

# Wood End Park Academy



Friday 9th September 2022

## **Proposal to open a Special Educational Needs (SENd) Unit at Wood End Park Academy from September 2023**

### **Introduction**

- Wood End Park Academy is a primary Academy in the London Borough of Hillingdon for pupils aged 3 - 11. It has a 'Good' rating from Ofsted from the most recent inspection in 2017. The school has a Reception year published admission number (PAN) of 150 and this is reducing to 120 with effect from September 2023.
- A Special Educational Needs (SENd) Unit can be defined as 'a mainstream school teaching space where places are reserved for children who have a specific type of SEND which requires an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), and who are taught mainly within their own classes, requiring a base and specialist facilities within, the school concerned'.

### **The Proposal**

- To establish a SENd Unit for children requiring additional support for Autism and/or moderate learning difficulties and/or severe learning difficulties at Wood End Park academy.
- The SENd unit will build up its pupil numbers over a time frame (to be confirmed with the local authority), up to a capacity of 24 children. Children will have an EHCP, and will be admitted in addition to the schools PAN.
- All pupils will be on the school roll of Wood End Park Academy
- The SENd unit will be located in specialist, dedicated accommodation within the Wood End Park Academy site. This will consist of dedicated classrooms, a therapy room and external space. The school has identified an area of its site that can be used for this facility without a negative effect on its current educational offer, and any future increase to be fully subscribed in all year groups.
- The SENd Unit will have a member of staff designated as the leader. The structure of the staff will develop as the unit grows. Ultimately the management and responsibility will lie with the Principal
- The governors of Wood End Park Academy will have oversight of the SENd Unit

### **Rationale**

- In the local authority of Hillingdon there is a rising number of children with an EHCP which specifies moderate or severe learning difficulties.
- Current provision within the local authority requires expansion to ensure the needs of these children are fully met.

## **Finance and Resourcing**

- The capital funding required to convert some of the school's existing accommodation for this purpose will be entirely provided from an allocation of funding which the local authority has received as High Needs Capital Funding.
- The local authority will then provide on-going revenue funding to pay for the costs of staffing and resourcing the SRP through top up funding for each student place.
- Wood End Park Academy will recruit additional staff for the SENd Unit, using this funding.
- The specialist staff employed to lead the SRP will also provide Continuing Professional development to the school's overall staffing and will help to provide additional expertise to enable all staff to provide the best, inclusive education to pupils in the school.

## **Consultation, approvals and timescales**

- The proposal is that the SENd Unit opens at Wood End Park Academy on 1 September 2023. The proposed change requires a period of consultation, the publication of Statutory Notices and the agreement of the local authority if the proposal is to proceed.
- The consultation will open on Friday 9th September 2022 and will run for four weeks until Friday 7th October 2022. During this period, Wood End Park Academy will publish a Statutory Notice and share its proposals with local schools including head teachers and chairs of governors, partner agencies, local residents and with the staff and parents of the Academy.
- The consultation will include a dedicated postal address and email address for comments.
- Following the consultation process, the feedback will be summarised as part of feedback to the local authority, the governors (our Academy Council) and the Board.

## **Key Information**

- Friday 9th September – consultation open
- Friday 7th October – consultation closes

If you have any comments about this proposal, please submit them by email to: [wepaoffice@theparkfederation.org](mailto:wepaoffice@theparkfederation.org) with the subject 'SENd Unit Consultation 2023' or in writing to:

Ms S Johra  
Principal  
Wood End Park Academy  
Judge Heath Lane  
Hayes  
Middlesex, UB3 2PD

Yours sincerely



Ms S Johra  
Principal