

# New provision for children with special educational needs

## Summer 2020

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead is proposing to open new facilities for children with special educational needs.

We're proposing to open new Resource Bases, attached to schools, for children with social communication difficulties and related behaviours.

We have five options for the new provision.

We now want your views on these proposals.

You can read about the proposals inside this consultation document.

You can give us your views by completing the form in the centre of the booklet.

Responses must be received by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

## Your views needed

The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead wants to open new provision for children with special educational needs.

We are proposing to open up to three new Resource Bases at schools in Maidenhead and Windsor for children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs). These bases will be for children who have social communication difficulties and related behaviours who can, with support, attend a mainstream school.

The borough has been working with schools to identify where this new provision could go, and we now have five possible options:

- The Dedworth ([Dedworth Green First](#) & [Dedworth Middle](#)) campus in Windsor.
- The Furze Platt Primary Federation ([Furze Platt Infant](#) & [Furze Platt Junior](#)) in Maidenhead.
- [Hilltop First School](#) in Windsor.
- [Homer First School](#) in Windsor.
- [Wraysbury Primary School](#) in Wraysbury.

### What you say matters...

Parents, staff, governors and community organisations are all being consulted. Your views are vital so please take time to be part of this consultation. You can tell us what you think by:

- Completing the online response form at <https://rbwm.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/local-offer/information-and-advice/send-consultation-hub-and-resource-bank/consultations>.
- Completing the paper response form (in the centre of this document) and posting it to Resource Bases Consultation, Zone D, Town Hall, Maidenhead, SL6 1RF.
- Writing to the address above.
- Emailing [schoolplaces@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:schoolplaces@achievingforchildren.org.uk).

The closing date for your comments is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

### What happens after the consultation finishes?

The schools involved in this consultation and the Royal Borough will consider the responses received. Each school will decide whether it wants to proceed, and the Royal Borough's Cabinet will then consider the proposals on 27<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

If a decision is taken to go ahead with one or more of the proposals, then there will be a further consultation on the final options this autumn. Work will then begin to open the new facilities in time for September 2021.

Where are the schools? See back page map.

# A summary of the proposals

The proposal is to open up to three new Resource Bases at schools in the borough. These bases will be for children with social communication difficulties and related behaviours, who have Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) and needs related to Autism and/or Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH).

Each base will have its own dedicated space within the school. Children attending the base will spend some of their school day in the new provision and some in mainstream classes at the school. Each base will have up to ten children, and we hope to open the provision by September 2021.

Each Resource Base will either be an SEN Unit or Resourced Provision.

## Resourced Provision and SEN Units explained...

### Resourced Provision

Children attending Resourced Provision will be able to spend most of their time in mainstream classes at the school. They will spend some time receiving extra support in the provision itself.

### SEN Unit

Children attending an SEN Unit will spend more of their time in the unit, but will still attend some mainstream classes in the school.

# Why do we need the new provision?

## An increasing school age population...

The number of children and young people living in the borough has been rising in recent years, and this is set to continue as families move into new housing. The number of children and young people with special educational needs has also been increasing, and we believe this growth will continue. We need more specialist provision to help ensure that every child can achieve their full potential.

## Providing more local facilities...

Some children and young people with social communication difficulties and related behaviours can, with the right support, attend mainstream schools. This support is available to young people of secondary school age, at SHINE, a Resourced Provision at Furze Platt Senior School in Maidenhead. We do not, however, have similar provision for children of primary or first school age.

This means young children are having to attend schools in other local authority areas or are going to special schools that are usually for children with more complex learning needs.

The proposals in this consultation are intended, therefore, to close this gap.

# Who will benefit from this new provision?

## Children with Education, Health and Care Plans...

The proposed provision is for children of primary, first and middle school age who have EHCPs and social communication difficulties and related behaviours. Their EHCPs are likely to be for Autism and/or Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH). The children will be capable of attending and benefiting from mainstream classes in schools, but will still need the support that can be provided by the Resourced Provision or SEN Unit.

School placements for children with EHCPs are agreed through the borough's EHCP panel process. This will continue to be the case for the proposed new Resource Bases.

If the proposed new provision opens, then places will be available to both:

- new starters, who may be just starting school or have moved into the area; and
- children already in school who would benefit from the new Resource Bases. Consideration of a move would be discussed by the family, school and local authority - for example at the child's Annual Review - before being considered via the EHCP panel process.

