

Responding to the consultation

You can respond to the consultation by emailing:

admin@oaklandspark.devon.sch.uk

or by writing to:

Mr Mark Rose, Executive Principal
Oaklands Park School
John Nash Drive
Dawlish
Devon
EX7 9SF

Please note that all comments will be properly considered by the decision-makers, but we will not send individual responses to any specific points raised. The website will be updated and all statutory requirements complied with.

Closing date for responses is 5 p.m. on 13 December 2017



CONSULTATION ON JOINT CHANGES TO PROVISION AT OAKLANDS PARK SCHOOL AND RATCLIFFE SCHOOL, DAWLISH, DEVON.

If you need a summary of this in a different format or in a different language, contact Strategic Planning Team on 382057 or email: schoolconsultations@devon.gov.uk

**The closing date for responding to this consultation is
5pm, 13 December 2017**

Oaklands Park and Ratcliffe Schools are foundation schools within the SENtient Co-operative Trust. The Schools are registered as:

Oaklands Park School: 60 places, including 17 residential places for boys and girls aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties, Complex Communication and Interaction Difficulties and Autistic Spectrum Conditions.

Ratcliffe School: 96 places including 50 residential places for boys and girls aged 5-16 with communication and interaction difficulties and social development needs.

Background:

The Governing Body of the Schools have carefully considered what future provision should be in place to ensure ongoing sustainability across both Schools against changing patterns of provision and demand for children with additional needs and within a tightening financial climate. Both Schools work closely together and are in the Dawlish Federation of Special Schools.

The Proposal:

The Governing Body of Oaklands Park and Ratcliffe Schools are proposing to merge the Schools with effect from April 2018 to provide a single provision across both sites to accommodate 190 day places and 35 weekly residential for pupils aged 3-19. The Schools also wish to consider options for developing and accommodating independence training for day students and development of self-help skills. The proposed merger will ensure consistency and common processes are in place for the benefit of all the pupils, parents, staff and stakeholders.

Cost and Planning

At present a strategic review of special needs places in the County is being undertaken and this consultation forms part of that review. Following completion of the review a development plan for the schools will be commissioned. It is therefore not possible at the present time to give any detailed proposals on the development of the sites but the Governing Body will keep you informed.

The Process:

The consultation process is a legal requirement. Consultation will take place with pupils, parents, staff of the school as well as other local schools, the community and all stakeholders.

You are invited to attend an information session at: *Oaklands Park School on the 16th November 2017* between 3.30 and 6.30 p.m. with representatives of the Governing Bodies, Executive Principal, and officers from Devon County Council who will listen carefully to views and answer questions. This session is an opportunity for individuals to raise any specific concerns and as it is not run in the format of a public meeting you are welcome to attend at any time between 3.30 and 6.30 p.m. If you are unable to attend but would like to comment you can send a written response by 5 p.m. on 13 December 2017.

The consultation period will run from *1 November to 13 December 2017*.

Stages of the Process: After the information session and once written responses have been considered then the remainder of the process is:

Representation: A brief notice will appear in a local newspaper and the full proposal will be available on the following webpage:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/haveyoursay/>

Objections: There is then four weeks from the date of the Brief Notice when anyone can write in to comment on, or object to, the proposal. Response must be in writing, even if you have already responded at the consultation stage.

Decision: will be made by Devon County Council based on information that has been submitted, including comments or objectives.

Indicative Timescale:

- Consultation: *1 November – 13 December 2017*
- Information Session: *16 November 2017*
- Brief Notice: *3 January – 31 January 2018*
- Devon County Council makes decision: *14 March 2018*
- Implementation: *16 April 2018*.