Consultation on commissioning Special Education Needs provision

Ealing council is consulting on the provision for children and young people with Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND). This is to ensure the provision meets the needs of children and young people, while making best use of the high needs budget.

In recent years, Ealing has made significant changes to the range of SEND provision particularly in early years and primary schools. We are now in the process of expanding provision in the high school sector.

The aim of this survey is to gather the views of stakeholders on the following targeted outcomes:

- Development of flexible pathways that enable young people to access bespoke study programmes at the right stage in their development. This will require colleges and schools to plan and deliver programmes more closely together.
- Ensure that all Ealing mainstream provision will be welcoming, accessible and inclusive - by increased collaboration between schools, increased sharing of expertise among special schools and support of SEN activities through dedicated spaces.
- Ensure there is sufficient and appropriate provision of specialist places to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND that enables them to achieve greater levels of inclusion and leads to fulfilling life outcomes in adulthood.

We value your views on the above – please note that the survey will be open until the half term break - 9th February 2018.

The consultation has three themes related to the above aims:

A. Preparation of young people for adulthood
B. Supporting local schools to consistently meet the special education needs of our children
C. Providing places in additional specialist provision following the outcome of this review

We have described the outcome for each theme, which tells you what we are aiming to achieve and given some background information about the theme. We would like your feedback on:

- Whether you agree or disagree with the targets and why
- The key issues related to each theme
- Any other ideas that you think would help us work better to achieve the targets.

Further details of the SEN provision review can be found in the attached document.
Themes

A: Preparation of young people for adulthood

We believe that preparing children and young people with SEND for adult life needs to start as early as possible. This is to allow them to develop the skills and knowledge they will need to have control over their lives.

We have heard from young people with SEND that there are not enough 14+ & 16+ pathways and not enough variety in the pathways to enable them to meet their aspirations. Young people want us to believe in them - some young people have felt restricted and over protected by the system. Young people should be able to move onto a study programme that is right for them at the right time. This should include moving on to other provision and further education colleges, with appropriate transition planning provided from the school to the receiving provider.

At least 40 further post-16 places will be needed in the Borough by 2021/22. The West London Alliance has also highlighted collaborative working to expand the range of options and use our combined specialisms. A variety of routes for securing new provision is available, including a combination of existing special schools and colleges. The aim is for colleges and schools to plan and deliver programmes more closely together.

Target Outcome: We will develop flexible pathways to enable young people to access effective provision and services to meet their individual needs at different stages.

- We will regularly review the type of provision to help young people achieve effective outcomes, including education, employment and training, as they move into adulthood.
- We need to ensure that young people progress onto higher level programmes, by providing appropriate academic and vocational challenge and that they do not repeat the study programmes.
- Young people may need to transfer at different times to their next study programme, to a different setting and to supported employment or employment.

Question:
1. To what extent do you agree or disagree that colleges and schools should plan and deliver programmes more closely together for young people to prepare for adulthood?

- [ ] Strongly agree
- [ ] Tend to Agree
- [ ] Neither agree nor disagree
- [ ] Tend to Disagree
- [ ] Strongly disagree
- [ ] Don’t know

Please provide reasons for your answer
B: Support local schools and other providers to consistently meet the special education needs of our children

We want all schools and colleges to be as inclusive as possible. It is our aim that all Ealing mainstream provision will be welcoming, accessible and inclusive, adhering to the SEND Code of Practice, so that they can meet the needs of most children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

We have earmarked £1m in capital funding to make improvements to the teaching and learning environments in mainstream schools as necessary. For example, the funding may provide additional group rooms needed to deliver initiatives which support inclusion.

**Target outcome:** All Ealing mainstream provision will be welcoming, accessible and inclusive, so that it can meet the needs of most children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.

To achieve this, the following areas of work have been identified for further development:

- Collaboration between schools and other educational settings in order to meet the highest expectations for children and young people with SEND, while reducing variation in the quality of provision and outcomes.
- A collaborative outreach and training provision to share expertise across special schools, ARPs and mainstream. Use learning from school peer reviews to help build capacity and tailor training to the needs of teachers and support staff. Also explore ways of including young people and parents in staff training.
- Identify schools where dedicated spaces could be provided to support SEN activities, such as establishing nurture groups.

**Questions:**

2. To what extent do you agree or disagree with providing dedicated rooms to deliver initiatives which support inclusion in mainstream schools where this is necessary?

