



Department  
for Education

# **Kingston Upon Hull Local Authority Special Free School**

**Seeking proposals to establish a  
Special Free School**

**Kingston Upon Hull**

**March 2019**

## SECTION ONE: OVERVIEW

### 1. Summary

The Department for Education (DfE) is working collaboratively with selected Local Authorities to establish new schools that fit within the local authorities' strategies for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and those requiring alternative provision. This opportunity is intended to identify and meet untapped demand for special and alternative provision free schools as a supplement to LAs' existing resources. If a strong proposal is received by a trust that both the Local Authority and the Secretary of State wish to take forward, DfE will provide capital funding and start-up grants subject to value for money assessments.

This document sets out the key information regarding the school that Kingston Upon Hull Local Authority will be establishing alongside DfE. Trusts should use the information within this document, alongside the engagement events, to determine whether they would like to apply to open the school, and to base their application on.

### 2. Key dates

<b>24 July 2018</b>	Special and AP free schools wave is launched – the guidance and criteria for local authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision free schools is published.
<b>11 March 2019</b>	Announcement of successful LA bids.  Competitions in successful areas subsequently open.
<b>30 September 2019 (midday)</b>	Deadline for proposers to submit applications in successful areas.
<b>Autumn 2019</b>	Kingston Upon Hull LA and DfE to evaluate submitted applications and interview trusts
<b>Winter 2019/20</b>	Approved applications announced.

### **3. Contact details and further information**

If you would like any further information or would like to discuss your application, please contact:

**Name: Julie Burns**

**Job title: Assistant City Manager – Major Projects and Infrastructure**

**Email: Julie.burns@hullcc.gov.uk**

**Tel: 01482 612547**

If you would like any further information or would like to discuss the site, please contact:

**Name: Julie Burns**

**Job title: Assistant City Manager – Major Projects and Infrastructure**

**Email: Julie.burns@hullcc.gov.uk**

**Tel: 01482 612547**

Please find below the contact details of the Regional Schools Commissioner:

**RSC: John Edwards**

**RSC's office: East Midlands and the Humber**

**Email: emh.rsc@education.gov.uk**

#### 4. Context and Planning

*Please include here details of why the local authority is running this competition and requires this school. Should this be a joint bid, please explain how the local authorities will work together and how other local authorities are involved in commissioning places.*

This is a solo bid as there is a strategic need to address the known sufficiency issues in Hull's SEND estate. Hull's two existing SLD designated special schools are at breaking point owing to historic and current demographic trends (local as well as national).

It is expected that the vast majority of the spaces will be filled by children currently receiving an education in Hull schools as well as providing places for future demand from Hull children (i.e. children not yet of school age.)

Hull is a significant net importer of pupils attending Special Schools (7% of the Special School population). Therefore increasing the number of places will directly and indirectly benefit the wider geographical area.

Between 2016 and 2018 Hull experienced a total increase of 2001 pupils or 5.2%. Over the same time frame, there was a disproportionate increase in the number of pupils with an EHCP, from 1,123 to 1,249, an increase of 126 or 11.2%.

In January 2018, of the 41,843 pupils in Hull schools, 5840 (14.0%) were on SEN support, and 1270 (3.0%) had EHCP or statements, both of which are above the national average. In comparison the city was below the national average 10 years ago, this goes someway to explain why the SEND estate is suffering from significant pressures in capacity.

When the primary need of the 2017 cohort, is compared against national figures, there are some notable exceptions;

- Hull has 10% more pupils with SLD
- 6 % more with PD
- 8% less MLD

The population, number of requests for EHCPs and actual number of EHCPs are all continuing to rise year on year. The city has a significantly higher percentage of children with EHCPs identified with SLD as their primary need than the national average (23% vs 13%).

The number on roll at our two existing SLD schools has increased from 227 in 2010 to 330 in 2018. The LA has adapted / extended these schools to create extra space and has been forced to create offsite accommodation to address this urgent need. The schools are now suffering from a lack of basic teaching space. To expand further would jeopardise the quality of education for current and future pupils.

When this over capacity issue is combined with the fact that as of January 2018, there were 37 pupils requesting and were suitable for an SLD special school that could not be placed, the need for a new SLD school is confirmed.

The case for both the need for additional provision and this designation is strengthened by the future forecast data. Projections indicate that at least an additional 54 pupils will require a place at a special school with an SLD designation by 2024.

The intent is to provide the new free school in the centre of the city – to complement the existing provision in the west and north east.

## SECTION TWO: THE SCHOOL

The tables below list key details of the school proposed. Your application must be for a school that has these key characteristics. Please note you only need to complete the relevant table depending on the type of school.

<b>Type of school</b>	Special
<b>Area of SEN provided for (please detail designation alongside additional information known about the cohort's needs and abilities)</b>	Severe Learning Difficulties (SLD)
<b>Which local authorities are committed to commissioning places?</b>	Kingston Upon Hull, City of
<b>How many places have been commissioned and by which local authority?</b>	125 places, all commissioned by Kingston Upon Hull, City of
<b>Per-pupil revenue funding the local authority would expect to pay (if a range of rates, please explain and detail the rates per pupil, including estimates for how many of the cohort will be in each band)</b>	£10,000 base rate plus £12,000 top up funding
<b>Age range</b>	4 to 19
<b>Gender (Boys/Girls/Co-educational)</b>	Co-educational
<b>Total number of proposed full time equivalent places (once school is at full capacity – this should include 16-19 places but not nursery)</b>	125
<b>Type of placements offered (e.g. full time, short term, part time)</b>	Full time
<b>Number of nursery places, if applicable</b>	0
<b>Number of 16-19 places, if applicable</b>	15

<b>Any planned outreach, training and/or reintegration support (including details of funding that will be made available to support the school with this)</b>	<p>Outreach support will be provided from the three SLD schools to mainstream schools in their locality to support partnership working and assist with the identification of pupils whose needs would be best met in specialist provision as well as those for whom reintegration is possible. This will be supported by funding from the high needs block allocation.</p> <p>The creation of the new free school places will reduce the number of children inappropriately placed in a mainstream setting and therefore free up resources to allow the mainstream providers to better meet the needs of pupils with SEND who are appropriately placed.</p>
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The table below details the number of places that the local authority proposes for each year group at the point of opening until the school is full.

