



# **Consultation on a proposal to provide 14 additional places at Ickburgh Special School from September 2021**

**Consultation period: 19 May - 15 June 2021**

## Consultation on a proposal to provide 14 additional places at Ickburgh Special School from September 2021

### **Ickburgh School**

Ickburgh School is a special school on Kenworthy Road in Hackney E5 providing education for pupils aged 2-19 with profound and multiple learning difficulties (PMLD), Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) and Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD). The school building was completed in 2014 and designed to accommodate 150 pupils with PMLD and SLD. Ickburgh offers high standards of education and has an Ofsted rating of 'Good' (July 2014).

### **Increasing number of Education, Health & Care Plans**

In recent years, the number of children and young people in Hackney with EHCPs (Education, Health & Care Plans) has increased, with a marked upwards trend between 2009 and 2021. This trend also occurred across London.

The number of pupils and young people identified with an Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) has accounted for a significant proportion of the increase in EHCPs in Hackney. From 2019-20 there was an increase of 15%, and last year (2020) the highest number of pupils and young people with a primary need of ASC was recorded (586). An increase in the number of pupils and young people with a primary need of SLD was also seen - up by 6%.

If the number of EHCPs continue to grow at the rates seen over the last few years, with no additional SEND places created, Hackney Education projects that there will be an increase of 400 SEND pupils and young people each year from now (2021) until 2026.

### **How will additional SEND places be provided?**

This proposal seeks to create 14 additional places for pupils and young people with PMLD, ASC and SLD at Ickburgh School from September 2021. This would take the total number of places available at the school to 164.

### **When will the changes take place?**

Building works are planned to take place over the summer and autumn holiday periods 2021 to make the school building suitable to accommodate the additional pupils. The adaptations will include providing additional storage space on the school site to release space within the main building to provide classrooms; additional toilet facilities; associated staff facilities and the relocation of a bike store to provide additional space for bus parking.

It is intended that the majority of the building works will take place over the summer holidays 2021 with the external storage facility being provided during the autumn term but outside school hours.

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### Consultation timeline

The proposal to add additional pupils at Ickburgh School from September 2021 is a non-statutory change. This means that the legal process for admitting 14 more pupils each year is shorter than if more than 14 pupils were admitted. The timeline below sets out the consultation period for this proposal.

Date	Activity	End date
19 May 2021	Non-statutory consultation period	15 June 2021 (4 weeks)
9 July 2021	Comments received during the consultation are considered by Hackney Education's Senior Leadership Team (SLT).  A decision on the proposal is made by SLT.	-

If you wish to comment on this proposal please use the online form [here](https://education.hackney.gov.uk/consultations) (education.hackney.gov.uk/consultations).

If you have specific questions about the SEND provision being proposed, please contact [Joe Wilson](mailto:joe.wilson@hackney.gov.uk) (joe.wilson@hackney.gov.uk).

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### **Questions & Answers**

#### **Why has Ickburgh been chosen to accommodate additional pupils - why can't another special school take more pupils?**

This proposal seeks to create more places for pupils in Hackney with the most significant Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. The building was specifically designed for this group of pupils. No other special school in Hackney is set up to admit and teach pupils with Profound & Multiple Learning Difficulties.

#### **Will Covid safe processes be in place for contractors on site ?**

All contractors will be required to carry out the construction work in accordance with COVID safe practices.

#### **My child currently attends Ickburgh and receives transport to and from school. Will this continue once more pupils are admitted?**

Home to school transport is provided on an individual basis and will continue should pupils continue to meet the criteria.

#### **How will the additional children get a place at the school - will there be a waiting list?**

Pupils will continue to be allocated based on need and by the Council's Education, Health and Care Panel.

#### **How is this being paid for?**

The provision is being provided through the SEND Special Provision Capital Fund.

#### **Who makes the final decision on whether the increase of places at Ickburgh School goes ahead?**

Once the consultation period has concluded and the responses received (if any) are collated and analysed, a report will be submitted to the Senior Leadership Team at Hackney Education for consideration and decision making.