

Public Document Pack



Executive Board ** Supplementary Papers relating to Item 3h***

Thursday, 28 March 2013 2.00 p.m.
The Boardroom, Municipal Building

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David W R'.

Chief Executive

ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH IN THE PRESENCE OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

PART 1

Item	Page No
(H) RE-DESIGNATION OF ASHLEY SCHOOL - KEY DECISION	1 - 16

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act the Council is required to notify those attending meetings of the fire evacuation procedures. A copy has previously been circulated to Members and instructions are located in all rooms within the Civic block.

*Please contact Angela Scott on 0151 511 8670 or
Angela.scott@halton.gov.uk for further information.
The next meeting of the Committee is on Tuesday, 14 May 2013*

REPORT TO: Executive Board

DATE: 28 March 2013

PRESENTED BY: Strategic Director – Children and Enterprise

SUBJECT: Re-designation of Ashley School

WARDS: Borough-wide

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of the responses received during the representation period to the statutory consultation to re-designate Ashley School and extend the age range.
- 1.2 A summary of the decision making process is included in the report.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION: That

- 2.1 Proposals having been published in pursuance of the powers set out in sections 15(1) and 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and having had regard to the statutory guidance and to responses to consultation IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT the following related proposals be approved:-**
- 2.2 With effect from 1st September 2013 Ashley School will be re-designated as an 11-19 school for middle to high ability pupils with Social Communication Needs and Autism.**
- 2.3 With effect from 1st September 2013 Ashley School will have 70 places for pre 16 pupils and 42 places for post 16.**
- 2.4 The offer of post-16 provision will commence in September 2014.**

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The representation period on the statutory consultation to re-designate Ashley School and extend its age range closed on 13th March 2013. The proposal is to establish provision at Ashley School for 112 children and young people aged 11-19. The school will cater for vulnerable pupils with a diagnosis of Autism and those with identified Social Communication Needs who have a moderate to high learning ability. There will be 70 places for ages 11 -16 and 42 places for ages 16-19. To allow sufficient time to develop an appropriate post-16 offer this provision will commence in September 2014.
- 3.2 At the close of consultation 241 responses had been received. A further 5 responses were received after the close of the consultation. 238 of the responses received within the representation period supported the proposal.

There were 3 responses received which did not support the proposal. One of these responses was sent by the Development Manager and Company Secretary of HAFs on behalf of the 100 plus families (Halton Austic Family Support Group). However, a number of responses have also been received from parents who are members of HAFs supporting the proposal. A summary of the responses received is attached at Appendix A.

- 3.3 The issues raised by those who did not support the proposal included the following:

Environment – all areas of the school need to be low arousal not just one and there needs to be support for sensory needs.

Significant investment has been made to the school environment with many areas of the school now low arousal and support is available for sensory needs. A CD of the changes to the school environment has been produced and was shown after the public/parents consultation meetings.

Training – the training of all staff was raised as another area of concern.

A full list of the training undertaken by the staff at Ashley was presented and distributed at the consultation meetings. Details of training are included in Appendix B.

Criteria – it was suggested that the need is for all of the Autistic Spectrum be covered by the school and that this was the recommended approach by NAS review.

The authors of the NAS review have confirmed that their recommendation was to fill in the missing provision for this group of pupils and not replace any other type of provision already in existence.

Capacity – concern was expressed that the school would not have sufficient capacity to cope with the demand for places.

The school will be able to offer 70 places for pupils in the five year groups 11 to 16. The provision at Ashley will add to the existing provision available in the borough for pupils with Social Communication and Autism. It will complete the continuum of provision and compliment the provision offered in Halton's schools, resource bases and special schools.

Post-16 Provision – concern was expressed about the offer of post-16 provision and the impact on Riverside College.

At transition from Key Stage 2 some parents look for 11-19 provision as they believe this provides stability and continuity for their children. Many of the parents of vulnerable children with a diagnosis of ASD and identified social communication needs have indicated that they would want 11-19 school provision.