	Year of opening	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6
Nursery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Reception	2	2	3	3	4	4	4
Key stage 1 (Y1-2)	5	6	8	10	10	10	10
Key stage 2 (Y3-6)	16	18	20	22	24	24	24
Key stage 3 (Y7-9)	12	24	28	32	36	36	36
Key stage 4 (Y10-11)	0	8	20	30	36	36	36
16-19: commissioner referred	0	0	2	8	15	15	15
Totals	35	58	81	105	125	125	125

### **SECTION THREE: RATIONALE AND CONTEXT FOR THE SCHOOL**

This section describes the rationale and the context in which the new school will

*3A: Please include a brief description of the existing provision in your area, future expected growth in pupil numbers and how you expect places to be filled.*

#### Existing Provision:

There is a wide range of special school provision in Hull, all of it rated good or outstanding. The schools, age ranges and designations are as follows:

Northcott, 5-16, complex ASD / SLCN

Ganton, 3-19, SLD

Tweendykes, 3-19, SLD

Frederick Holmes, 3-19, PMLD

Bridgeview, 4-11, SEMH

Oakfield, 10-16, SEMH

The total number on roll within these schools is 620, compared to 564 in 2010.

Future expected growth: The rising trends in the city's population, and number of children with SEN Support and EHCPs (attending special schools) suggest that by 2022 there will be a minimum of 40 new special school places required ranging to a high estimate of 142 places.

How places will be filled: Creating a 125 place SLD special school, when combined with the proposed new resource base places will accommodate this projected increase and allow our two existing SLD schools to return to their intended numbers. Currently these schools have insufficient basic teaching area for the numbers on roll, when compared to BB104.

KuHCC understands that pupils with SEND are less likely to be comfortable with significant change than their mainstream peers and may be unable to cope with a school change, even if it meant reduced travel time. This is why we have planned for the school to grow organically overtime rather than from in year transfers.



*3B : Please also include details as to how these proposed new arrangements are likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of educational provision for children with special educational needs, and the outcomes for pupils, across the local authority and how you expect trusts to support this.*

Expected Outcomes:

The need for the new school, and the additional places it will create, has been demonstrated in the preceding sections.

It will assist KuHCC with achieving its strategic aims, via these expected outcomes:

- A SEND estate with sufficient places for all pupils who want/ need to be educated within these settings (including capacity to accommodate population growth)
- Reduced travel times for our most vulnerable pupils, as they will be more able to access their closest specialist provision
- Improved quality of places, as the additional capacity will allow class sizes and numbers on roll at existing schools to reduce to acceptable levels.
- A more consistent learning experience across the SEND cohort, as all pupils are able to access the right provision for their needs. Previously, some children, would have been offered outreach provision and support in a mainstream setting/ considered for a resource provision owing to the lack of places.
- Improved feedback from families, as pupils and parents feel it is easier to access the most suitable provision.
- Increased control over the high needs block allocation, as pupils will remain in the state maintained local authority estate.
- Greater partnerships working between the SLD school and with their local mainstream schools will improve the efficiency with which pupils who require specialist provision, or for whom re-integration is appropriate, are identified and supported in their learning journey.
- An improved transition to adulthood, as each school will be encouraged to work in partnership with local colleges and other provider. Person centred transition planning will take place, especially from Year 9, to support young people to access the most appropriate pathway and provision post 16.

The rationale for the free school, and the future projections it is based on, does not intend to reverse this. KuHCC's SEND sufficiency strategy aims to ensure places are available to meet children's needs in whichever setting is the most appropriate for them.

Anecdotally we are aware that recruiting staff in the City can be difficult, especially for specialist appointments. To mitigate this we will encourage schools to upskill existing and providing development opportunities. We would also hope that the incoming proposer works collaboratively rather than competitively with the special and mainstream schools.

An exception to this point is that both our the existing SLD schools are outstanding, with strong leaders and teachers. This evidences a real strength in the city in terms of recruitment and development.

## SECTION FOUR: THE PROPOSED LOCATION AND SITE

This section describes the provisional site.

<p><b>Full address and full postcode</b></p>	<p>Frederick Holmes School, Inglemire Lane, Hull, HU6 8JJ</p>
<p><b>Size of site</b></p>	<p>33,209m2</p> <p>See attached asset plan drawing number: ING024-OS PLAN.</p> <p>On the plan we have drawn blue blocks of accommodation, to scale, to show how the accommodation may work and be assembled on a very simplistic level.</p>
<p><b>Further details on site (for example, current use/your reasons for choosing it/further developments (e.g. housing) planned for area</b></p>	<p>The site meets our strategic objectives of the right provision in the right place, as it is equidistant to the other two SLD schools.</p> <p>The site can be made available and as it used to accommodate 2 schools we have no concerns regards sizing limitations.</p> <p>The site is easily accessible by road transport which will be essential for the SLD cohort.</p> <p>This area of the city forms part of an educational hub that encompasses the University of Hull, Newland School for Girls (secondary), St Mary's College, Endsleigh Holy Child Primary School and Endike Primary School.</p>