



# CONSULTATION QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

PROPOSAL TO RELOCATE LAKESIDE NURSERY & PRIMARY ACADEMY

OCTOBER 2022

| Questions   | Answers   |
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| <b>Proposed provision of Lakeside school on the Mindenhurst site</b>  |   |
| Will there be a forest school at the Mindenhurst site?  | Yes, there will be a forest school at the new site.   |
| Will the trim trail and outdoor gym be moved to Mindenhurst? Is there funding for this?   | All equipment, where possible, will be relocated to the new site. SCC will work with Kite to support this.  |
| Will Kite Academy Trust rebrand the school should the proposal go ahead?  | No, this is a proposed relocation of an existing school, not a rebranding.  |
| How will break times work with one playground?  | There is more than one playground at the new site.  |
| Will extra-curricular activities be provided as they are currently? Will Lakeside have a mini bus for sports activities with other schools if it is further away?   | Yes, these will remain as they currently are. There is no current plan for a minibus.   |
| How will new resources, equipment & furnishing be provided/funded for the new school building?  | This will remain as it is now and SCC will support with this as much as possible.   |
| The Mindenhurst School is very open, with the fences being accessible to public walkways, how will this be managed?   | There is visibility but not accessibility. Kite is looking into the possibility of erecting screens where appropriate.  |
| The new school does not have an ICT suite, how will this be taught in the new school? Will there be smart whiteboards?  | The whiteboards will be transferred to the new site and other IT equipment will be in place. Computing will be taught as part of the curriculum.  |
| How will the school manage with one hall?   | There are two halls at the new site. Most primary schools only have one hall.   |
| Will the new classrooms be fitted out to their full potential? There is currently a lack of storage and facilities for the student and teachers in the new Mindenhurst school building.   | Yes, the classrooms will be fitted with appropriate storage.  |
| If the consultation is successful, how will the new school site be set up & ready between July & September? How will the current site be shut down/cleared out/packed up etc? Who are the planned options to be tasked with this? | If the proposal is agreed, there will be a planned transition to the new site, which will be collaboratively planned by Kite and SCC.   |
| What before and after school provision will be offered?   | This provision will remain as it currently is. No change to this is being proposed.   |
| Will there be a new uniform? If parents decide to change schools rather than move with Lakeside will funding be provided to help with uniform costs?  | Should it be agreed that Lakeside relocates to the Mindenhurst site, the staff, ethos and uniform will remain the same. There will be no need to purchase new uniform unless pupils move to another school. There is always nearly new uniform available from Kite's academies and other local schools. If additional financial support is required Kite has always endeavoured to support. |

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| <b>Impact on other local schools</b>   |   |
| How does this proposal impact other local schools?   | The other local schools within the vicinity of Lakeside Primary Academy and the Mindenhurst school site were part of initial discussions around the possibilities for utilising the Mindenhurst site and are aware of the proposal. All local schools will support the transition of any in-year applicants who join them, should pupils decide not to move to the proposed new site with Lakeside.   |
| <b>Transport, travel and parking</b>   |   |
| How will parking at the Mindenhurst site be addressed?   | The school car park will be used by staff and visitors of Lakeside Primary Academy when it moves to the Mindenhurst site. Further discussions and travel assessments will be undertaken as to how parking will be managed should the proposal be agreed.  |
| Are there disabled parking bays and access at the Mindenhurst School?                                | There will be disabled bays in the school car park and the school building is accessed via a ramp with an internal lift to gain access to the first floor teaching spaces.  |
| Is there a drop-off zone at the Mindenhurst site?  | Further discussions and travel assessments are currently being undertaken regarding parking and drop-off/pick-up areas.   |
| If transport is provided, would the bus just be for pupils on low income? What does 'entitled' mean? | Home to School transport is assessed in accordance with Surrey County Council's transport policy. A child will be eligible for home to school transport if they attend the nearest qualifying school over 2 miles if they are under 8 years old, and over 3 miles if they are over 8 years old. SCC is currently working on providing a transport policy for this proposed relocation, and an update will be provided before the final decision is taken. |
| What will the impact on traffic be?  | Further discussions and travel assessments will be undertaken to determine the impact on traffic. An established transport policy will also determine this impact.  |
| <b>Education Place Planning</b>  |   |
| What do pupil place forecasts include?   | SCC's planning area forecasts take into account admissions trends as well as ward-level birth data, mid-year population estimates, pupil movement trends derived from the school census and details of proposed new housing developments and trajectories provided by Surrey Heath Borough Council. All proposed developments are included up until 2033.   |

