



28 February 2018

## Education Consultation

### Proposed changes to The Judd School, Brook Street, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 2PN

We are very pleased to inform you of our plans for changes at The Judd School. KCC want to build upon the existing provision of the school by establishing a Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) within the school for students with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) for autistic spectrum disorders (ASD).

The Judd School is a highly academic state-funded grammar school for boys, situated in Tonbridge, Kent. The school operates a popular sixth form, which includes a significant proportion of girls (around one quarter). All students are expected to work hard, achieve their potential, serve their community and develop their leadership skills. These high expectations permeate the academic curriculum, the House pastoral system and the extended curriculum. The school was rated outstanding by Ofsted in May 2015.

The Governing Body is fully supportive of this proposal which will enable the school to use their knowledge and expertise to the full and accommodate local West Kent students with ASD in a caring, nurturing environment. Additional funding will be provided to enable the school to employ Specialist Teachers to support students within the SRP.

We hope the following questions and answers will explain, in more detail, what we are intending to do at the school.

#### 1. What is The Judd School being asked to do?

The Judd School is being asked to host a new SRP for up to 20 students with ASD, or up to 4 per year group. The Local Authority recognises that the school has already invested in developing its staff expertise in ASD and will continue to do so, to create an ASD friendly environment across the whole school and the proposal builds on this. The school is happy to host the SRP and is confident that its staff have the relevant expertise and skills to meet the needs of these students.

#### 2. What type of Needs do you mean?

The students attending the SRP will be those who experience difficulty with communicating and interacting with other people, but are suitable for a mainstream grammar school.

#### 3. How will you work out which students will attend the SRP?

The Judd school's consultation on its proposed admissions criteria for September 2019 states that places will be 'reserved for students with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) with a diagnosis of ASD and would be allocated by the local authority, not by the school. These places would be in addition to the PAN of 180.'

Local Authority officers will complete specialist assessments of children's needs to identify whether they are suitable for a mainstream school placement within an SRP. Potential students must have gained a "grammar school" assessment in the Kent PESE test to be considered for a place.

#### **4. How much funding will the school receive?**

Each place will typically bring approximately £14,000 in funding per year, which will enable the school to provide the additional support necessary to help these students make good social and academic progress.

#### **5. What will the SRP look like?**

The SRP will have an allocated base within the school where students can receive some individual and small group teaching and support. The school operates on an inclusive basis, so students will not spend all of their time in the SRP, but will be integrated into mainstream classes during the school day, where suitable. The aim will be to increase their integration as they progress through the school, with a view to students spending the majority of their education in mainstream classes. However, the approach will be one which reflects the individual needs of each student.

#### **6. When will the SRP open?**

It is intended that the SRP will be in place for September 2019, with student numbers incrementally increasing each year.

#### **7. Tell me more about SRPs.**

A small number of students have Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), which are legal documents that describe the help given to students who have the greatest difficulty learning. They require higher levels of support than can be provided in their local mainstream schools, but their needs are not so complex that special school placements are appropriate. For these students we maintain a range of Specialist Resource Provisions (SRPs) which are based in mainstream schools with places reserved for students with an EHCP.

KCC recognises the significant importance given to parent/carer views in the Children and Families Act reforms of SEN and Disabilities which came into force from September 2014 and has looked to ensure they are involved in shaping and influencing strategic decisions that affect their children and young people.

KCC has recognised that parents of high functioning pupils with autism spectrum conditions are ambitious for their children and would like them to be supported in mainstream schools where they have access to high quality subject specialist teachers and access to specialist teaching facilities. Parents in West Kent have therefore asked the Council to develop mainstream provision rather than special schools.

