s strategy for making schools and settings more accessible to disabled children and young people and their scheme for promoting equality of opportunity for disabled people;</p>	<p>i) The proposal has due regard to the Southampton City Council policy statement on Disability Equality and to the Children and Families Directorate accessibility strategy.</p> <p>ii) The proposal is intended to promote equality of opportunity for disabled people.</p>
<p>provide access to appropriately trained staff and access to specialist support and advice, so that individual pupils can have the fullest possible opportunities to make progress in their learning and participate in their school and community;</p>	<p>i) The addition of places on-roll at Springwell Special School will provide access to specialist support to more pupils in Southampton.</p>
<p>ensure appropriate provision for 14-19 year-olds; and</p>	<p>i) Springwell Special School is a Primary school (age 4-11) and will not add provision for 14-19 year-olds.</p>
<p>ensure that appropriate full-time education will be available to all displaced pupils. Their statements of special educational needs must be amended and all parental rights must be ensured.</p>	<p>i) This proposal does not displace any students currently on-roll at the school.</p>

<p>Other interested partners, such as the Health Authority should be involved.</p>	<p>i) Southampton is committed to promoting integration between special educational provision, health and social care provision to promote well-being and improve the quality of provision, in line with the SEND Code of Practice 2014.</p> <p>ii) The consultation process involved all interested parties and took account of all views expressed on it.</p>
<p>Pupils should not be placed long-term or permanently in a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) if a special school place is what they need.</p>	<p>i) N/A</p>

When considering any reorganisation of provision that the LA considers to be reserved for pupils with special educational needs, including that which might lead to children being displaced, proposers will need to demonstrate how the proposed alternative arrangements are likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of educational provision for those children. Decision-makers should make clear how they are satisfied that this SEN improvement test has been met, including how they have taken account of parental or independent representations which question the proposer’s assessment.