| <b>Questions</b>  | <b>Answers</b>   |
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| Is there enough space at the new Mindenhurst school to cater for all children from Lakeside and all the children living in Mindenhurst?                   | The number of pupils already on roll at Lakeside Primary Academy mean that there will not be enough spaces for all children who reside on the Mindenhurst development. However, some pupils on roll at Lakeside Primary Academy will not relocate with the school and Mindenhurst pupils at existing schools and may not wish to move.   |
| What happens when Mindenhurst enters later phases of development and the newly relocation Lakeside Primary Academy is full due to current pupils on roll? | If a new school was opened on the Mindenhurst development, the school would grow incrementally from Reception to Year 6 over seven years. This would mean that children residing in Mindenhurst who are older than Reception age would not be able to apply for a place at the school. By moving Lakeside Primary Academy into the Mindenhurst school building, we are giving residents the greatest chance of gaining a school place at the nearest school to their home.   |
| Is there sufficient capacity in the local area to accommodate school age children residing close to the currently Lakeside site?                          | A number of local schools have vacancies within the Frimley Green, Mytchett & Deepcut and Frimley & Heatherside planning areas. The neighbouring planning area of North Camberley currently also has vacancies across all year groups.   |
| <b>Consultation process and communication with stakeholders</b>   |  |
| Why are consultation responses going to Kite Academy Trust and not Surrey County Council?   | Academy schools are required to submit a proposal for change and follow the required process set out by the Department for Education. The process is similar to that required by Local Authority managed schools but the decision maker for academies is the Regional Director (formally the Regional Schools Commissioner). As the proposal is therefore put forward by Kite Academy Trust, in-line with the guidance, the trust receives all responses. Surrey County Council has supported Kite with the process. |
| Why was a school built on the Mindenhurst development if it is not needed as a new school?  | Discussions were held regarding the Section 106 legal agreement for the Mindenhurst development in 2015. At the time, the birth rate was projected to rise and local schools were reaching capacity. Therefore, pupil place forecasts indicated that additional provision would be required to meet the demand from the development. Since then, the birth rate has decreased and the forecasts are now indicating a surplus of places across Surrey Heath moving forward.   |
| Have parents / carers had the opportunity to view the new school at Mindenhurst prior to the decision being made?   | Yes - three out of the four consultation events were run at the Mindenhurst site, allowing parents and other stakeholders to view the Mindenhurst school building.   |
| Could the proposal be to move Lakeside Primary be temporary and the current school be rebuilt on the Frimley site?  | No, there are no funds available to rebuild Lakeside on the current school site and this does not solve the issue of the surplus places in the area.   |

