

Proposal to Expand Mayfield School by 30 places from September 2019

Why are we consulting you?

This consultation document is to inform you of the possible expansion of Mayfield School, Campus Whitehaven, Red Lonning, Whitehaven CA28 8UG. Mayfield is a maintained community special school located in West Cumbria. It is designated to provide school places for pupils between the ages of 3 to 19 years old with Severe Learning Difficulties.

The school currently has provisions for 130 permanent places and the proposal is to increase the school to 160 permanent places by September 2019. We are required to consult on an increase in numbers when it exceeds 10% of the current capacity, or 20 children, whichever is the smaller. In September 2018 a temporary increase to 140 places was created to accommodate pupils starting in EYs and Y7 after a delay on the new build at Campus Whitehaven. In January 2019, a further ten places were created in the new building to accommodate pupils who had remained in mainstream schools until completion of the build. These 20 places will become part of the 30 permanent places for September 2019. We would like to hear your views on the proposal to expand. You can either respond by:

- Completing the form attached and return it by **Monday 15th April 2019** or
- Send an email to clerk@mayfield.cumbria.sch.uk

What is the proposal?

The Governors are proposing to expand Mayfield School by 30 places (from 130 to 160 by September 2019) for students aged 3-19.

Demand from individuals, parents and schools for pupils to access our new facilities and outstanding specialist teaching is strong and capacity within the new build enables us to come some way to meet this demand. This is a significant investment into Campus Whitehaven. We are continuing to meet increasing demand from local children from the wide area in West Cumbria that we serve.

The Governors are therefore consulting with staff, parents and the community on the proposal to increase pupil numbers.

Who is the consultation for?

This consultation is for anybody who feels they may be affected by the proposal. We would like to hear your views whether they be in support, objections or comments. This document has been sent to the following:

Mayfield School: parents, staff and student council
Governing Body of Mayfield School
All maintained schools and Academies within Whitehaven
Western Lakes Teaching School Alliance
All other Cumbrian Special Schools





Cumbria County Council
Copeland and Allerdale Council
Local Member of Parliament – Trudy Harrison
Any trade unions who represent staff of Mayfield School
North Cumbria University Hospitals NHS Trust

Why are we proposing to expand Mayfield School?

The Council's Special Educational Needs and Disability services have been facing pressures arising from increased demand for specialist education placements for a number of years. This increase in demand is in line with a national trend due to advances in medical technology and higher survival rates of children with complex needs and increases in medical diagnoses for conditions such as autism. The council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient school places for children within this area.

Mayfield is a special school with an Outstanding Ofsted rating. The school offers places to pupils aged 3-19 with a wide range of learning difficulties and has considerable expertise in a range of teaching methods to meet the needs of pupils with severe learning difficulties and those with communication difficulties. The proposal to provide an additional 30 permanent places will help meet growing demand and achieve considerable educational benefits. Mayfield is popular with parents and pupils, is oversubscribed and its expansion would help meet parental demands.

What is the process to be followed?

This consultation gives you the opportunity to let the governors and the county council know your views on the proposed increase in numbers. At the end of the consultation, the school's Governors will consider what you have said, and will decide whether or not to move to the next stage of the process. This second stage involves the publication of a formal notice to the effect that the school is seeking to increase its numbers, and provides for a 4-week 'representation period', which is another opportunity for anyone interested to give their views. The county council's Cabinet will make the final decision, taking into account any views that have been expressed.



Stages	Procedure	Approximate timelines
This consultation	The issue of this document marks the beginning of the informal consultation during which the views of any interested parties are sought. These views will be considered before the formal representation period begins (see Stage 2, below)	4 March 2019 – 15 th April 2019
Stage 1 - Publication	Dependent upon the outcome of the informal consultation (outlined above) a decision on whether to publish a statutory notice must be made by the Governing Body of the school. This publication marks the start of the statutory consultation	April 2019
Stage 2 - Representation	Following the publication of the statutory notice 'representations' can be made on the proposals – this is another opportunity to submit views (support, objections or comments) before the final decision is made. The representation period will last for 4 weeks	April 2019 – May 2019
Stage 3 - Decision	Within two months after the representation period ends Cumbria County Council's Cabinet will make the final decision on the proposal.	May 2019 – July 2019
Stage 4 - Implementation	If the proposal is approved, the changes would then be implemented.	Sept 2019





How can you give your views?

Please send the response form attached by **Monday 15th April 2019** to:
Tracey Teasdale, Mayfield School, Campus Whitehaven, Red Lonning, Whitehaven.
CA28 8UG

Or send an email by **Monday 15th April 2019** to:
clerk@mayfield.cumbria.sch.uk

Mayfield School Response Form

Please indicate your views (support, comments or objections) on the proposal to expand Mayfield School by 30 places (including the 20 temporary places already created) by September 2019 by ticking the most appropriate boxes.

Expansion means	Strongly Agree	Agree	Don't Know	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
Improved education					
Meeting the demand for school places					
Offering more places					
I support the proposal					

Any further comments:

Name: _____

Address: _____