The most appropriate post-16 provision for any current Ashley pupil will be determined at the annual review of the statement of SEN and will be based on the individual needs of the young people and the place that best meets these needs.

4.0 DECISION MAKING PROCESS

4.1 The decision-maker (Executive Board) must decide the proposal within two months of the end of the representation period otherwise the decision must be referred to the Adjudicator for a decision. If referred to the Adjudicator the proposal and any representations must be forwarded to the school Adjudicator within one week of the end of the two month representation period along with any representations received and not withdrawn. Appendix C outlined the issues the decision –maker needs to consider.

4.2 The decision-maker can decide to:

- Reject the proposals;
- Approve the proposals;
- Approve the proposals with a modification
- Approve the proposals subject to them meeting a specific condition.

Conditional approval can only be granted in a limited number of circumstances related specifically to Academy provision or changes in admission arrangements relating to another school. A date by which the conditions should be met must be set.

4.3 The reason for the decision must be given whether it is approved or rejected it should also include the factors and criteria for the decision.

5.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The Executive Board agreed on 24th January 2013 to set aside £450,000 from the Schools Capital Basic Need budget for 2012/13 and that an additional £50,000 be put aside from any future Education Capital budgets allocated for 2013/14 to address the adaptations that will be required.

6.0 OTHER IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The most appropriate provision for any current Ashley pupil will be determined at the annual review of the statement of SEN and will be based on the individual needs of the young people and the place that best meets their needs.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE COUNCIL'S PRIORITIES

7.1 Children and Young People

The proposal meets the requirement to provide diversity and choice within the Borough and addresses a gap in provision which was identified through the National Autistic Society (NAS) review.

7.2 Employment Learning and Skills in Halton

This additional provision and the extension of the age range ensures good access to a quality provision for pupils thus providing greater employment prospects for these children and young people in future.

7.3 A Healthy Halton

The re-designation of Ashley school will allow for multi-agency professionals working on the site. Health professionals will ensure the health and well-being of pupils are promoted and supported.

7.4 A Safer Halton

Any adaptations to school will be designed to ensure that children, staff and other community users feel safe and secure on site.

7.5 Halton's Urban Renewal N/A

8.0 RISK ANALYSIS

- 8.1 Failure to address the gap in provision as identified as identified by parents and the NAS review could leave the council exposed to challenge by parents through the Special Educational Needs and Disability Tribunal (SENDIST). If the gap in provision is not addressed, parents will seek out of borough provision.

9.0 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES

- 9.1 The re-designation of Ashley School will ensure an inclusive and coherent approach to matching the needs of children and young with ASC locally. The quality of the provision will meet NAS standards and currently Ashley School is judged as a good school by Ofsted. Parents and carers will have a better choice of high quality provision for their children locally.

10.0 REASON(S) FOR DECISION

10.1 A gap in provision has been identified for vulnerable pupils with a diagnosis of Autism and for those with identified Social Communication Needs who have a moderate to high learning ability.

11.0 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

11.1 Retaining the current designation of Ashley and the current age range was considered this was rejected as it would not meet the gap in provision identified.

12.0 IMPLEMENTATION DATE

12.1 A decision will be required by Executive Board prior to 1st September 2013

13.0 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS UNDER SECTION 100D OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

Documents	Place of Inspection	Contact
NAS Report	Rutland House Steve.nyakatawa @halton.gov.uk	Steve Nyakatawa 0151 511 7344
Executive Board Report 18 October 2012	Rutland Hose	Steve Nyakatawa as above
Executive Board Report 24 January 2013	Rutland House	Steve Nyakatawa
Representation responses Phase 1 and Statutory	Rutland House	Ann McIntyre

Appendix A - Ashley re-designation feedback responses 2013

Respondent	School/Other	YES	NO
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Guardian			NO
unknown		YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	Yes	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Halton Resident	Head Teacher of Ditton Primary School	YES	
Other	Uncle	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Governor/Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Staff		YES	
Other	Riverside College		NO
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Parent/Carer		YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Other	Pupil	YES	
Other	Warrington Resident	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Parent/Governor	ashley School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
unknown	ashley School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Head Teacher of Cavendish High School	YES	
Other	Headteacher - Murdishaw West	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil	YES	