Over time, we hope that the new provision will increase the numbers of primary age children with social communication needs and related behaviours who can attend a local mainstream school. This will, in turn, reduce the number of children who have to travel to similar provision in a neighbouring local authority or have to go to a special school.

## Schools...

The whole school community, including children, their families and staff, can benefit from having a Resource Base. One reason for this is the highly specialised staff in the new provision, who can share their expertise across the school. This will mean that all staff will have more skills, benefiting all children in the school.

The school curriculum will also be further developed, so that children in the Resource Base can take part in mainstream classes where appropriate. The development of the curriculum is likely to help other children, because different ways of teaching the same lesson can often improve understanding.

Where children are educated and socialise alongside others with a range of needs, they can learn a great deal. Ofsted also recognises that a school community that recognises, celebrates and respects difference helps develop educated citizens.

# More details about the Resource Bases

## A part of the school...

The new Resourced Provision and SEN Units will become a key part of their school, which will have a strong emphasis on inclusion and diversity. All staff will support the work of the Resource Base, and children there will be a part of the whole school community.

Schools opening the new Resource Bases will decide how best to run the new provision. A qualified teacher will have overall responsibility for the facility, and they will be supported by dedicated teaching assistants with specialist training.

Children attending the Resource Bases will be taught in line with their ability, individual needs and the requirements outlined in their EHCP.

## Where will the new provision be located?

The Resource Bases will have their own space within the school, including some teaching space and learning resource areas. An SEN Unit is generally about the same size as two classrooms, whilst Resourced Provision has around half that space. This is because the children attending Resourced Provision will spend more of their time in mainstream classes.

We will, therefore, need to build new accommodation at these schools for the Resource Bases. We will be working with the schools over the next few months to decide on the best options for those new spaces.

## Funding the new buildings...

The government has provided the Royal Borough with a grant of £1.227m (the Special Provision Capital Fund) to invest in improving the quality and range of provision for children and young people with EHCPs.

## Moving on from the Resource Bases...

When children in the Resourced Provision or SEN Units are old enough to leave their school some may be able to transfer into a middle, secondary or upper school without a resource base. Others will continue to need support and may transfer into the Resourced Provision at SHINE (Furze Platt Senior School) or suitable provision at another school, which may be out of the borough. These decisions will be made on an individual basis, in consultation with pupils, their families and the schools.

## More details...

We have published a draft Good Practice Guide for the proposed resource bases, which you can find on our website at <https://rbwm.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/local-offer/information-and-advice/send-consultation-hub-and-resource-bank/consultations>. This gives more detail about how the Resourced Provision and SEN Units will help children with social communication difficulties and related behaviours.

# What options have we considered?

The Royal Borough has been in discussions with a number of schools over the past year and we are now consulting on options for Resource Bases at five sites:

- SEN Unit or Resourced Provision, at:
  - [Hilltop First School](#) in Windsor.
- Resourced Provision, at:
  - The Dedworth ([Dedworth Green First](#) & [Dedworth Middle](#)) campus in Windsor.
  - The Furze Platt Primary Federation ([Furze Platt Infant](#) & [Furze Platt Junior](#)) in Maidenhead.
  - [Homer First School](#) in Windsor.
  - [Wraysbury Primary School](#) in Wraysbury.

There are more details about these specific options on the next few pages. The map on the back page of this consultation shows where these schools are located.

# The Dedworth Campus

Dedworth Green First School and Dedworth Green Middle School are located in west Windsor. Dedworth Green is for children aged 3 to 9, including its nursery class; Dedworth Middle is for children aged 9 to 13. Both schools are academies and part of the Windsor Learning Partnership.

The proposal is for Resourced Provision, which means that children attending will spend more of their time in mainstream classes. The provision would be operated jointly as one facility across the two schools, helping children as they move up from Dedworth Green to Dedworth Middle.

There is enough space on site for the new facility, and we are working with the school on plans for where it could go.

The proposal will only result in a maximum of ten additional children at the schools, so there will be minimal impact on traffic and parking.

