

June 2025

Dear Consultee,

Farnborough Grange Infant and Nursery School proposed the closure of the resourced provision for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN). Farnborough Grange Infant School is an academy in The Good Shepherd Trust.

We are writing to invite your views in respect of a proposal from the school to seek approval from the Department for Education (DfE) to close resourced provision for young people with SLCN identified within an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) at Farnborough Grange Nursery and Infant School, Farnborough, Hampshire (FGI).

The number of pupils in the provision has been declining, and there will potentially be only two pupils in the provision next academic year. The school and Hampshire local authority have proposed that these pupils join the main school at FGI, where their needs will be met through provision in the main school rather than in a separate provision. We believe this change will better meet the needs of those pupils.

If approved by the Department for Education, we propose to close the resource provision as soon as possible, with no pupils in the provision from September 2025.

Where an academy proposes to establish Special Educational Needs provision at a mainstream school, it must consult on the proposal in accordance with a set procedure. We are already working closely with Hampshire officers to change the provision at FGI.

FGI is an infant and nursery school with around 230 pupils on roll. We are an inclusive school committed to providing a broad and balanced, rich, and diverse educational experience for all our students, with the belief that everyone is entitled to high levels of individual achievement, care and support.

The Consultation

This consultation will run from Tuesday 24th June to Tuesday 22nd July (midday). Trust and school staff will then take into consideration all the consultation responses before deciding whether to submit a business case to the Department for Education Regional Director for formal approval.

A Forms webpage can be found here <u>https://forms.office.com/e/YqdrrkOnfp</u> to submit your response.

Further Information

A public drop-in event will be held at the school on Tuesday, 8th July, between 14:30 and 17:00 at Farnborough Grange Infant School. If you are unable to make this, please send in your views and queries by email to admin@goodshepherdtrust.org.uk.

We will update the trust website with frequently asked questions at this web page:

Admissions - The Good Shepherd Trust - Transforming Schools

If you are unable to email or visit the above website and wish to make a comment, then please write to Mr P Kennedy, CEO, The Good Shepherd Trust, Academies Building, Larch Avenue, Guildford, GU1 1JY.

Yours sincerely,

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Paul Kennedy Chief Executive Officer