

B&NES Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Capital Program - Briefing & Consultation Document – Update July 2020

What is the SEND Capital Program?

The SEND Capital Fund Program is a joint funded approach to increasing educational placements for children with SEND in the local area by developing existing provision in mainstream schools, special schools and colleges. This work began in 2017.

Where is funding for these additional school places coming from?

The Local Authority will be awarded £979k by the DFE over 3 years. The funding must be spent to increase provision and school places for children with an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). For more information on this please follow the link below;

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/send-provision-capital-funding-for-pupils-with-ehc-plans>

To support this work the Local Authority has also allocated an additional £500k to the development of this capital program. The Local Authority will also be looking to invest additional investment to enable us to complete our plans

What have we done?

Over the last 18 months the Local Authority has carried out work to understand the needs and growth of our local population of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) in particular we have been keen to understand what additional educational capacity we need for children with EHCP's. This needs analysis has informed our planning of future provision and can be found by following the link below;

[Special Educational Needs | Bathnes](#)

This work has been led by B&NES Public Health and been shared widely with schools, education providers, health colleagues and our local parent carer forum. This analysis, along with an extensive self-assessment and feedback from parents & carers has helped us develop our strategic priorities to ensure we can meet the needs educationally of our growing population of children with EHCP's within B&NES. Our plans to continue to provide the best support and education placements for children with SEND are captured in our Education Strategy, which can be viewed [here](#).

What have we selected to support our strategic needs?

Based on our needs analysis and through planning with local providers we are working on the following projects below to develop additional SEND school places within B&NES. In particular we are mindful of the need to increase EHCP places for children with Autism (ASD) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health Difficulties (SEMH)

The plans include continuing to support the needs of children in mainstream schools through the addition of Resource Bases and creating additional capacity within our Special Schools. We are also in the early stages of planning for the development of a new Special School. We

have also developed our post 16 options to ensure that we are able to provide provision that supports children to continue their education training and employment within their local area.

The following list describes projects that have either been completed, are underway or at the planning stage. If a school is not named in the list it is because the relevant statutory consultation to formalise the development has not yet been carried by that school/ multi-academy trust to enable us to provide exact details of the provider at this stage.

This document outlines the developments that the local authority is supporting or is proposing to support.

Each project when it is being proposed and then developed has to go through a process of consultation in order to either expand or be developed. This process is governed by the Department of Education and there are different procedures depending on whether they are academies, maintained schools, or a college.

Completed project, projects underway and proposed developments – June 2016

Post 16

Bath College – Completed development of existing site on the Midsomer Norton campus. This has created an additional 53 SEND Post 16 Places for children with EHCP's. focusing on life skills & employability. This provision opened in September 2018. By 2020/21 the total increased number of spaces will be 114.

<https://www.bathcollege.ac.uk/help-advice/send-inclusion-service>

Mainstream Schools

St Nicholas Primary School, Norton Radstock –Development of a resource base for up to 10 children with SEMH aged 5 -11 – This provision opened in September 2019.

[Welcome to St Nicholas CofE Primary School \(Radstock\)](#)

St Martins Garden Primary School – Margaret Coates Resource Base, Bath – We have supported the school to provide an interim solution to increase capacity from 23 to 29 for 5 years. During this time we will look at site options to create a permanent solution, we will also look at the possibility of a secondary pathway for this Resource Base.

<http://www.stmartinsgarden.org.uk/margaret-coates/margaret-coates-centre>

Broadlands Secondary School - Resource Base – Completed development providing an additional 12 mainstream secondary school spaces for children with SEMH Aged 11-16 – Completed Sept 2018. Information regarding this provision can be found by following the link below;

[Connect](#)

St. Mark's Academy (Secondary) – Resource Base - We have supported the academy to provide an additional 7 mainstream secondary school spaces for young people with moderate learning difficulties with EHCP's. This will be completed and open from September 2020.

<https://www.st-marks.org.uk/>

Oldfield Secondary School – Resource Base Proposed development of a Resource Base for 15 -20 children and young people with EHCP's aged 11-18. In particular the provision is being considered to support children with Autism with a focus on those children with aspirations to go on to A – Level study. Planning permission has been granted for this project with a potential opening in January 2021.

<http://www.oldfieldschool.com/>

Special Schools

Aspire Special School – Agreed development following permission by the DFE for the school to expand. This will provide an additional 18 placements for children & young people with aged 5- 18. This increases the overall capacity of the school to 54 places. This expansion opened in September 2019

[Welcome to Aspire Academy](#)

B&NES Multi- Academy Trust - Planning is underway to develop a new Special School, creating an overall total of 120 additional EHCP Placements for child with Autism together with Social, Emotional and Mental Health difficulties aged 5 – 18. An interim completion date has been set for this project of September 2021. Further information to be provided when additional details are available. The formal consultation process closed on 13th July.

When will the developments happen?

Some of the projects have been completed and we aim to have completed all the projects by September 2021.

How do I provide any comments I might have on these developments and proposals?

Please email any comments on our plans to Rebecca Claridge –
rebecca_claridge@bathnes.gov.uk