## Dedworth Green First School

Headteacher:	Louise Brown
School address:	Smiths Lane Windsor SL4 5PE
School type:	Academy
Ofsted Inspection Judgement:	Good (November 2018 Short Inspection)
Website:	<a href="http://www.dedworthgreenfirst.com/web">http://www.dedworthgreenfirst.com/web</a>



## Dedworth Middle School

Headteacher:	Andy Titheridge
School address:	Smiths Lane Windsor SL4 5PE
School type:	Academy
Ofsted Inspection Judgement:	Requires Improvement (October 2018)
Website:	<a href="https://www.dedworthmiddle.co.uk/">https://www.dedworthmiddle.co.uk/</a>



View of the Headteachers and Governing Bodies at both schools:

*"Both Dedworth Middle School and Dedworth Green First School have served the educational needs of the families in the Windsor area for many years, providing an coherent learning pathway from Reception up to Year 8. We make provision for the full range of learners and the proposed Resource Provision would enhance our ability to meet the needs of those particular children in a meaningful way. The benefits of such a provision would also have a very positive impact on other students within the schools."*

# The Furze Platt Primary Federation

Furze Platt Infant School and Furze Platt Junior School are located in north Maidenhead. Furze Platt Infant is for children aged 4 to 7; Furze Platt Junior is for children aged 7 to 11. Both schools are community schools, and together form the Furze Platt Primary Federation, with one Headteacher and Governing Body. The two schools have been awarded the nationally recognised Inclusion Quality Mark.

The proposal is for Resourced Provision, which means that children attending will spend more of their time in mainstream classes. The provision would be operated jointly as one facility across the two schools.

There is enough space on site for the new facility, and we are working with the school on plans for where it could go.

The proposal will only result in a maximum of ten additional children at the schools, so there will be minimal impact on traffic and parking.

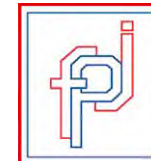
## Furze Platt Infant School

Headteacher:	Mike Wallace
School address:	Oaken Grove, Maidenhead, SL6 6HQ
School type:	Community
Ofsted Inspection Judgement:	Good (May 2018 Short Inspection)
Website:	<a href="https://www.furzeplatinfantschool.co.uk/">https://www.furzeplatinfantschool.co.uk/</a>



## Furze Platt Junior School

Headteacher:	Mike Wallace
School address:	Oaken Grove, Maidenhead, SL6 6HQ
School type:	Community
Ofsted Inspection Judgement:	Outstanding (December 2018)
Website:	<a href="https://www.furzeplattjuniorschool.co.uk/">https://www.furzeplattjuniorschool.co.uk/</a>



View of the Headteacher and Governing Body of Furze Platt Primary Federation:

*"Furze Platt Infant and Junior Schools have excellent reputations as inclusive and supportive schools. Both provide an excellent, enriched education to all children; the diversity of the schools supports all children to learn and grow together as one community."*

*The staff and governors recognise the need for a Resource Provision and believe that this site would be an excellent choice for these children to reach their full potential and continue on their education journey."*

# Hilltop First School

Hilltop First School is located in west Windsor, and is a school for children aged 3 to 9, including its nursery class. Hilltop First School is a community school.

The school are prepared to consider either an SEN Unit or Resourced Provision. Children attending an SEN Unit will spend more of their time in the unit, but will still attend some mainstream classes in the school. Children attending Resourced Provision will be able to spend most of their time in mainstream classes at the school. They will spend some time receiving extra support in the provision itself.

There is enough space on site for the new facility, and we are working with the school on plans for where it could go.

The proposal will only result in a maximum of ten additional children at the school, so there will be minimal impact on traffic and parking.

## Hilltop First School

Headteacher:	Lynn Bima
School address:	Clewer Hill Road, Windsor, SL4 4DW
School type:	Community
Ofsted Inspection Judgement:	Outstanding (May 2010)
Website:	<a href="https://www.hilltopfirst.co.uk/">https://www.hilltopfirst.co.uk/</a>



View of the Headteacher and Governing Body of Hilltop First School:

*"Hilltop First School recognises each child as unique and values their place within our community. The staff and governors want to promote the best possible outcome for every pupil, and always try to offer support that is right for each child. This facility would allow us to meet the needs of children in the local area needing something more specific within a welcoming wider school community."*

# Homer First School

Homer First School is located in west Windsor, and is a school for children aged 3 to 9, including its nursery class. Homer First School is a community school.

The proposal is for Resourced Provision, which means that children attending will spend more of their time in mainstream classes.

There is enough space on site for the new facility, and we are working with the school on plans for where it could go.

The proposal will only result in a maximum of ten additional children at the schools, so there will be minimal impact on traffic and parking.

