



Consultation for Admission Arrangements for Fern House School – ELT Partnership Academic Year 2022/2023 To Extend Provision and Change Designation

What are we proposing?

Fern House School is a SEMH Special School and part of the ELT Partnership. The school currently has pupils in Key Stage 1,2,3 and 4 and is temporarily sited on the grounds of Chesterfield Primary School, while a new purpose-built school is being built, with the planned completion date of November 2022.

When the existing pupils move to the new build school in November 2022, Fern House School would like to utilise existing space available on the Chesterfield site (this will become available from November 2022) to create additional pupil places that are required in Enfield. The school would like to increase by 40 places across the two sites.

The school is currently designated for SEMH and would like to also be designated to include children with ASD in order to offer more places to meet the needs of the local community.

Why are we consulting?

Academies are their own admission authority and must meet all mandatory provisions of the School Admission Codes except where variations have been written into their funding agreement to support fair access.

We consult on our admission arrangements to ensure transparency and openness on the contents of our arrangements and to allow parents, carers and other stakeholders who might not previously been interested in admission arrangements (perhaps because they didn't have a child of school age) to make a representation that can then be considered as part of the determination of the arrangements.

Key aspects for consideration

The proposal is considered to have the following educational benefits:

- Pupils would join the Fern House roll but with the ambition that reintegration to mainstream/consideration for alternative special provision to meet their needs would be considered regularly.
- Pupils would benefit from the attachment-aware, trauma informed approach. This would be adapted to meet the needs all pupils. This approach would also incorporate the 6 nurturing principles and be run as a hybrid of traditional nurture and strong SEMH practice. Boxall profiles would form part of the assessment.
- high-quality ASD practice including teach approach, free flow for indoor and outdoor learning. The curriculum would could be three strand curriculum including the academic, therapeutic and social, emotional and communication skills.
- Early intervention and high-quality SEMH and ASD support for pupils and families locally. This would then lead to a reduction in pupil behaviour and support to prevent an escalation of unmet needs for pupils, while they wait for more appropriate school places.

- Parents would receive high quality support to help their child and form effective relationships within their families and with education.
- Fern House School would have a growing roll which would support the local authority and needs of the community.
- Enfield Local Authority would have a local provision for young pupils with SEMH and ASD needs, rather than having to look outside the local area.

What are the potential disadvantages of this proposal?

- Staff would need to be carefully recruited and trained in time for expansion and change of designation
- Therapeutic work and multi-agency work will need to be carefully planned and considered to meet the needs of the pupils
- Funding for special school places will need to be agreed

Who are we consulting with?

During this statutory consultation we want to consult with as many stakeholders as possible. This includes

- Each LA which maintains an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) or statement of SEN in respect of a child attending the school
- Parents of children who attend the school
- Parents in the area
- Local schools and colleges in the area

Timetable for the Consultation Period

Consultation period

We are consulting on this proposal for four weeks, starting on WC 13.06.2022 to 15.07.2022.

What happens next?

Following the end of the consultation, the Board of Trustees will consider the views of the consultation and make a final decision on the proposed admission arrangements for 2022/23.

When would the changes come into effect?

If approved, the arrangements would be introduced for November 2022 entry onwards.

Have your say

Please let us know your thoughts by 15.07.2022 either by:

- Email - contactus@eltpartnership.org
- Post - Consultation for Admission Arrangements, ELT Partnership, Hazelbury Primary School, Haselbury Road, London N9 9TT