

## **Consultation on the Special School and SEN Placements Planning Framework 12 November 2012 to 21 December 2012**

### **What is the Proposal?**

- It is proposed to increase the amount and range of provision in Harrow for children and young people with special educational needs.
- Harrow Council wants to know your views about provision for special educational needs and about some initial options that are proposed in the consultation papers.

### **Why is this consultation happening now?**

- Harrow is experiencing increasing demand for special educational needs provision.
- The Government is introducing significant reform and change to the special educational needs and disability system.

### **What is the need for special educational needs provision?**

- In Harrow there is provision for pupils with special educational needs in a range of settings including mainstream schools, additionally resourced mainstream school settings, and special schools. Some pupils also attend schools outside of Harrow
- Harrow is experiencing a growing and changing population and there is increasing pressure on the current provision for pupils with special educational needs. This is both in the number of places available and also on the funding. A shortfall of local provision increases the costs of placements at provision outside the borough.

### **Government initiatives**

- The Government has consulted on a new approach to special educational needs and disability, and measures are being introduced in the Children and Families Bill. Changes include: a single 0-25 assessment process and Education, Health and Care Plans from 2014; publication of a local offer; personal budgets; statutory protections comparable to those currently associated with a statement of SEN to up to 25 in further education.
- In addition, the Government is also consulting on proposed changes to school funding which will impact on the funding for statements of special educational needs and special schools.

### **What initial options are proposed?**

#### **Post-16 Provision**

- It is proposed to create additional post-16 provision to increase space at Shaftesbury and Kingsley schools for Year 7 to Year 11 students. The provision would seek to enhance pathways in further education through to age 25 years.
- This provision could be located at a new post-16 centre on a site in Harrow and developed with a partner, for example an academy chain/trust or free school provider.
- Alternatively, this provision could be located at the school sites, though scope to do this at the Kingsley site is very limited.

### **Additionally Resourced Provision**

- It is proposed to create more additionally resourced provision for children and young people in mainstream schools, specifically:
  - Additionally resourced provision places for children and young people with autistic spectrum disorders: 12 places in a primary school, and 12 places in a secondary school.
  - Additionally resourced provision places for children and young people with vulnerable moderate learning difficulties: 12 places in a primary school, and 12 places in a secondary school.

### **Early Years Provision**

- It is proposed to relocate the majority of the Foundation Stage provision at Woodlands Special School to increase space at the school for Year 1 to Year 6 pupils.
- This provision could be located in a new early years centre on the Woodlands school site.
- Alternatively, satellite provision could be created at two locations away from the school to create more local provision and to give geographical spread across the borough.

### **How can I get more information?**

The following information is available on the Harrow Council website:

- Summary of the Draft Special School and SEN Placements Planning Framework
- Draft Special School and SEN Placements Planning Framework

<http://www.harrow.gov.uk/info/49/education-consultations>

Alternatively, you can request these documents from your child's school or from the Education Strategy and School Organisation Team, Harrow Council, Harrow Teachers' Centre, Tudor Road, Wealdstone HA3 5PQ. [SchoolReorganisation@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolReorganisation@harrow.gov.uk)

### **When will I know the outcome of the consultation?**

The consultation runs from Monday 12 November to Friday 21 December 2012. A report will be presented to Harrow Cabinet, the decision making body of local elected councillors, in Spring 2013. This report will present the councillors with the outcome of the consultation and will ask Cabinet to agree its Special School and SEN Placements Planning Framework with a view to bring forward any necessary statutory proposals.

### **How can I respond to this consultation?**

Please respond to this consultation via the Harrow Council website:

<http://harrow-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal>

Alternatively you can complete the attached response form and send it to your child's school or to the Education Strategy and School Organisation Team, Harrow Council, Harrow Teachers' Centre, Tudor Road, Wealdstone HA3 5PQ.

[SchoolReorganisation@harrow.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolReorganisation@harrow.gov.uk)

**The deadline for responses to this consultation is Friday 21 December 2012.**