

## **Broadwater pre-publication consultation - proposal to close (discontinue) a maintained school**

### **Frequently asked questions**

#### **1. Consultation process**

##### **What happens during the consultation period and how will you ensure it is accessible for all?**

The consultation process has to follow the statutory guidance referenced above. Over the seven week period we will be consulting with pupils, parents and carers, staff, the governing board, other local schools and trade unions and the wider local community. We will translate all relevant material into the languages which are spoken by the school community and will pay attention to those parents and carers with additional needs to ensure their voices are heard through this engagement phase. There will be different forms of engagement, including questionnaires and a face to face QA session at which we will have interpreters.

#### **2. Finances**

##### **Is this a financially driven proposal?**

It is true that the overall schools' budgets have been impacted because of the falling rolls. There is additional pressure in school budgets generated by increased number of children with EHCPs that require additional support. This support can no longer be met in the local school communities and because of an increase reliance on costly independent placements outside Wandsworth the schools' budgets are under pressure.

#### **3. Educational provision**

##### **Will every child affected by this proposal get a place in a local school?**

There are places in nearby schools to accommodate all children. It is anticipated that every child will be offered a place in a local school within 1- 1.5 km distance from their home. We will create a separate admission process to consider all requests. We will work hard to keep siblings together and manage transitions to be a positive experience for children and their families.

For children with SEND, we will work closely with the family and SENCO to ensure appropriate provision is identified and we will aim to keep siblings together. For children with a social worker in need of help and protection, their social worker will support their individual transitions taking into account their particular family circumstances.

#### **4. Impact on the Community**

##### **How will you assess the impact of the school closure on the community?**

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken and has been shared as part of this consultation and will be reviewed and updated in line with responses received.

## **5. Staff**

### **What support will be available to staff affected by this proposal?**

We would work together with governors and school leaders to support staff as we navigate this process together. We will work with all Wandsworth school leaders to ensure we retain teaching and non-teaching talent into our local school community. We will be guided by staff in relation to their needs, but this may include CV writing, interviews skills to support them to secure future employment.

## **6. Parents**

### **What support will be available to parents whose children will be affected by this proposal?**

We will provide advice and guidance on school vacancies and admission processes. We will provide financial support towards the cost of new school uniforms. We will translate all relevant documents and provide interpreters for the face to face Question and Answer session for ease of understanding. We will facilitate conversations with local schools to support the transition process for our child(ren).