



# GREENWOOD ACADEMIES TRUST

## Consultation Report – 8 place Autism Provision

### Stanground Academy

This report summarises the findings of the public consultation about the proposal to develop a specially resourced provision for pupils at Stanground Academy for 8 Local Authority Commissioned place for pupils with an Autism Diagnosis.

The proposal being consulted on is that from **23<sup>rd</sup> April 2025**:

The consultation ran for a period of four school weeks from 29<sup>th</sup> April 2024 to Midnight on Tuesday 4th June 2024.

The process involved the circulation of a letter (Appendix 1) to a wide range of stakeholders including:

- All parents of Stanground Academy pupils
- All staff at Stanground Academy
- The Local Authority
- Local schools

All information was also published on the Stanground Academy website.

The letter included an email address to respond to the consultation.

#### Results from email respondents

We received one response to the consultation by email (Appendix 2) from mother and father of a Stanground Academy pupil, which was in support of the proposal and the support that it would provide for pupils and their families of pupils on the Autistic Spectrum.

We also received a letter of support from the Local Authority – see Appendix 3.

No other email responses to the consultation were received, though members of Academy staff approached our Director of Inclusion informally to express their positive views of the proposal. Staff were reminded that they too can access the formal consultation email, however, none choose to do so.

Though after the formal consultation had closed, the academy later received an email from a nearby secondary school headteacher expressing their positive views of the proposal.

### Responses

We are thankful to the stakeholder who took the time to respond in support of the proposals.

As no concerns were raised, no further clarification or information was required. However, considerations around, inter alia, admissions, possible impact on academy outcomes, financial implications, staffing and curriculum, were considered in advance of opening the consultation.

### Conclusion

The formal response and informal feedback to the proposal were all positive. Due to the positive response, the Trust has agreed to proceed with submitting a significant change proposal to the Department for Education.

### Next Steps

The consultation report will be shared on the Stanground Academy website, and the outcome will be sent in a letter to parents and carers and academy staff.

A significant change business case will be submitted to the Department for Education – this will then be reviewed by the Advisory Board who will make the final decision.

Updates will be published on the Stanground Academy website and communicated to parents and carers through letters and weekly bulletins.

**Matthew Van Lier**  
**Principal**  
**Stanground Academy**

**14<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

# **Appendix 1**

## Consultation Letter



Principal: Mr M Van Lier

Peterborough Road, Peterborough, PE7 3BY

Tel: 01733 821430

email: [enquiries@stangroundacademy.org](mailto:enquiries@stangroundacademy.org)

website: [www.stangroundacademy.org](http://www.stangroundacademy.org)

@StangroundAcad Stanground Academy

29 April 2024

Dear Stakeholder,

**Consultation: Additional Special Education Needs Provision**

I am writing to inform you of some proposed changes to the education provision at Stanground Academy.

We are working in partnership with the Peterborough SEND and Inclusion Service to provide an Autism hub at Stanground Academy for pupils in Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4. These pupils will require a higher level of support, not usually available within a mainstream setting. This provision will be designed for up to 8 pupils who have an Autistic Spectrum Condition, whose cognitive ability is such that they will be able to access the mainstream curriculum. All the pupils will have an Education, Health and Care plan.

The curriculum within the hub will be designed to enable each pupil to develop their social and independence skills. This will supplement pupils' access to mainstream lessons and qualifications. It is our aim that, over time, pupils will be supported to increasingly access mainstream education and may transition into our main school provision, where appropriate.

As part of this plan, the Local Authority will fund the conversion of existing under-utilised space within the academy into a classroom, break out rooms and an office.

These changes will not affect the pupils who already attend our academy, or those who will apply in the normal way in the coming years. We believe, however, it will enhance the quality of our existing provision and enable us to further develop our staff team to support all pupils in the future. Importantly, the changes will provide additional places for pupils who may otherwise face significant additional barriers in attending a mainstream setting due to the support required to help them make progress.

The hub will be led by existing school leaders and supported by staff who have developed expertise in this area. We will also be recruiting additional staff to work with us, ready to open in Easter 2025, recruitment permitting.

We are seeking views from stakeholders, so please get in touch if you have any questions or feedback. Please email your comments directly to [hub@stangroundacademy.org](mailto:hub@stangroundacademy.org)

---

*The Stanground Academy is part of the Greenwood Academies Trust*

We will endeavour to reply to all responses as quickly as we can. The consultation period runs from today, for 4 school weeks (excluding half term), until midnight, Tuesday 04 June 2024.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Van Lier', written in a cursive style.

**Mr Matthew Van Lier**  
**Principal**

# **Appendix 2**

## **Consultation Responses (redacted)**

From:

Date: Sun, 5 May 2024 at 17:13

Subject: Re: Additional Special Education Needs Provision - Consultation

To: <[hub@stangroundacademy.org](mailto:hub@stangroundacademy.org)>

Hello,

We are responding to the consultation about establishing an Autism Hub at Stanground Academy.

We are in support of the proposal. We feel that it would give our son, further opportunities to develop his social and independence skills. We very much hope that our son can access even more of the mainstream education curriculum.

We value the support that has been put into place for our son and if more children/families, in a similar situation, are able to access this level of support, it can only be a good thing.

Thank you,

Parent of pupil at the academy

## **Appendix 3**

### Letter of Support from Local Authority



Peterborough City Council  
Sand Martin House  
Bittern Way  
Peterborough  
PE2 8AP

18<sup>th</sup> March 2024

Dear Mr Van Lier,

**Ref: Peterborough SEND Hub expression of interest**

I would like to thank you for your expression of interest in being involved in the creation of a new SEND Hub. As you are aware, expressions of interest were assessed against a range of criteria by a cross-grade panel of officers, resulting in a short list of potential projects which Peterborough City Council would like to further explore. Those involved were SEND commissioning manager, Head of SENI services, Manager of specialist teacher services, Manager of Lass, SEND Hub Co-ordinator and Manager of Statutory Assessment and Monitoring.

Your proposal has been successful. We would like to take this opportunity to say congratulations, we are very much looking forward to working with you in creating a SEND Hub for secondary autism with you. PCC's SEND team will be in touch in the next few weeks to discuss next steps.

Thank you once again for taking the time to register your interest and for your continued partnership with us to improve outcomes for children and young people with SEND in Peterborough.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Angela Wellings".

**Name:** Angela Wellings  
**Title:** Interim Head of SEND and Inclusion