

Appendix 6

Displacement of pupils at Hunters Hill College

Birmingham City Council as the Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure that all pupils living in the city have access to a school place. Should the proposal to close the school be approved, all pupils will need to be provided a place at another school. We will ensure that the school place is:

- available when required for each displaced pupil (September 2021 if not sooner)
- appropriate to the pupils' needs as defined in their EHCP
- provides an improved quality of education
- is nearer to the pupils' homes wherever possible and appropriate

Discussions have been ongoing with other providers to look at opportunities for additional places or expansion, if required. Whilst the specificities of these options cannot be shared at this stage, in lieu of a decision, we are confident that all required places will be provided.

In the meantime, Annual Reviews and updates to EHCPs are being undertaken for all pupils on roll including meetings with parents/carers to discuss their child's circumstances. This is to ensure data is current, which will support an efficient response, should the displacement occur. Referrals to and engagement with relevant services continue to be made by the school and Local Authority officers in order to support pupils and their families e.g. Education Legal Intervention team, Children Missing Education, Exclusions, Children's Advice & Support Service, Family Support as well as Social Care teams.

Hunters Hill Pupils 2020/21	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11	Total Y7-11	Total Y8-10 ²
Birmingham resident pupils	0	8	19	21	23	71	48
Other LA resident pupils ¹	0	1	0	7	4	12	8
Total	0	9	19	28	27	83	56
Change of Placements agreed (pending start date) ³	-	1	0	0	1	2	1
Change of Placements under review	-	0	2	7	4	13	9
Remaining Birmingham pupils on roll to be displaced if proposal approved	-	7	17	14	18	56	38
Remaining Other LA pupils on roll to be displaced if proposal approved	-	1	0	7	4	12	8

Update as at 23.12.2020

¹ 12 pupils reside outside of Birmingham across Bromsgrove, Redditch, Sandwell, Solihull, Wolverhampton and Worcestershire Local Authority areas.

² The Year 8-10 totals column shows the number of pupils in these year groups who would require priority placement should closure be approved; given that Year 11 pupils could leave as part of normal transition at the end of July 2021. This reduces the requirement for placements but does not stop families expressing a Change of Placement request throughout 2020/21.

³ Placements have been confirmed and accepted at the following schools:

- Lindsworth School: community special school in Birmingham
- Riverside Education: alternative provision independent school in Birmingham

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- VASE (Values and Attitudes Special Education Academy): independent school in Birmingham

Should the decision to close Hunter Hill College be made, SENAR will undertake 1 to 1 meetings with pupils and their families as early as possible in spring term 2021 to discuss the pupil's EHCP and options for an alternative placement. SENDIASS representatives will also be in attendance, as required, to provide advocacy for the family. Post-16 pathways for the pupil will form part of these discussions. For those pupils who do not reside in Birmingham, the home Local Authority will be informed of the decision to close.

Once a placement has been agreed with the pupil, their family and the provider, the EHCP will be updated and an agreed start date confirmed. The pupil cannot be removed from the roll of Hunters Hill until that pupil is known to be in attendance at their "receiving" school. "Pupil tracking" is therefore paramount and will be undertaken by colleagues within SENAR or Education Infrastructure.

Options for displacement need to be appropriate to the needs of the individual and this forms the core of all discussions.

The following provisions are under consideration:

- Other special schools within Birmingham -
 - Skilts School: community special school for boys which has proposed to temporarily increase its age range to include Y7-9 (pending decision 18th January 2021) as part of the relocation to a new purpose-built school within Birmingham
 - Lindsworth School: community special school in Birmingham
 - Queensbury School: academy special school in Birmingham. This would need the agreement of the Multi-Academy Trust.
- Other independent or alternative provision schools within Birmingham.