

9th February 2024

Dear Consultee,

Perins School, proposed addition of resourced provision for children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH needs).

We are writing to invite your views in respect of joint proposal between Perins School and Hampshire County Council to establish a resourced provision for young people with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH) identified within an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) at Perins School, New Alresford.

The new provision is required as there has been an increase in the number of children with SEMH needs across Hampshire. It is also needed to support the Hampshire wide strategy of offering support for pupils to access mainstream education close to their local community but with additional support tailored to their individual needs.

The proposed new provision will cater for up to 15 pupils in total with a phased opening over 3 years - 6 pupils initially, in Year 7 or 8 who require specialist support to manage their anxieties and mental health, in order to participate and progress in the secondary curriculum.

This will be available from September 2024 with the number of admissions reviewed at the end of each academic year, leading to a maximum capacity of 15 pupils over time.

Where a Local Authority and Academy proposes to establish Special Education Needs provision at a mainstream school, it must consult on the proposal following a set procedure.

Establishing Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH) provision at Perins School.

Perins is a secondary school catering for over 1,100 11–16-year-olds. We are an inclusive school committed to providing a broad and balanced, rich, and diverse educational experience for all our students, with the belief that everyone is entitled to high levels of individual achievement, care and support.

A resourced provision (RP) enables children to benefit from accessing the curriculum, teaching and learning and all the social opportunities that are available in a mainstream school, with the addition of a high level of support. An RP acts as a calming and nurturing environment for pupils to learn and work in if they are feeling anxious or unsure and a safe place to go to calm if they are feeling frustrated or overwhelmed.

With the flexibility of a resourced provision, it offers a safe and secure space when a pupil needs it and a trusted adult available to support once they are ready to return to class. It enables the rules and boundaries of a mainstream school to be applied to all, with the flexibility to support pupils with needs in a range of different ways.

The Perins MAT registered office: Perins School. Pound Hill Alresford. Hampshire. SO24 9BS Tel: 01962 734361 school@perins.hants.sch.uk www.perins.net



Sun Hill Junior School. Sun Lane. Alresford. Hampshire. SO24 9NB Tel: 01962 732801 adminoffice@sunhill-jun.hants.sch.uk www.sunhilljuniorschool.co.uk The Local Authority already have a number of SEMH resourced provisions across the County in both Primary and Secondary settings. These provisions offer support to children who have difficulty accessing mainstream education on a full-time basis and require additional support to do.

To accommodate the increased number of pupils, it is proposed to install a new two-classroom modular building in the garden area, previously used for the nursery. This location has easy access from the bus bays and drop off from the car park and is adjacent to the main school site. A two-classroom unit is proposed to include toilets, office, storage, and small group rooms to create a safe and secure space for the pupils. In addition to these RP spaces, the pupils would access everything that Perins has to offer.

The Consultation

This consultation will run from Friday 9th February to Monday 11th March (midday). Council and School staff will then take into consideration all the consultation responses before deciding whether to submit a full business case to the Department for Education Regional Director for formal approval.

Further Information

A public drop-in event will be held at the school on 22 February 2024 between 3pm and 6pm in Perins Main School Hall. If you are unable to make this, please send in your views and queries by email to consultation@perins.hants.sch.uk.

These details are also available <u>on our school webpage here</u>. This page includes some 'Frequently Asked Questions' that may address any queries you have.

If you are unable to email or visit the above website and wish to make a comment then please write to Mr S Jones, CEO/Executive Head, The Perins MAT, Pound Hill, Alresford, SO24 9BS.

Yours Sincerely

Mr S Jones

Executive Head/CEO The Perins MAT

Mr M Nevola

Head of Perins School