

# New Special Free School Stage 2



# Hillingdon Context

- The London Borough of Hillingdon is the second largest of London's 33 boroughs, situated to the West of the capital. It has a unique location, bordering three neighbouring London Authorities (Ealing, Harrow and Hounslow) as well as four Local Authorities outside of London which come under three counties (Buckinghamshire, Hertfordshire and Surrey). According to Census 2021, the population is 305,900 of which 19,882 (6.5%) are aged 0 to 4 years, 20,469 (6.7%) are aged 5-9 years, 19,995 (6.5%) are aged 10-14 years and 18,557 (6.1%) are aged 15-19; in total, 25.8% of the borough population is aged 0-19.
- The council, along with many other local authorities across the UK, found itself with a deficit due to the growth in demand for special educational needs (SEN) provision greatly exceeding the government funding provided over the past eight years.
- The Local Authority is trying to develop an expansion of in-borough SEND school places and investment in early intervention measures, such as supporting mainstream schools to enable greater inclusion and targeted intervention for children aged 0-5.
- Central to our vision is continuing to strengthen our relationships with children and their families, with a clear focus on co-production. We are committed to create an environment where all our children and young people are able to achieve their goals in education and have the help they need to prepare for adulthood.



# New Special Free School Application

- **School** - The London Borough of Hillingdon was successful in a bid for a 180 place Special Free School for pupils with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) with associated complex needs Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) and Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD)
- **Need** - The total number of pupils with a primary need of ASC within our resident EHCP cohort as of May 2023 is 1343, with 519 pupils within primary school, 464 within secondary and 360 in FE educational settings. As of the January 2023 School Census there are 865 pupils within our 5 specialist settings across the Local Authority that meet the need of pupils with ASC. The projected increase in EHCPs with ASC as a primary need until 2025 is 39% and as a LA we do not have the capacity to meet this demand with currently available provision.
- **In-Borough** - Future need is to ensure children and young people with a profile of ASC with associated complex needs (MLD/SLD) have their needs met within the borough. This bid is one of the nine projects listed as part of the safety valve agreement with the DfE



# Commissioned Places

- Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) as a prime need with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) or Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD)
- Early Years, Primary, Secondary and 16-19
  - Nursery Places – 10
  - 16-19 Places - 20
- £10k per place (base funding) plus top up funding. The top up funding will be allocated through resource allocation system in line with the children and young people's needs outlined in their EHCP.
- The expectation is that this free school will share their best practice and expertise through outreach to all education settings. They will lead on training offers together with other providers ensuring that there is collaborative and inclusive approach to meet the complex needs across the borough. This support is to be extended to the planned specialist resource provisions, specialist assessment base and Unit within mainstream settings over the next few years.



# Pathway

- **DESIGNATION:** The new Free Special School will be **a specialist school for children and young people aged 3-19 years, who have been diagnosed with Autistic Spectrum Conditions (ASC).**
- Students will be taught in 3 pathways where curriculum will be designed to meet their special educational needs related to Autism and cognitive abilities.
- Pathway 1- students with Autism and Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD)
- Pathway 2- students with Autism and Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD)
- Pathway 3- students with Autism, Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD), and challenging Behaviour



# Phased Opening Over 2 Years

	Year of opening	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6
Nursery	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Reception	4	6	6	6	6	6	6
Key stage 1 (Y1-2)	11	19	19	19	19	19	19
Key stage 2 (Y3-6)	30	45	45	45	45	45	45
Key stage 3 (Y7-9)	40	45	45	45	45	45	45
Key stage 4 (Y10-11)	30	35	35	35	35	35	35
16-19: commissioner referred	10	20	20	20	20	20	20
<b>Totals</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>	<b>180</b>



# Following the announcement of the Successful Trust...

- Initial meeting
- Timeframes and process
- Curriculum development
- Learner placements process
- Support requirements
- Pathways development
- Contract negotiations
- Monitoring and review/KIT meetings





# Questions