



Hampshire
County Council

Pre-planning consultation on the proposal for the expansion of the Waterloo school, Havant by 70 places by utilising former Peel Common Infant School, Gosport

Hampshire County Council wish to consult with you ahead of a joint proposal between Hampshire County Council and The Waterloo School, Waterlooville to expand the school by an additional 70 primary places for pupils with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH), utilising the former Peel Common Infant School site in Gosport. Approval was given to undertake a statutory consultation by the Executive Member for Education on 21 January 2026.

This consultation will run from Monday 11 May to Monday 8 June 2026.

Why do you need to expand Waterloo School to include a satellite provision in Gosport ?

Hampshire County Council has a duty to make sure there are enough school places within the county for those children and young people who have complex special educational needs that cannot be met within a mainstream school setting. The need to provide school places in Special Schools across Hampshire has been increasing. Hampshire County Council is committed to expanding successful provision where possible to meet demand. This proposal will provide much needed specialist educational accommodation to meet current and future demand. The Waterloo School is successfully meeting the needs of pupils with special educational needs and the opportunity to expand the site through utilising the former Peel Common Infant School site provides an opportunity to do this.

Children with SEMH needs may face challenges in understanding and managing their emotions, building relationships, and coping with everyday situations. They often benefit from consistent routines, nurturing relationships with trusted adults, and access to therapeutic support. With the right interventions, these children can develop resilience, emotional awareness, and positive coping strategies that support both their wellbeing and educational progress

What is a Special School Satellite Provision?

A Special School satellite is a provision operated by a Special School but located away from the main site. These satellites are designed to extend the reach of the Special School, allowing it to support pupils in different geographical areas while maintaining the same level of specialist expertise and oversight. Pupils attending a satellite provision remain on the roll of the Special School and receive the same tailored curriculum, therapeutic support, and staffing ratios as they would at the main site. The satellite may be housed in a separate building or facility and is fully managed by the

Special School's leadership team. This model helps meet local demand for specialist places, reduces travel time for pupils, and enables more children to access high-quality special education closer to home.

What will be the impact on pupils at The Waterloo School?

The expansion would help meet local demand for specialist places and allow pupils to access high-quality special education closer to home. Further school staff will be employed meaning that pupils will benefit from staff sharing knowledge and building on their continuous professional development.

What building works will be taking place?

In order to create a new SEN provision at the former Peel Common Infant School site run by Waterloo School, capital works will be required to update and reconfigure internal accommodation, provide specialist areas, ensure safeguarding for pupils and staff and create an appropriate parking and pick up/drop off area. Detailed feasibility work will be undertaken subject to the recommendations in this report being approved.

When will the building works start?

Initial external site work is due to start in December 2026 and on site from January 2027. The health and safety of children, staff and visitors is paramount. The County Council works with construction partners who have significant experience of working on school sites. A detailed health and safety plan will be developed.

How will construction traffic be managed?

A Construction Traffic Management Plan will be developed to ensure safe and considerate movement of vehicles around the site during the construction period. Typically, this would be prepared and submitted to the local planning authority for approval as a pre-commencement planning condition. It will be publicly available to view once submitted and validated by the council, before construction works begin.

What about the impact on traffic due to the new provision?

The County Council appreciates that local residents will be concerned about potential traffic implications due to the repurposing of the school at Peel Common. By planning to create school places on an accessible site, as close as possible to where children live, we create the best chance for those children to travel to school in an active, sustainable way, using means of travel other than the car.

This is supported through the production of a Framework School Travel Plan, to be submitted as part of the planning application. The Framework School Travel Plan will set out a range of measures to encourage staff, families, pupils and visitors to make informed decisions about how they travel to and from school. The Travel Planning Team at Hampshire County Council will work with the school before and after opening to put these measures in place and help minimise any impact on the environment and local community that the school run may cause.

Once the school is open and operating, a working group will be established to develop a Full School Travel Plan.

The Full School Travel Plan is a document that provides a long-term plan to look at how children, parents, staff and visitors travel to and from school, and sets out measures to;

1. Encourage and enable pupils, parents/guardians, staff and visitors to walk/wheel, scoot and cycle to school where possible. Where this is not possible, to consider public transport, car sharing or the use of any Park and Stride facilities.
2. Encourage and provide educational programmes relating to active, sustainable travel and how this links to the environment, road safety and both physical and mental health.

The development and ongoing review of the school travel plan by the steering/working group will involve;

- Surveying pupils, parents and staff to find out how they travel, if they encounter any barriers preventing them from choosing active modes of travel and suggestions as to improvements.
- Consulting with the local community and other key partners to identify any issues relating to school travel that are felt by the wider community.
- Working with the various key stakeholders to develop an action plan which addresses these barriers and issues and seeks ways to increase sustainable, safe travel to school.

Alongside the development of a Full School Travel Plan, the school will be invited and supported to attain Modeshift STARS accreditation – a nationally recognised award for schools that demonstrate excellence in promoting active and sustainable travel. The Waterloo School main site has an Outstanding level accreditation.

As the proposed school is for pupils who have special educational needs and disabilities, many of whom will be travelling to school on County Council provided transport, Hampshire County Council has incorporated into the design a car park and drop off facility that will enable vehicles for the school run to come onto the school grounds for safe pick up and drop off. The size of the car park also recognises the additional numbers of staff required for an SEMH school, and cycle parking is also provided for staff to encourage sustainable travel where possible.

How are the capital works to create the new SEND satellite provision being funded?

The new provision is being funded through the High Needs Provision Capital Allocation (HNPCA).

Will I have the opportunity to discuss the proposal and ask questions?

A drop-in event where you will be able to discuss the proposal with County Council Officers will take place on **Wednesday 3 June, Peel Common Primary School, The Drive, Rowner, Gosport, PO13 0QD between 3:00pm and 6:00pm.**

If you wish to make a comment on the building works related to the new SEND provision proposal, please write to Amanda Vaughan, Strategic Development Officer,

Children's Services Department, Elizabeth II Court, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 8UG or by email to: strategicplanningunit@hants.gov.uk by **8 June 2026**.

What happens after this consultation?

This consultation will run until Monday 8 June 2026

Officers will then take into consideration all the consultation responses, prior to the submission of the planning application. You will have a further opportunity to comment on the school proposals should they proceed to the statutory planning stage.