

## PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PUPILS IN A SPECIAL SCHOOL

Based on Department for Education statutory guidance:

*'Making significant changes ('prescribed alterations') to maintained schools: Statutory guidance for proposers and decision makers', DfE, October 2018*

[DfE, Making significant changes \('prescribed alterations'\) to maintained schools, Oct. 2018.pdf](#)

### **Statutory proposal for change in number of pupils in a special school**

Contact details in respect of a Local Authority proposal: School and Authority details:

1. The name, address and category of the school affected:

- **Derrymount Special School,  
Upper School,  
Sherbrook Rd,  
Daybrook,  
Nottingham,  
NG5 6AT**
- **Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC)  
County Hall,  
West Bridgford,  
Nottingham NG2 7QP  
Janet Bacon (Senior Place Planning Officer)  
0115 9772402 / [place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk)**

Implementation:

2. It is proposed that

From January 2023, the expansion of the Derrymount Upper School site in Daybrook will allow the school to offer an additional 20 places in a two classroom modular-build extension, plus associated external and car park works.

As Derrymount is a local authority maintained special school, NCC is required to undertake a statutory consultation since the roll of this special school is planned to increase by +10% [see p.11 [DfE, Making significant changes \('prescribed alterations'\) to maintained schools, Oct. 2018.pdf](#) ]

## Reason for change:

Nottinghamshire's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Place Planning Strategy (2021-2026) states that:

- Despite the planned actions to develop locality working, and the ongoing commitment to inclusion, the analysis of the continuing demand for specialist educational placements ... will require the County Council to increase provision over the next five years.
- This pressure for additional placements exists now... as an additional 275-490 places in specialist provision (*are needed*) by September 2026, with up to 239 places required for September 2023.
- Additional places (*will*) ... be focused on the ... Gedling district to meet ... current growth in demand.
- ... Most of the additional placements (*will be*) ... located ... on existing mainstream school sites ... to allow opportunities for integration and access to the National Curriculum. This is especially important for the cohort of children and young people with social, emotional, and mental health needs.

Therefore, NCC is proposing the expansion of a current Special School, Derrymount, where the Upper School site does allow enlargement, permitting 20 extra places to be available for local young people mainly with an Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC).

## Pupil numbers and admissions:

### **Pupil numbers:**

The current capacity of Derrymount Special school is 84. Following this proposed expansion, the capacity of Derrymount will rise to 104.

### **Growth:**

All 20 additional places will be allocated during the Spring Term 2022/23.

### **Admissions:**

The allocation of additional places at this Special School will continue to be managed by the Statutory Education Health & Care Assessment Team of NCC's Integrated Children's Disability Service (ICDS). Places will be allocated to those children with Education and Health Care Plans (EHCPs) specifying specialist provision which can be offered at Derrymount.

## Displaced pupils:

There will be no pupils displaced.

## Impact on the community:

The proposed increase in roll at Derrymount will:

- increase the school's capacity to place pupils with SEND who move into the area and who might be without a special school place.
- provide an opportunity to employ more specialist teachers in the field of Attachment Disorder, Trauma-related issues and Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD).
- create an opportunity to host more teacher training places at the school, thus increasing the special needs experience of teachers for the future.
- reduce the need for pupils with SEND to be placed at a greater distance from where they live, or to move to independent provision.
- improve the outcomes for pupils with SEND, as this school differs from other special schools in that it offers a wide range of qualifications including GCSEs.
- increase the opportunity to place pupils with a history of school refusal due to anxiety, allowing them to re-engage with education.
- increase the school's capacity to meet the needs of its most 'difficult to place' students.
- increase the capacity of local special schools.
- enhance opportunities to build partnerships with local mainstream schools

## Travel:

The Local Authority is confident that the school site will be easily accessible to existing and new pupils using current means of transport.

**If you wish to respond to the consultation on this proposal please send written comments to:**

- The Corporate Director of Children, Families and Cultural Services (for the attention of Pupil Place Planning), Support to Schools Service, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottingham, NG2 7QP or by email to [place.planning@nottsc.gov.uk](mailto:place.planning@nottsc.gov.uk)
- Comments may be submitted online at [Nottinghamshire County Council - Citizen Space](#) (see **View our consultations**)
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**To be received no later than 23:59 hrs on 12 December 2022**

## Consultation Response Form

### STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON CHANGE IN NUMBER OF PUPILS AT DERRYMOUNT SPECIAL SCHOOL

If you wish to respond to the consultation, you can share your views by:

- Completing the online survey on Nottinghamshire County Council's consultation hub  
<https://consult.nottinghamshire.gov.uk>
- Emailing Nottinghamshire County Council at [place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk](mailto:place.planning@nottscc.gov.uk)
- Requesting a paper copy of this consultation from:  
*Pupil Place Planning, Education Learning and Skills, Children and Families Services, Nottinghamshire County Council, County Hall, West Bridgford, Nottinghamshire, NG2 7QP* - to which your response should be returned.

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Do you have any comments regarding the increase in the number of pupils at Derrymount Special School?

**It will help us to analyse responses if we know more about you.**

**Please complete the following details:  
(Please tick and complete all boxes that apply)**

I am a:

Parent / Carer	Which school do(es) your child(ren) attend?
Governor	At which school?
Member of Staff	At which school?
Pupil	At which school?
Other	Please specify (e.g., resident)
What is your post code?	