## Homer First School

Headteachers:	Vicky Brand and Gemma Sharma
School address:	Testwood Road, Windsor, SL4 5RL
School type:	Community
Ofsted Inspection Judgement:	Good (February 2017 Short Inspection)
Website:	<a href="https://www.homerfirstschool.co.uk/">https://www.homerfirstschool.co.uk/</a>



View of the Headteacher and Governing Body of Homer First School:

*"Homer First School has expertise and a wealth of experience in supporting the needs of pupils with social communication difficulties and related behaviours. We are an inclusive setting, and we are fully committed to meeting the needs of our individual children. We work effectively alongside parents and other professionals to ensure that all pupils reach their potential."*



# Wraysbury Primary School

Wraysbury Primary School is located in the village of Wraysbury, and is a school for children aged 4 to 11. Wraysbury Primary School is a community school.

The proposal is for Resourced Provision, which means that children attending will spend more of their time in mainstream classes.

There is enough space on site for the new facility, and we are working with the school on plans for where it could go.

The proposal will only result in a maximum of ten additional children at the schools, so there will be minimal impact on traffic and parking.

## Wraysbury Primary School

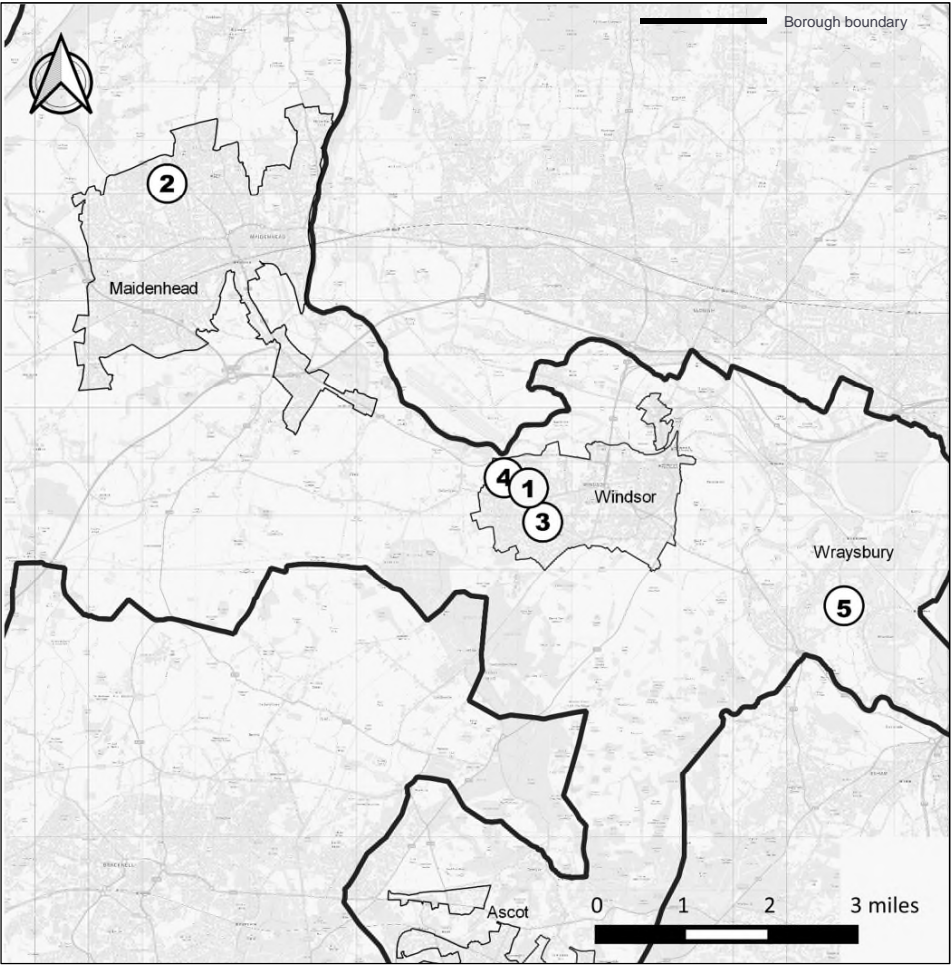
Headteacher:	Alison Fox
School address:	Welley Road, Wraysbury, Staines, TW19 5DJ
School type:	Community
Ofsted Inspection Judgement:	Good (September 2017 Short Inspection)
Website:	<a href="https://www.wraysburyprimary.co.uk/website">https://www.wraysburyprimary.co.uk/website</a>



View of the Headteacher and Governing Body of Wraysbury Primary School:

*“Wraysbury Primary School is a fully inclusive school and has a long-standing reputation for meeting the needs of children with social communication difficulties and related behaviours. We have a range of staff already well trained and experienced in meeting the needs of these pupils, and they are keen to bring the specialist provision to the school.”*

# Map showing possible resource base sites



The map above shows the possible locations for the new resource bases in the Royal Borough.