- [ ] Strongly agree
- [ ] Tend to Agree
- [ ] Neither agree nor disagree
- [ ] Tend to Disagree
- [ ] Strongly disagree
- [ ] Don't know

**Please provide reasons for your answer**
3. How should leaders* in education, health and care settings work better together to improve outcomes for children and young people who have SEND? *Leaders include school Governors, Head teachers, LA Officers, Education psychologists, doctors or health service managers.

4. What other things could be done to support greater inclusion for pupils with SEN in mainstream schools?
C: Providing places in additional specialist provision following the outcome of this review

Since 2013, the Council has expanded special schools in primary age schools and in all-through schools. We anticipate additional demand for secondary phase special schools from 2018, as more pupils leave the expanded primary special schools and move into the secondary sector.

Although further capacity has been added to our Additionally Resourced Provisions (ARPs) in mainstream schools, compared to our neighbours we still have a smaller proportion of children educated in Units or ARPs. We need to ensure that there is the right mix of specialist provision for mainstream school provision.

Target outcome: Ensure there is sufficient and appropriate provision to meet the needs of children and young people with SEND that enables them to progress towards greater levels of inclusion and improve outcomes leading to fulfilling life outcomes in adulthood.

- Statutory notices have been approved for the future expansion of Belvue School to 160 places (11 to 16) plus sixth form and St Ann's School to 105 places (11 to 19). Overall, this will add 45 extra places to Secondary Special school capacity. In total, there will be 176 more places in special schools in 2018 than there were in 2013.
- A proposal has been made to establish 63 further places (9 places per year) in primary phase ARPs across three schools and two ARPs at a high school, which would provide an additional 40 places (8 places per year).

Questions:
5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the plans to open more additionally resourced provision or units in primary and secondary schools?
   - [ ] Strongly agree
   - [ ] Tend to Agree
   - [ ] Neither agree nor disagree
   - [ ] Tend to Disagree
   - [ ] Strongly disagree
   - [ ] Don’t know

6. From your experience, how can the Council, head teachers and Governors work better towards achieving this target outcome?
Your interest

7. In what primary capacity are you responding to this consultation?
   - [ ] A parent (Please go to question 8)
   - [ ] A student (Please go to question 8)
   - [ ] A head teacher / teacher / member of staff (Please go to Question 14)
   - [ ] A governor (Please go to Question 14)
   - [ ] A representative of a community or voluntary sector organisation (Please go to Question 14)
   - [ ] A representative of a public sector organisation (Please go to Question 14)
   - [ ] Other

8. Do you / does your child use Special Education (SEND) provision in Ealing?
   - [ ] Yes
   - [ ] No
   - [ ] Don't know / Can't say

About You
The information you give in this section helps us to ensure we can make research and consultation more accessible and inclusive. Please be assured that all personal information is kept completely confidential and is used for research purposes only. It will never be transferred to a third party without your prior consent.

9. Are you?
   - [ ] Male
   - [ ] Female
   - [ ] Prefer not to say

10. Your date of birth
    Day
    Month
    Year

11. Are your day-to-day activities limited because of a health problem or disability which has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months?
    - [ ] Yes, limited a lot
    - [ ] Yes, limited a little
    - [ ] No
12. How many children, if any, are there in your household?

☐ 1 child
☐ 2 children
☐ 3 children
☐ 4 or more children
☐ No children

13. Which ethnic group do you consider you belong to?

☐ White - English, Welsh, Scottish, Northern Irish, British
☐ White - Irish
☐ White - Gypsy/Irish Traveller
☐ Any other White background

☐ Mixed/ multiple ethnic groups -- White and Black Caribbean
☐ Mixed/ multiple ethnic groups -- White and Black African
☐ Mixed/ multiple ethnic groups -- White and Asian
☐ Any other Mixed/ multiple ethnic background

☐ Asian/ Asian British -- Indian
☐ Asian/ Asian British -- Pakistani
☐ Asian/ Asian British -- Bangladeshi
☐ Asian/ Asian British -- Chinese
☐ Any other Asian background

☐ Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British -- African
☐ Black/ African/ Caribbean/ Black British -- Caribbean
☐ Any other Black/ African/ Caribbean background

☐ Arab
☐ Any other ethnic group
14. Please let us know some information about your school / organisations:

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