

## **Consultation on the proposal for new Resourced Provisions for pupils with Autism (AS) at Castle Hill Infant School and Castle Hill Primary School (Greenbank Campus), from academic year 2027/28**

Castle Hill Infant School, Castle Hill Primary School (Junior site age range 7 -11 Greenbank Campus RG23 8BN) and Hampshire County Council would like to hear your views on the proposal to establish autism Resourced Provisions for up to 9 pupils at Castle Hill Infant School and for up to 12 pupils at Castle Hill Primary School (Greenbank Campus), opening in phases from academic year 2027/28.

Autism is a lifelong condition that affects how people learn, communicate, and interact with others. Both schools already support a number of children with autism and having these provisions will enhance the in-house support available across the schools. It has been identified that there are an increasing number of children in the local area who are being diagnosed with autism, and we are therefore working towards expanding our offer of support to these children.

**The consultation will run from 26 June to 17 July 2026.**

### **Why do you need to develop Resourced Provisions for pupils with Autism (AS) at the schools?**

Hampshire County Council is committed to developing and maintaining provision, where possible, to meet demand. Currently the need to provide school places for pupils with autism in this area of the County is a priority. There has been an increase in pupils with autism needs and there is currently no autism Resourced Provisions in Basingstoke. Hampshire County Council and senior leadership at Castle Hill Infant School and Castle Hill Primary School are keen to provide this additional provision for pupils and feel this in-house provision will have a benefit for many pupils at the schools.

This proposal will provide much needed specialist educational accommodation to meet current and future demand. The proposal will add up 9 pupils to the current number on roll at Castle Hill Infant School and 12 for Castle Hill Primary School.

Castle Hill Infant School and Castle Hill Primary School are already meeting the needs of pupils with special educational needs and have the sites available and leadership expertise to expand this specialist provision to encompass catering for pupils with autism in a safe and secure environment.

### **What building works will be taking place?**

It is proposed that Castle Hill Infant School will be extended through the addition of a small new space alongside the existing facilities to become a base for the Resourced Provision. IT and furniture will be required alongside a secure outside play space.

Castle Hill Primary School will require additional classroom spaces as a base for the Resourced Provision – it is anticipated this will require a double modular classroom to be installed together with appropriate furniture and IT and a secure outside play space.

### **When will the building works start and how will you ensure the health and safety of pupils attending the schools whilst the works are taking place?**

It is planned that the building works, to create the facilities at Castle Hill Infant School and Castle Hill Primary School sites, will be complete for academic year 2027/28.

Health and safety of children, staff and visitors is paramount. The schools would ensure a detailed health and safety plan is drawn up in advance of any works.

## **What will the impact be on pupils at Castle Hill Infant School and Castle Hill Primary School?**

The pupils who will attend the Resourced Provisions will attend mainstream classes as appropriate to suit their needs and also spend time in the Resourced Provision areas for individual and/or small group support.

The new provisions will give the opportunity for Castle Hill Infant School and Castle Hill Primary School to further enhance their inclusion and wellbeing offer to all pupils as this should positively impact pupils across the schools and not just those placed in the Resourced Provisions. The schools will use the funding, facilities and resources that the Resourced Provision has to benefit both the Resourced Provision pupils and pupils already at the schools. Also, the Schools can access relevant continuous professional development for staff across the schools as well as knowledge being shared by staff within the Resourced Provisions.

## **Will the schools receive additional funding due to the numbers increasing?**

Yes, Castle Hill Infant School and Castle Hill Primary School will receive additional revenue funding based on the increase in number of pupils on their roll as well as specific funding linked to the Resourced Provision. This will provide the additional staffing and resources required.

## **What happens after this consultation?**

**This consultation will run from 26 June to 17 July 2026.** Officers will then consider the consultation responses, received in writing, before deciding whether the proposal should continue to the formal publication stage.

If approved, a statutory Public Notice will be published, setting out the Local Authority's intent to increase the capacity of the schools and introduce the new Resourced Provisions. It is anticipated that this will be published in autumn 2026. After the date of publication, there will be a four-week period in which any representations can be made.

After the conclusion of this period, the Local Authority will decide whether to proceed with the proposal. Any final approval will be made in late autumn 2026/Spring 2027.

## **Will I have the opportunity to discuss the proposals and ask questions?**

A joint drop-in session where you will be able to discuss both proposals with Hampshire County Council officers will take place on **Wednesday 15 July at Castle Hill Infant School** (RG23 8BN).

If you are unable to attend and wish to make a comment, then please email [sendcommissioning@hants.gov.uk](mailto:sendcommissioning@hants.gov.uk) or write to:

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**All comments must be received by 17 July 2026.**