

# LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY

## STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE DECISION

The Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families, Councillor Kate Lymer has made the following executive decision:

### SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING REPORT 2021

#### Reference Report:

*SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING REPORT 2021*

Decision:

That the comments of the School Places Working Group be noted, in particular its resolution that:

1. That pupil roll projections and other trend data set out in the report be noted;
2. That a planning margin of 5% above the GLA school roll projections is continued to be sought to provide for local variations in need and to meet parental preferences;
3. That whilst there are, at the moment, sufficient places available or planned to meet current and projected demand for school places, the Council will work with schools to safeguard the existing supply of school places as required;
4. That there are specific pressures for placements for pupils with an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and that the Council works with local schools, trusts and the DfE to bring proposals forward to increase capacity and improve provision where necessary;
5. That discussions be undertaken with schools, multi academy trusts and the DfE, as outlined in this report, to ensure a sufficient supply of mainstream school places in the Borough, including through expansions and opening new schools;
6. That the potential delay to Harris Kent House free school opening is noted and that it is recommended that the Council engages in conversation with Harris Federation and other academy trusts operating in the borough to ensure that there are sufficient school places until the school opens;
7. Where expansion is agreed, to implement through the education capital programme (subject to the availability of funds); and
8. That the direction of travel for the increase in local SEND provision be endorsed.

Reasons:

The Council has a statutory duty to secure sufficient school places to meet demand in its area under the Education Act 1996. Local authorities are responsible for all children and young people with SEN in their area under Part 3 of Children and Families Act 2014.

Bromley Council has an established policy for the review and strategic planning of school places and related school organisation. The need to ensure sufficient school places, the quality of those places and their efficient organisation is a priority within the Council's strategy 'Building a Better Bromley' and contributes to the strategy to achieve the status of an Excellent Council. This policy also contributes to key targets within the Education, Children and Families Portfolio Plan.

The proposed decision was scrutinised by the Children, Education and Families PDS Committee on 15 June 2021 and the Committee supported the proposal.

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Councillor Kate Lymer  
Portfolio Holder for Children, Education and Families

**Mark Bowen**  
**Director of Corporate Services**  
**Bromley Civic Centre**  
**Stockwell Close**  
**Bromley BR1 3UH**

**Date of Decision:** 21 June 2021  
**Implementation Date (subject to call-in):** 28 June 2021  
**Decision Reference:** CEF21011