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Respondent	School/Other	YES	NO
Halton Resident		YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Parent	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Halton Resident	Grandparent - Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Other	Development Manager & Company Secretary HAFS Ltd		NO
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Halton Resident	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Executive Headteacher The Grange School	YES	
Other	Senior Sen Manager Cheshire West and Chester	YES	
Parent	Brookvale Primary	YES	
Staff/Resident	Ashley School	YES	
Staff		YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
unknown	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Pupil	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Grandmother	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Chesnut Lodge School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	

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Respondent	School/Other	YES	NO
Parent	Chesnut Lodge School	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Staff		YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Governor/Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Staff	The Grange (Primary)	YES	
Other	Not specified	YES	
Staff	Our Lady Mother of Saviour	YES	
Other	Pupil	YES	
Parent/Halton Resident	Simms Cross Primary	YES	
Staff	Chesnut Lodge School	YES	
Governor/Staff		YES	
Parent	The Brow School	YES	
other	Warrington Resident	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Managing Director Cheshire Aspergers Parents Support Ltd	YES	
Other	Halton Borough Council	YES	
	Ashley School	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Governor	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Education Psychologist	YES	
Staff		YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Staff		YES	

Appendix A - Ashley re-designation feedback responses 2013

Respondent	School/Other	YES	NO
Halton Resident		YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Staff		YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Parent	Simms Cross Primary	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Staff		YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Other	Pupil	YES	
Other	Grandparent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Parent	Brookfields School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Parent	St Edward School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Autism supporter	YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Halton Borough Council	YES	
Parent/Carer	The Brow School	YES	
Parents	Ashley School	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Guardian	Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	

Appendix A - Ashley re-designation feedback responses 2013

Respondent	School/Other	YES	NO
Parent	Murdishaw West School	YES	
Staff		YES	
Staff	Chesnut Lodge School	YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Staff		YES	
Parent		YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Governor	Ashley School	YES	
Staff/Resident		YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Guardian	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Staff	SEN Service	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Governor	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Parent	Ditton Primary School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Grandparent/Carer	Ashley	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Staff		YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	

Appendix A - Ashley re-designation feedback responses 2013

Respondent	School/Other	YES	NO
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Halton Borough Council	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Staff	Oakfield Primary	YES	
Staff		YES	
Parent		YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Other	Colleague/friend of Parent	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Staff		YES	
Parent/Carer	Cavendish	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Staff	Chesnut Lodge School	YES	
Parent	Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Other	Pupil - Ashley School	YES	
Staff		YES	
Parent		YES	
unknown		YES	
Staff	Principal ECP	YES	
Staff	Ashley School	YES	
Staff		YES	
Staff		YES	
Other	Education & Child Psychologist Halton	YES	
unknown	Barnton Primary School	YES	
Other	Education & Child Psychologist	YES	
Other	Ashley School	YES	
	Totals	238	3

The following feedback forms were received after the deadline date of 13th March 2013

Respondent	School/Other	YES	NO
Other	Headteacher - (retired) Ofsted Inspector	YES	
Halton Resident		YES	
Parent	Simms Cross Primary	YES	
Parent	St Basic Catholic Primary School	YES	
Not specified		YES	
	Totals	5	0

