



Consultation on the proposal to  
expand Pond Meadow School onto  
an additional site at St Andrew's  
Church of England Primary School

December  
2025

# Consultation on the proposal to expand Pond Meadow School onto an additional site at St Andrew's Church of England Primary School

## School Details:

<b>Name of School</b>	Pond Meadow School
<b>Category of School</b>	Academy Special School
<b>Age Range</b>	3 to 19
<b>URN</b>	141533
<b>Address</b>	Larch Avenue, Guildford, Surrey
<b>Postcode</b>	GU1 1DR

<b>Name of School</b>	St Andrew's Church of England Primary School
<b>Category of School</b>	Academy
<b>Age Range</b>	4 to 11
<b>URN</b>	143626
<b>Address</b>	Lockhart Road, Cobham, Surrey
<b>Postcode</b>	KT11 2AX

## Introduction

This paper outlines a proposal by Pond Meadow Academy Trust to expand the school onto an additional 'satellite' site located at St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Lockhart Road, Cobham, Surrey, KT11 2AX. This would be to create up to an additional 24 places for complex autistic pupils and pupils with communication and interaction needs. All pupils would have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The consultation process and timescales for the establishment of the new provision are detailed below.

## Proposal

The Trusts, Headteachers and Governing Bodies of both Pond Meadow School and St Andrew's Church of England Primary School are proposing to expand Pond Meadow School onto an additional site located at St Andrew's Church of England Primary School to create up to an additional 24 places for complex autistic pupils and pupils with communication and interaction needs. Each pupil would have an EHCP specifying the specialist provision within the school as an appropriate placement to meet their individual needs.

## Proposed timeline

The proposed expansion would come into effect from February 2026 onwards.

<b>Phase</b>	<b>Date</b>
Consultation Period	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> December – Sunday 21 <sup>st</sup> December 2025
Submit Business Case to DfE	Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> January – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> January 2026
Advisory Board Decision	January 2026
Implementation	Summer Term 2026

The proposed timeline is subject to change based on the outcome of this consultation and any project time constraints following the consultation.

It is proposed that:

Pond Meadow School be expanded onto a satellite site to provide a total number of 24 places for complex autistic pupils and pupils with communication and interaction needs.

## How do I respond to this Consultation?

1. This is a three-week consultation which starts on Monday December 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 and concludes on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025.
2. Any person can make comments, agree, or object to the proposal by responding through the following channels:

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.standrews-primary.surrey.sch.uk">https://www.standrews-primary.surrey.sch.uk</a>
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:consultation@standrews.surrey.sch.uk">consultation@standrews.surrey.sch.uk</a>
<b>Post</b>	<b>St Andrew's C of E Primary School</b> Lockhart Road Cobham Surrey KT11 2AX

<b>Website</b>	<a href="https://www.pond-meadow.surrey.sch.uk/">https://www.pond-meadow.surrey.sch.uk/</a>
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:consultation@pond-meadow.surrey.sch.uk">consultation@pond-meadow.surrey.sch.uk</a>
<b>Post</b>	<b>Pond Meadow Academy Trust</b> Larch Avenue Guildford Surrey GU1 1DR

## Background

**Pond Meadow Academy Trust** is an outstanding stand-alone special school located in Guildford, Surrey, providing specialist education for children and young people with severe learning disabilities (SLD) and autism spectrum conditions (ASC).

The school currently serves 170 pupils, all of whom have Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans. Our provision is tailored to meet complex needs, combining personalised curricula, therapeutic support, and communication-focused interventions. Our specialist approach is underpinned by highly skilled staff and a deep commitment to inclusive education.

Pond Meadow Academy Trust is recognised locally and regionally for its expertise in supporting children with complex SEND needs. Beyond our core provision, we operate a newly-established outreach and training programme, providing professional development, consultancy, and support to other schools in the region. This programme extends our impact, sharing best practice in special education and ensuring high-quality outcomes for children across multiple settings.

Our vision is to continue delivering exemplary specialist education, supporting other schools through outreach, and innovating in partnership models that maintain our independence while promoting collaborative excellence in SEND provision.

**St Andrew’s Church of England Primary School**, part of the Enlighten Learning Trust, is a full through primary welcoming children aged 4 to 11. Serving 130 pupils, we are a small and nurturing school set within extensive grounds. Our spacious outdoor environment allows us to offer exceptional opportunities for outdoor learning, sport and recreation, enriching children’s education beyond the classroom.

We pursue academic achievement while maintaining our deep commitment to developing the whole child. This balance lies at the heart of our Christian ethos and is captured in our guiding mantra: *“life in all its fullness.”*

Community lies at the centre of all we do. We work in close partnership with parents to ensure every child receives the support, understanding and encouragement they need to flourish. Our links extend across the local area, including strong collaborations with nearby independent schools who generously share a wide range of free enrichment opportunities throughout the year.

As a Nurture UK school and a Gold Standard Anti-Bullying Alliance member, we pride ourselves on providing an environment where children feel safe, valued and inspired to grow socially, emotionally and academically.

## Rationale and Growth Model

The proposed new Satellite Site at St Andrew’s Church of England Primary School will create a total of 24 specialist school places once the provision is at full capacity. Equivalent provision of places in the independent sector would equate to around £1.2m per year, based on an average unit cost of £53k per pupil per annum for independent sector provision. This is compared to the average cost for state-maintained specialist places at £23k per pupil per annum and equivalent costs for 24 places of £552k. Provision of the additional state-maintained specialist school places would generate an approximate saving of £30k per pupil place per year.

It is proposed that there will be 24 places designated for complex autistic pupils and pupils with communication and interaction needs from Reception Year to KS2 (year groups to be confirmed). Commencing with the intake of a bulge class when a decision is made, the proposed satellite site will expand in line with the school, from September 2026 to September 2027.

**Table 1**

	2025/2026	2026/2027
<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>

\*Year Groups to be confirmed once placements have been agreed

### What happens next?

This paper is part of a 3-week consultation on the proposal to expand Pond Meadow School onto an additional satellite site at St Andrew’s Church of England Primary School.

The consultation begins on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> December and will end on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> December 2025.

There are a number of ways you can respond to the consultation, and these are set out in the **How do I respond to this Consultation?** section above.

**All responses must be received by Sunday 21st December.**

If you have any questions about this proposal, please email:  
St Andrews: [consultation@standrews.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:consultation@standrews.surrey.sch.uk)  
Pond Meadow: [consultation@pond-meadow.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:consultation@pond-meadow.surrey.sch.uk).