

FULL PROPOSAL

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS

The document explains two related proposals for prescribed alterations at two Staffordshire education settings.

School Name:	Marshlands School
DfE Number:	860/7037
Proposal	Change of age range

School Name:	Greenhall Nursery
DfE Number:	860/7750
Proposal	Change to the types of need catered for

Local Authority area:	Staffordshire
Proposals published by:	Staffordshire County Council
Date proposals published:	14 October 2020
End of representation period	18 November 2020
Proposed implementation date:	1 January 2021

The document is available from:

[SEND Local Offer](#)

www.greenhall.staffs.sch.uk

www.marshlands.staffs.sch.uk

If you would like this document in another language or format please email send.tippingst@staffordshire.gov.uk or write to SEND Commissioning Team, Staffordshire County Council, Families First, 1 Staffordshire Place, Tipping Street, Stafford ST16 2DH

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS

These proposals are made in accordance with the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

1. Name, address and category of the schools

Marshlands School Second Avenue Stafford ST16 1PS Category: Special School	Greenhall Nursery Second Avenue Stafford ST16 1PS Category: Special School
--	--

2. Alteration description

It is proposed to make related changes to two Staffordshire community special schools:

2.1 Marshlands Primary School – a change of age range, from the current Early Years to Year 6 to focus on children in Year 1 to Year 6 by removing Early Years and reception provision and specialising in Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 provision.

and

2.2 Greenhall Nursery – a change of designation in types of special education needs and disabilities catered for, to include children with needs in the Early Years Foundation Stage prime areas of learning, physical, communication and language and personal, social and emotional development.

3. Representation/Formal Consultation

The representation period for these proposals will last for four weeks from the date of publication. During this period, any person or organisation wishing to respond with support, objections or comments can send them to Staffordshire County Council either by:

- Email: send.tippingst@staffordshire.gov.uk - making reference to Marshlands School/Greenhall Nursery
- Post: SEND Commissioning Team, Staffordshire County Council, Staffordshire Place 1, Tipping Street, Stafford ST16 2DH

The closing date for receipt of comments and objections is 5pm on Wednesday 18 November 2020.

NB All responses received will also be forwarded to Marshlands School and/or Greenhall Nursery to ensure that they are aware of local opinion.

4. Objectives of the Proposals

4.1 The objectives of these related proposals are to:

- meet the demand for places in both education settings
- increase capacity for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) in Key Stages 1 and 2
- offer a more focused and specialised curriculum in both settings, tailored to the appropriate stages of development.

5. Purpose of the Proposal

5.1 Marshlands School is a generic primary special school. It currently caters for children with a wide range of special educational needs and disabilities in Early Years, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. Marshlands School is oversubscribed, particularly in Key Stage 2, with the numbers of pupils on roll at the school seeing an increase of 41%.

5.2 Greenhall Nursery caters predominantly for children aged 2 to 5 with physical and/or complex medical needs, including children with Profound and Multiple Learning Disabilities, Visual Impairments, Hearing Impairments and Communication Needs.

5.3 Marshlands School and Greenhall Nursery share adjacent sites in Stafford.

5.4 The change of age range will enable Marshlands School to increase capacity for pupils at Key Stage 1 and 2, where there is a demand, by ceasing to enrol pupils into Early Years provision. This increase of Key Stage 1 and 2 pupils will enable the needs of pupils to be met in the local community, reducing the need to place pupils at other non-maintained settings or out of county provision.

5.5 Greenhall Nursery is undersubscribed. It is proposed that all Early Years provision is based at Greenhall Nursery. Greenhall Nursery would focus on providing Early Years provision to a broader range of children in recognition of the increasingly complex profile of needs of pupils requiring support. This change will better utilise the excellent facilities and staff competencies at Greenhall Nursery. This will increase the numbers of pupils on roll at Greenhall whilst allowing Marshlands to increase capacity for pupils at Key Stage 1 and 2.

5.6 Greenhall Nursery will maintain its current specialism in supporting the needs of children with physical disabilities and complex medical needs, due to the high level of staff expertise within this area. The proposed change of designation is to include children with needs in the Early Years Foundation Stage prime areas of learning, communication and language and personal, social and emotional development. This proposed change will enable Greenhall Nursery to support more pupils with a broader range of special education needs and disabilities (SEND) in Early Years, maximising the utilisation of its facilities, site and staff.

5.7 Early Years is a phase, in its own right, with a natural transition point at the end of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Greenhall Nursery provides a specialist focus on this area. This will maximise opportunities for early intervention and ensure a formal review of the child, and their needs, takes place at the end of this stage, with all stakeholders, including the local authority, to agree on the most appropriate future placement for the child.

6. Impact on other educational settings

6.1 There is considered to be no impact on other educational settings.

7. Financial implications

7.1 There is considered to be no financial implication for the proposed changes.

7.2 The two education settings are based next to each other so there is no difference in transport costs.

8. Consultation

8.1 A four-week consultation has taken place from 1 July 2020 to 29 July 2020 as part of the statutory proposal/notice. Letters and information were shared with parents/carers of children attending both education settings, staff at both Marshlands School and Greenhall Nursery, governors at both Marshlands School and Greenhall Nursery, Staffordshire Schools, Early years settings, Staffordshire County Council Members, Staffordshire County Council Officers, Voice for Change – parents forum, parent support groups (via SENDIASS), Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Groups, Midlands Psychology Foundation Trust, SEND Partnership Board, local Councillor, Stafford MP, Entrust and Trade Unions. The consultation document was also placed on the SEND Local Offer, Marshlands School website and Greenhall Nursery website.

8.2 No formal feedback was received in response to the consultation, although the Headteachers at both education settings informally received positive comments on the proposals.

9. Implementation Date

9.1 The formal implementation date for the changes would be 1 January 2021.

9.2 Implementation Plan

1 January 2021

- 9.2.1 Marshlands School and Greenhall Nursery update school admission criteria and school website
- 9.2.2 No new pupils accepted for Early Years provision at Marshlands School
- 9.2.3 Greenhall Nursery accepts pupils with needs in the Early Years Foundation Stage prime areas of learning, physical, communication and language and personal, social and emotional development

10. Decision

10.1 Staffordshire County Council is the decision-maker, taking into consideration all responses received. Staffordshire County Council will consider the related proposals together and decide whether to:

- approve the proposals
- reject the proposals
- approve the proposals with modifications

- 10.2 Within one week of making a decision it will be published on the school websites and the SEND Local Offer. Copies of the decision will be sent to the governing body, the parents/carers of every registered pupil at the school, the Schools Adjudicator, local diocesan bodies and other relevant bodies.