Autistic Spectrum Condition

Course	Attended	Date
Visual Supports and Social Narratives	All Staff	02.09.11
Team Teach Training (Intermediate Tutor) – Positive handling, including de-escalation techniques and how feelings/anxieties can drive behaviour and effect learning	Michael Jones (Lead on Autism/ Year 7 Teacher) – MJ then tutored whole staff	29.09.12 30.09.12
Refresher on the Autistic Spectrum –	All Staff	16.01.12
ASC Policy Statements and Barriers and Advantages to Learning	All Staff	16.01.12
IPad/iPod Training/ Applications for ASC students	All Staff	06.02.12 20.02.12 29.02.12
Visit to Prestfield School, Sefton to look at school environment and discuss NAS accreditation	Linda King (Headteacher), Chris Wicker (Deputy Headteacher) and Michael Jones (Lead on Autism/Y7 Teacher)	02.03.12
Visit to St John Valley School, Trafford to look at school environment and discuss NAS accreditation	Linda King (Headteacher) and Chris Wicker (Deputy Headteacher)	16.03.12
PECS Training – Visual communication systems for non-verbal pupils	Michael Jones (Lead on Autism/ Year 7 Teacher) Lorretta Cronin (Year 7 Teacher)	21 & 22.03.12
ASD/ Inclusion Conference in Manchester	Linda King	23.03.12
Visits to Green Lane School and Lansbury Bridge School to observe teaching of Maths to ASC pupils	Karen Davidson (Maths Coordinator)	06.04.12
Pyramid TEACCH Training – Use of visual aids to support ASC pupils	Michael Jones (Lead on Autism/ Year 7 Teacher) Lorretta Cronin (Year 7 Teacher)	20.04.12
Elklan Course – Speech and Language Support for Verbal Children with ASC x 10 sessions	Michael Jones (Lead on Autism/ Year 7 Teacher) Lorretta Cronin (Year 7 Teacher)	23.04.12- Introduction 30.04.12- What is ASD 14.05.12- Structure 21.05.12- Developing Understanding and Meaning

		28.05.12- Vocabulary Development 11.06.12- General Strategies 18.06.12- The Blank Language Scheme 25.06.12- Information Carry Words 02.07.12- Interaction and Pragmatic Skills 09.07.12- Behaviour and Communication 16.07.12- Sensory Issues and Behaviour
NAS Regional Accreditation Meeting	Karen Davison	18.04.12
SCERTS (Social Communication Emotional Regulation and Transactional Support) – Programme Planning, Intervention and Assessment for People on the Autistic Spectrum	Michael Jones	26.04.12 27.04.12
Sensory Awareness Day/ Workshops – Training for Halton Staff	Michael Jones Linda King	02.05.12
NAS Autistic Training	All Teaching Assistants	08.05.12
Autism Awareness Training	Vivienne Ochin - TA Sandra Gilhooley - HLTA Jennifer Brown - TA	12.07.12
TEACCH Training	All Staff	03.09.12
Sensory Awareness	All Staff	04.09.12
Consultation on development of school environment for pupils with sensory issues	All Staff	04.09.12
'Dummy' NAS review of school environment for pupils with sensory issues (with recommendations for further development)	Whole school – conducted by NAS review member and Michael Jones (Lead on Autism/Y7 Teacher)	06.11.12
Understanding Sensory Processing Difficulties – A Parents Perspective	All Staff	12.11.12
Delivering High Quality PE to young people with Autistic Spectrum Disorders.	Kevin Fairbanks (PE Co-ordinator) Keeley Glover – TA for PE	20.12.12
NAS Autistic Training Intervention & Support for Parents & Carers of Children & Young People on the Autistic Spectrum	Mike Jones (Lead on Autism/Year 7 Teacher) Sandra Gilhooley (HLTA/Lead on Autism)	18.01.13 25.01.13 01.02.13 15.02.13

