

Consultation about establishing a Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP) for pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) with Autism / speech, language and communication and associated learning needs at Grange Primary School

Ealing Council and the Governing Body of Grange Primary School want to hear your views about whether to establish a Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP) for pupils with Autism / speech, language and communication and associated learning needs at Grange Primary School. The provision would support up to 36 pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that meet the admissions guidance for this type of provision. The consultation will end on Friday 14th February. This document provides more detail about why this is being proposed and how to respond.

What is being proposed?

This consultation is about whether to establish a Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP) for pupils with Autism / speech, language and communication needs at Grange Primary School that would support up to 36 pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The proposed provision would be based in an adapted space that has become available due to a reduction in pupil numbers.

If the proposal proceeds, Grange would continue to be a primary school for pupils aged 3 – 11 (from Nursery to Year 6). The Published Admission Number for Reception each year would continue to be 90.

There would be up to 36 places in total within the SRP for pupils in Reception to Year 6. All pupils within the SRP would have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that includes a primary need of Autism / speech language and communication needs and who require a specialist provision to access learning and make good progress. Admission to the SRP would be determined by the Local Authority through their specialist place planning process, not directly by the school.

The SRP would be expected to open in September 2026 with a smaller number of pupils. This provides time to complete the necessary building works, recruit staff, and welcome the first pupils effectively. The SRP would then build up its pupil numbers over time to its capacity of 36 pupils.

What is a Specialist Resourced Provision (SRP)?

A Specialist Resource Provision (SRP) provides a high level of specialist support to pupils who need this type of provision to meet their needs and support them to make good progress. Depending on individual needs, pupils would spend the majority of their time in the specialist classrooms, and some of their time in mainstream classes and activities where appropriate to their needs, supported by specialist staff. The amount of time and which lessons and activities that each student spends in the mainstream would be determined by provision staff on an individual basis in collaboration with other school staff and will be reviewed regularly.

Why is this being proposed?

Ealing Council is committed to ensuring that it can make suitable and effective provision in the borough for all its children, including those with Special Educational Needs and / or Disabilities

(SEND). In common with many local authorities, Ealing continues to see an increase in the number of pupils who have special educational needs and / or disabilities (SEND).

This proposal seeks to address these increases through the further development of specialist places in mainstream schools across the Borough for those children and young people who need it.

While all primary and high schools in Ealing are able to meet a wide range of pupil needs, some pupils have needs that require additional specialist support within a mainstream school. Currently 8 of the primary schools in Ealing have specialist SEND provision in line with what is being proposed, where they can provide greater support to a number of pupils who are able to access elements of a mainstream school curriculum if that support is in place. Ealing is seeing an increase in the number of pupils who need this type of provision and is therefore seeking to establish more of this specialist SEND provision in mainstream schools.

Grange is a popular and successful primary school with a culture of inclusion. In December 2024 the school had 15 pupils with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) across all year groups and has experience of supporting pupils with a wide range of needs. The school has a strong leadership team and Governing Body who are confident that they would be able to establish and embed a very successful SRP as part of the school. The site and buildings are able to accommodate the classroom and other spaces required. Governors and leaders believe that through setting up this provision the school would be better placed to support children from our local community who need this type of provision.

An SRP enables pupils to remain part of their local community by attending a local school, build friendships with pupils within and beyond the SRP, and receive the support that they require to enable them to educationally and socially develop alongside their peers. As a community school Governors and leaders are excited to be working with the Local Authority to set up this provision and believe that it would benefit all our pupils.

Establishing a SRP at Grange:

- Provides additional specialist places in south Ealing to meet increasing demand; and
- Provides those places in a successful school with strong leadership that is committed to establishing the SRP successfully.

What facilities would the resourced provision have?

School leaders are working alongside Ealing Council's SEND specialists to design a space suitable for the needs of the pupils within the SRP. The space would include specialist classrooms and small group spaces that can be used flexibly to meet the needs of the pupils and deliver the curriculum.

An area of the existing school buildings would be remodelled to provide accommodation for the pupils. It is proposed that the accommodation would have the following features:

- Facilities would as far as possible be designed to meet the needs of the pupils expected to attend the SRP and to promote inclusion.
- The design would take account of the sensory environment, including the proximity of others, visual and auditory stimulation, smells and textures.
- There would be sufficient storage for equipment (preferably close to the teaching area) and a small meeting base.
- There would be safe outdoor space for the pupils to access.
- Therapists would require a room suitable for individual therapy and for any small group therapy that may be being delivered with part of a class i.e. in addition to the teaching area.

Where would the provision be located in the school?

The provision would be based in the main part of the school in an area currently occupied by a private nursery on a temporary basis. A schedule of works would be agreed with the school to adapt this space to meet the needs of the pupils.

Would there be building works? Would my/my child's education be disrupted?

There would be some works required to make the space suitable for the SRP. The space would need some adaptations and the existing rooms would need to be remodelled or refurbished. The works would take place over the summer holiday so there would be no disruption to existing pupils. Ealing Council would be responsible for managing the works.

How would the provision be funded?

In addition to the standard funding received for each pupil (as received for every pupil in the school), the SRP receives additional funding from the local authority. This enables the school to employ additional staff to support the pupils accessing the SRP. These staff bring and develop expertise that is shared with other staff within the school, so improving the quality of teaching and learning for all pupils within the school.

Ealing Council would fund costs associated with the set-up of the provision, including providing funding to enable the SRP lead teacher to start in post a term before the first pupil joins, so that they can work with colleagues across the school to ensure that the curriculum and pupil support is ready before the first pupil joins. Grange would be able to benefit from the experience of the other schools within the borough who have designated SEND provision and would over time itself provide advice and examples of good practice to other schools to support pupils with Autism / speech language and communication needs.

Who are we consulting?

We are consulting staff, parents and carers, pupils, associated professionals, other schools, and other interested parties. Any individual or organisation is welcome to respond to this consultation.

How to have your say

Please have you say on the proposal by:

- Completing the online questionnaire that is available [here](https://forms.office.com/e/zMAKr8Cc8B) (<https://forms.office.com/e/zMAKr8Cc8B>) or from the Grange Primary School website;
- Completing a paper copy of the questionnaire (available at the school office); or
- Writing to Headteacher at SRP Consultation, Grange Primary School, Church Gardens, London, W5 4HN.

Meetings have also been arranged for:

- Parents: Tuesday 4th February 2025 9am – 9.45am
- Parents and other interested parties: Tuesday 4th February 2025 6pm – 6.45pm

The consultation ends on Friday 14th February 2025.

What happens after the consultation?

All responses to the consultation will be carefully considered by the Council and by the Governing Body.

If the Council and Governing Body decide not to establish the SRP, no further action would be required.

If the Council and Governing Body decide to continue with the proposal to establish the SRP, the next stage would be the publication of a Statutory Notice, which any individual or organisation would be able to respond to during a representation period of four weeks. Within two months of the end of the representation period, Ealing Council's Cabinet would then consider the responses to the Statutory Notice and make the decision about whether to establish the SRP.