

Statutory Proposal Notice for establishing for Designated Unit, 3rd June 2026

This statutory proposal is for establishing a Designated Unit for pupils with autism and complex needs at Garfield Primary School from September 2026 within Enfield Local Authority.

From September 2026, the Designated Unit will begin with 10 Local Authority commissioned primary places for pupils with EHCPs. Additional 10 primary places will be phased in over time as part of the planned expansion, in agreement with parents/carers. Local Authority places will be allocated by the LA's SEN Service after formal consultation with the school.

One of the priorities within the Council's [SEND Strategy \(2023 – 2027\)](#) is to identify needs early and provide the right support, in the right place at the right time (Priority 2). This means making sure all our children and young people receive an excellent education, and their needs are effectively met in an education setting or environment that is right for them. Wherever possible, this should be in a local mainstream setting.

To support this, we are using our data and knowledge to accurately plan the right number of places, this includes increasing the number of Specially Resourced Provisions (SRPs) and Designated Units (Units) in mainstream schools to meet high demand for places. Further information about SRPs and Units can be found in the [Position Paper for Specialist Provisions](#).

The Local Authority SRP/Unit Panel, which is made up of different professionals within the SEN Partnership, has reviewed and approved the school's application for the provision in principle and deems that the school has the expertise and facilities to meet the needs of pupils with SEND.

If the Designated Unit is established at Garfield Primary, it will:

- Support pupils with SEND and offer differentiated access to the mainstream curriculum
- Increase the inclusion of pupils with SEND so that they can participate in school life and prepare for a positive future
- Enhance the expertise of staff resulting in improved educational standards
- Provide increased parental choice of provisions within mainstream schools
- Raise achievement of pupils placed within the provision by providing specific, clearly targeted additional resources
- Prevent the need for pupils to be allocated costly placements within independent and/or out of borough special schools.

Implications of establishing an SRP/Unit for other educational institutions in the area will be:

- For schools with SRPs/Units there may be increased competition for specialist provision places when vacancies arise due to increased parental choice, however this is not anticipated to be a problem as places within specialist provisions are quickly filled.
- Increased options for parents/carers at secondary transfer and for those in other local schools where more specialist provision may be needed.

The cost of establishing the Designated Unit will be funded through the designated schools budget high needs grant.

This will be cost effective for the Local Authority as placements within SRPs /Units allow pupils to remain in an inclusive mainstream school in their local community. This reduces the need for out of borough and/or independent special school places and associated travel costs.

The proposed date of opening the provision is September 2026. Consultations for places will take place from September and will continue until all places are filled. Transition of pupils into the provision will be staggered to ensure that pupils are settled and can understand and follow routines before additional pupils begin to attend.

Anyone wishing to express their support/objection and comments about this proposal should complete this [Microsoft form](#) or scan the bar code below.



Representations should be made within four weeks of the publication of this notice, no later than 3rd of July 2026.

If you are unable to complete the Microsoft Form, please email jeffreyjoib.mensah@enfield.gov.uk with Response to Statutory Proposal in the subject line of the email to express your support/objection and comments.

All responses will be shared with the school and the Local Authority. The Local Authority SRP/Unit panel will be responsible for reviewing the responses and making a final decision about establishing the SRP/Unit.

This decision must be made within two months of the end of the representation period. The decision will be published on the school website within one week of the decision being made.

A copy of this proposal can be obtained by emailing the school Office on office@garfield.enfield.sch.uk

The representation period will run from 3rd of June 2026 to the 3rd of July 2026.