Assessment Package to show achievement across Triad of Impairment	Kevin Fairbanks (PE Co-ordinator)	29.01.13
Managing Challenging Behaviour as a result of sensory issues – Brookfields School	All staff	30.01.13
Introduction to ABLLS (Advanced Basic Language Learning Skills)	Michael Jones (Lead on Autism, Y7 Teacher), Sandra Gilhooley (HLTA/Lead on Autism), Karen Davidson (Maths Coordinator), Carole Martland (English Coordinator), Diane Wilson (Assistant Headteacher) and Claire Heaslip (Teacher)	06.02.13
Elklan - Speech and Language Support for Verbal Children with ASC x 10 Sessions	Sandra Gilhooley (HLTA/Lead on Autism)	14.02.13 – 23.05.12
Brand new ASC/Social Communication/Sensory Issues library (including list of appropriate websites) that enables staff self-learning	All Staff	Ongoing
Further Planned Training		
Further Social Story and Comic Strip Conversations training (lead by Sandra Gilhooley (HLTA/Lead on Autism))	All Staff	04.03.13
Visual Supports training	Claire Heaslip (Teacher)	06.03.13
Inclusion Development Programme – Supporting Pupils on the Autistic Spectrum	All Staff	22.04.13
Pyramid TEACCH Training - Use of visual aids to support ASC pupils	Carole Martland (English Coordinator), Karen Davidson (Maths Coordinator), Alison Ainscough (New Y7 Teacher)	23.04.13
Level 4/5 (40 credits) Certificate in Understanding Autism – accredited by Canterbury & Christchurch University	Michael Jones (Lead on Autism/Y7 Teacher)	17.04.13 11.07.13 (+ one other date in Autumn term of 2013/14)
ASC Conference/Workshops in Manchester	Michael Jones (Lead on Autism and Y7 Teacher)	28.06.13 29.06.13
Pyramid Teaching Critical Communication Skills	All Staff	02.09.13

FACTORS FOR CONSIDERATION

Appendix C

FACTORS	STATUTORY PROPOSAL TO RE-DESIGNATE ASHLEY SCHOOL AND EXTEND THE AGE RANGE
Complies with requirements	Published statutory notice in line with the advice and support from the DFE School Organisation Unit and Halton’s Legal Services
Prior Consultation	Two rounds of consultation have been held. Copies of the proposal was sent to Schools, Diocesan Authorities, Health representatives, Neighbouring Authorities, parents, staff, trade unions, governors and the Children’s Trust. The statutory proposal and date of the public meeting was published in the local paper and notices were provided for schools and other public buildings.
Related to other proposals	N/A
SEN Improvement Test	<p>When proposing any reorganisation of SEN provision, the Local Authority must demonstrate how the proposals are likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of educational provision for children with special educational needs.</p> <p>The proposal increases the range of educational provision available for children with special educational needs. A gap in provision has been identified for vulnerable pupils with a diagnosis of autism and those with identified social and communication needs who have a moderate to high learning ability. The re-designation of Ashley will complete the continuum of provision in the borough adding to and complimenting the existing provision available through mainstream schools, specialist resource bases and special school provision.</p> <p>At transition from Key Stage 2 parents look for 11-19 provision as they believe this provides stability and</p>

	continuity for their children. Many of the parents of vulnerable children with a diagnosis of ASD and identified social communication needs have indicated they would want 11-19 school provision. The proposal to extend the age range at Ashley to 19 provides this additional provision.
Ensures sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils – including future demand for places	There will be no displaced pupils as a result of this proposal. The current pupils will continue their education at the school. Approval of this proposal will mean that Halton will no longer have a gap in its provision for children and young people with social communication and autism needs. The range of provision in the borough includes, mainstream with support, specialist resource bases in mainstream schools and special school provision.
Consider the travel and accessibility for all	Support for travel will continue to be available to any pupils or students eligible under Halton's Sustainable Schools Transport Policy.
Diversity	Ashley school will ensure that all pupils regardless of their gender, social or cultural background or ability will be able to access the full curriculum. The school will ensure that high quality learning takes place through a curriculum suited to the different needs of all students bearing in mind the national curriculum.
Curriculum	Ashley will offer a broad and balanced curriculum, ensuring that all students have equal access to a wide range of experiences and subsequent development of skills.
Capital	Capital Funding of £500,000 has been allocated from the Basic Need budget. This funding will be used to develop the schools facilities and provide post-16 facilities at the school.
Views of interested parties	Extensive consultation has been undertaken and all stakeholders have been given the opportunity to respond during the first phase and second phase of the consultation.