



Full Proposal to increase the number of pupils at Wyre Forest Special School

Representation stage runs from
Monday 10 July to noon Monday 7 August 2023



education provision. Pupils travel to the school from locations outside of Wyre Forest but mainly within 5-10 miles of the school. The majority of Wyre Forests pupils live within the neighbouring districts.

Evidence of Demand

The 2022 SEND Sufficiency report detailed a need for more special school places in Worcestershire. The SEND Team currently have a list of pupils waiting for a special school place, most of whom are currently in Worcestershire mainstream schools or Alternative Provision. The Provision Planning team have also forecast an increased need for special school places based purely on demographic growth of (Reception Year 14) for September 2023. This does not take into account housing growth, any surplus needed or the pupils within other provision waiting for a special school place.

The Governing Body of Wyre Forest Special School has indicated that they wish to increase the number of pupils at the school to help meet demand for special school places and the County Council supports this aim.

Some of the children who require a place at Wyre Forest Special School in September 2023 are currently in early years settings but have been identified as part of their Education Health and Care plan



families, keeping the school at the heart of the community.

Travel and Accessibility

As with any school expansion there are concerns about the impact of additional children on traffic congestion at the start and end of the school day. The school is proactive in encouraging parents and pupils to use sustainable methods of travel to school. It is anticipated that the majority of pupils will continue to receive transport assistance.

Project Costs and Capital Funding

The increase in pupil numbers from 300 to 354 places in September 2023 has been agreed by the school. This will involve repurposing space in the Early Years Hub currently shared with St Johns Primary