#### **8. Where can I find out more about what you are putting in place for SEN students?**

We have produced a Strategy that sets out our plans for students with SEN and Disabilities (SEND). The SEND Strategy shows how we will be creating 209 extra places in special schools and 164 in mainstream schools. It is available on the website at:

<http://www.kent.gov.uk/education-and-children/special-educational-needs/send-strategy>

#### **9. I have a question – who can I ask?**

If you have any questions, please contact the school or email Julie Ely, KCC's Head of Special Educational Needs via [Julie.ely@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.ely@kent.gov.uk)

## Consultation Timetable

Date	Activity
28 February 2018 to 28 March 2018 (midnight)	Public Consultation Period
14 March 2018 4:30 – 6:30pm	A 'drop-in' information session will be held at The Judd School, Brook Street, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 2PN.
8 May 2018	The outcome of the Education Consultation will be reported to the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee.
May 2018	The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education considers all the comments and decides whether to continue with the proposals.
May – June 2018	If the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education decides to proceed with the proposals a Public Notice will be published in a local newspaper, displayed at the school and available on the school's and KCC's website. During this time comments and objections can be made about the proposal. The Public Notice will run for 4 weeks.
June 2018	The Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education considers all responses made and decides whether to confirm his decision.
June – July 2018	Statutory Stakeholders have 4 weeks to appeal the decision
September 2019	Subject to consideration of any objections, the proposals are implemented

### 10. How can I give my views?

There are a number of ways to give us your views on this proposal:

- A 'drop-in' information session is being held at the school on 14 March 2018 where there will be the opportunity to ask questions and complete a response form.
- By handing your response form into The Judd School Reception Office.
- By emailing: [school.consultations@kent.gov.uk](mailto:school.consultations@kent.gov.uk)
- By sending the response form to Jared Nehra, KCC Area Education Officer (West Kent), West Kent Area Office, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ.
- All responses must be received by midnight on **28 March 2018**.

### 11. What happens next?

The consultation period runs from **Wednesday 28 February 2018 to Wednesday 28 March 2018**. If you are intending to contact us with your views, please do this by midnight on **28 March 2018**. The outcome of the consultation will be discussed at the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee in May. We will also pass all your comments to the Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education who will make a decision on whether to proceed with this proposal. If he decides to proceed, we will then publish a Public Notice in June/July 2018, which will run for 4 weeks.



Jon Wood  
Headteacher



Jared Nehra  
Area Education Officer, West Kent

**THE JUDD SCHOOL  
EDUCATION CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM**

Please complete this response form by **no later than midnight on 28 March 2018** and return it by:

- handing your response form into The Judd School reception.
- emailing: [school.consultations@kent.gov.uk](mailto:school.consultations@kent.gov.uk)
- posting the response form to Jared Nehra, KCC Area Education Officer (West Kent), West Kent Area Office, Sessions House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XQ.

***Do you agree with the proposal to establish a new Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) for up to 20 students with ASD at The Judd School from September 2019?***

Yes                       No                       Undecided

***Which of the following best describes you?***

Parent/Carer /  Member of Staff /  Governor /  Pupil

OR -  Other interested party ..... (please state interest).

Name ..... Address.....

.....

**Comments**

Please provide your comments overleaf if necessary

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

- Kent County Council is a data controller under the Data Protection Act 1998 and will comply with the requirements of the Act at all times. KCC will ensure that your personal information is processed fairly and lawfully and in this instance used only for the purpose of validation, which will enable a fair and just consultation.
- KCC has completed an Equality Impact Assessment to see if the proposal could affect anyone unfairly. We welcome your views on the assumptions we have made and the conclusions we have drawn. To view the document, go to [www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations](http://www.kent.gov.uk/schoolconsultations)

You can view Kent County Council's Commissioning Plan for Education Provision in Kent 2018 to 2022 at: [http://www.kent.gov.uk/data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/66990/Kent-Commissioning-Plan-for-Education-Provision-2018-22.pdf](http://www.kent.gov.uk/data/assets/pdf_file/0003/66990/Kent-Commissioning-Plan-for-Education-Provision-2018-22.pdf)

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**Comments**