

## **EXPANSION OF PERSEID SCHOOL**

The London Borough of Merton is proposing to expand Perseid School, Bordesley Road, Morden SM4 5LT with effect from 1 September 2015.

Perseid School is a community special school for pupils aged 3 to 19 with severe and profound learning difficulties. Its current official capacity provides 112 places: 56 for primary aged pupils at the school's Primary Campus at Bordesley Road Morden and 56 for secondary aged pupils at the school's Secondary Campus at Middleton Road, Morden SM4 6RU. In January 2014 there were 111 pupils on roll.

Merton Council proposes to increase the capacity of the school to provide additional places for pupils aged 3- 11 at the Primary Campus at Bordesley Road Morden.

The school will expand to 140 places: 84 primary places and 56 secondary places

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Contracts and School Organisation, London Borough of Merton, Civic Centre, London Road, Morden SM4 5DX (reference Perseid proposal), or accessed at [www.merton.gov.uk/schoolsconsultations](http://www.merton.gov.uk/schoolsconsultations). Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Director, Children Schools and Families, London Borough of Merton, Civic Centre, Morden SM4 5DX or email [schconsult@merton.gov.uk](mailto:schconsult@merton.gov.uk)

This Notice is given in accordance with section 19(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

Signed: Yvette Stanley, Director of Children, Schools and Families

Publication Date: 2 October 2014

## **EXPANSION OF PERSEID SCHOOL**

### **PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS**

#### **Description of alteration and evidence of demand**

The Council proposes to increase the pupil places capacity at Perseid School from 112 places to 140 places. To accommodate this increase in pupil places and to improve the provision for pupils at the school, the Council proposes to expand the Perseid School site at Bordesley Road, Morden, SM4 5LT from 1 September 2015. The school will continue to provide for children with severe and complex learning disabilities. The school will still occupy a split site.

The proposal for increased capacity is due to the actual and forecast number of children diagnosed with severe and complex learning disabilities. The school has already provided for some extra demand in the early years of the school and there is the need to provide the further accommodation to ensure the official capacity of the lower school is increased to 84 pupils.

The Perseid Upper campus is located at Risley Playing fields, Middleton Road, Morden and education at that site will remain at this stage for up to 56 pupils aged 11 to 19. However, it is anticipated that expansion will be required as the demand reaches this phase of the school.

#### **Objectives (including how the proposal would increase educational standards and parental choice)**

The capacity of the current school in Bordesley Road is too low for demand from pupils diagnosed with severe and complex learning difficulties. The objective of the proposal is therefore to keep up with demand to avoid the council relying on independent and out borough provision that can lead to lengthy car trips which currently adversely impact on children and their families and this will also promote sustainability.

#### **The effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area**

The statutory expansion of Perseid School will reduce the dependency on out of borough places for children and young people with SEN. As it is only meeting increased demand, it will not adversely impact other educational institutions

#### **Project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved**

The total project capital budget is £1,300,000. This is all to be met by LB Merton aided by a previously agreed Targeted Capital grant of £1,056,737 from the DfE.

Value for money will be achieved by inviting competitive tender prices and appointing a contractor based on lowest price as well as incorporating sustainable technologies that will maximise the efficiency and effectiveness of the school.

### **Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation**

Following a previous capital project the school has been able to provide for additional pupils in the early years and implementation of this proposal and related capital project enables the school to continue to provide for this intake in all years of the primary school phase. The additional classrooms are planned to be ready for September 2015 with other adaptations to follow shortly after.

### **A statement explaining the procedure for responses: support; objections and comments.**

Objections or comments should be sent to the London Borough of Merton by 30 October 2014 which is within four weeks of publication of proposals on 2 October 2014.

Objections and comments should be sent to Director, Children Schools and Families, London Borough of Merton, Civic Centre, Morden SM4 5DX or by email to [schconsult@merton.gov.uk](mailto:schconsult@merton.gov.uk)

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