1. Dedworth Green First School and Dedworth Middle School.
2. The Furze Platt Primary Federation.
3. Hilltop First School.
4. Homer First School.
5. Wraysbury First School.

# Pull-out Response Form

Have your say about the proposed new SEN resource bases.

## You can respond by:

- Using this pull-out form and sending it direct to the address at the end of the form.
- Writing to Resource Bases Consultation, using the address at the end of the form.
- Emailing [schoolplaces@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:schoolplaces@achievingforchildren.org.uk).

You can also respond online at <https://rbwm.afcinfo.org.uk/pages/local-offer/information-and-advice/send-consultation-hub-and-resource-bank/consultations>

The closing date for your responses is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

## Section 1 – about you

Please note that responses must be attributable to named individuals or organisations. Responses will be published, but all personal data will be removed. By submitting your response, you give us permission to analyse and include your response in our results, in line with our privacy notice. This also provides more information on data protection: <https://www.achievingforchildren.org.uk/privacy-notice/>.

1. Name:

2. Address:

Postcode:

3. I am (please put an 'X' against the appropriate box(es) and insert school name(s) where applicable):

A parent/carer of one or more children at:	<input type="text"/>	X
A school governor at:	<input type="text"/>	X
A member of staff at a school:	<input type="text"/>	X
Other (please specify):	<input type="text"/>	X

4. If you are a parent or carer of one or more children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), it would be very helpful if you could please put an 'X' below, and indicate their special educational need(s) in the comment box below.

Yes, I am a parent or carer of one or more children with an EHCP:

Please indicate the special educational needs or the child or children:



## Section 2 – New Resourced Provision and SEN Units – Your Views

5. Do you agree that the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead should open new Resourced Provision and/or SEN Units for children with social communication difficulties and related behaviours?

Please put an 'X' against your chosen answer.

Yes, the Royal Borough **should** open new Resourced Provision and/or SEN Units for children with social communication difficulties and related behaviours. ☐

No, the Royal Borough **should not** open new Resourced Provision and/or SEN Units for children with social communication difficulties and related behaviours. ☐

I **don't know** whether the Royal Borough should open new Resourced Provision and/or SEN Units for children with social communication difficulties and related behaviours. ☐

I **have no view** on whether the Royal Borough should open new Resourced Provision and/or SEN Units for children with social communication difficulties and related behaviours. ☐

Comments. If you have any comments relating to the opening of new resource bases please give these below (you may use a separate sheet if necessary).

The closing date for your responses is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

Section 2 continued...

6. Do you agree that the Royal Borough should open new Resource Bases at the following schools?

Please indicate your views on each option by putting an 'X' against your chosen answer. There are two options for Hilltop First School, who are considering both Resourced Provision and an SEN Unit.

	Yes	No	Don't know	No view
<b>Dedworth Campus</b> (Resourced Provision)	X	X	X	X
<b>Furze Platt Primary Federation</b> (Resourced Provision)	X	X	X	X
<b>Hilltop First School</b> (Resourced Provision)	X	X	X	X
<b>Hilltop First School</b> (SEN Unit)	X	X	X	X
<b>Homer First School</b> (Resourced Provision)	X	X	X	X
<b>Wraysbury Primary School</b> (Resourced Provision)	X	X	X	X

Comments. If you have any comments relating to the specific proposals for new Resource bases, please give these below and overleaf (you may use a separate sheet if necessary).

The closing date for your responses is Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020.

Section 2 continued...

6. Comments continued.

Please return this form to:

Resource Bases Consultation, Zone D, Town Hall, St Ives Road, Maidenhead, SL6 1RF

All views received by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2020 will be taken into account before any final decisions are made.

If you have any questions about the proposals or need further information, please email [schoolplaces@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:schoolplaces@achievingforchildren.org.uk).