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| Why can't Lakeside be retained at a reduced PAN with 1FE at Mindenhurst?   | This is the proposal that Kite Academy Trust has put forward in order to create sustainable primary education provision in the local area. It is also part of the Section 106 legal agreement that a 2FE primary school is required on the Mindenhurst site.   |
| Why are we moving an academy?  | Discussions were held with local schools and multi-academy trust (MAT) leaders prior to the consultation regarding the use of the Mindenhurst school building. Surrey County Council invited interested parties to come forward with proposals. Only Kite Academy Trust came forward with a proposal.  |
| Why was the consultation only 6 weeks long?  | All academy schools follow guidance from the Department of Education for consultations when any significant changes are proposed. The "Making Significant Changes to an Open Academy" guidance states that a consultation need only be a minimum of 4 weeks.   |
| Why not move a part of Lakeside to the Mindenhurst site? Such as just the lower school?  | Kite Academy Trust's proposal is to move Lakeside Primary Academy in its entirety and not to split the school.   |
| Is there a reason the consultation wasn't started earlier?   | The consultation was started at the earliest opportunity in the new academic year and ran for 6 weeks to ensure that everyone had enough time to attend public meetings and submit their response on the proposal.   |
| <b>School Admissions</b>   |  |
| How will this affect the admissions into local secondary schools?  | Admission into secondary school is based on the admissions criteria for each school and on the child's home address at the time of application. No schools within the borough of Surrey Heath have feeder schools as part of their admissions criteria.  |
| Will children already at Lakeside be offered a place at a nursery or junior school nearer to their home or forced to move to once it goes through? | Pupils currently on roll at Lakeside will be able to move with the school to the Mindenhurst site without applying. Should parents wish to apply for alternative schools and not move with Lakeside, they will need to make a separate in-year application. Parents can contact the School Admissions team for help and advice with applications.    |
| Will children living on Mindenhurst get priority admissions to the new school?   | Pupils will be admitted to Lakeside Primary Academy on the Mindenhurst site in line with the admissions criteria for the school. Within each category applicants are ranked by distance, so those living closer to the school will receive a higher priority for a place.  |
| Will siblings remain together?   | If parents decide to move with Lakeside Primary Academy, then siblings will remain together as they already have places at the school. Should parents wish to apply to alternative schools there is no guarantee they will have spaces for both children, but Kite and SCC will work hard to ensure that siblings remain together wherever possible. |

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| Should the proposal be agreed, will Lakeside Primary Academy add a catchment area into the school's admissions policy to cater for those currently living in the local vicinity? | There is no current plan to amend the admissions criteria for the school.   |
| <b>The current Lakeside Primary Academy site</b>   |   |
| Why can money not be spent on the current Lakeside to improve the school when SCC will need to spend money to ensure it is suitable for a SEND school?                           | School maintenance for an academy school is not funded by the local authority, but by funding allocated to the academy trust from the Department for Education directly. If the proposal was to be agreed, and a SEND school put forward for the current site, the funding for this is separate and cannot be used for other purposes.  |
| Will the current Lakeside site be mothballed and become an eyesore?  | Subject to the outcome of this proposal, Surrey County Council will propose that the current Lakeside Primary Academy site be utilised for SEND provision. There is no intention to leave the site unutilised.  |
| Will the current Lakeside Primary Academy site be sold should the proposal be agreed?  | Surrey County Council are currently in discussions with Surrey Heath Borough Council to form an agreement around the future of the site.  |
| What will happen to the field at the back of Lakeside Primary Academy?   | The field adjacent to the school site is earmarked for separate development but not for education purposes.   |
| <b>Proposed SEND provision at the current Lakeside site</b>  |   |
| When will the SEND school plan to be opened? What SEND area(s) of need would the new provision be for?   | Should the proposal to move Lakeside Primary Academy to the Mindenhurst school site be agreed, the use of the current site as a SEND school will be consulted upon separately. All stakeholders will have the opportunity to respond to this consultation at the appropriate time.  |
| Why isn't the new school on the Mindenhurst site being used for SEND provision, rather than moving Lakeside?   | For all new significant developments, Surrey County Council enter into a legal agreement (Section 106) with developers and the borough council regarding the education infrastructure required to meet the needs of new housing. For the Mindenhurst development, it was agreed that the school building be used for mainstream primary education. Therefore, it cannot be utilised for SEND provision. |
| <b>Early Years provision</b>   |   |
| What will be the impact on moving the nursery provision?   | The Early Years team anticipates that moving the existing nursery to Mindenhurst will not significantly impact families in the area. There is a mix of alternative providers in the local area with similar offers to that of Lakeside. If there was to be increased demand for Early Years provision, the team will work with local providers to expand provision where necessary.                     |

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| Will the relocation impact other local nurseries?  | Surrey County Council promotes parental choice and a mixed model of Early Years provision within any community, enabling families to access early education and childcare places in provision and in patterns that best suits their needs. A school based nursery will be an additional choice for families within the local community where there is full day care and pre-school provision currently offered by private and voluntary providers. It should be noted that SCC has little influence over the private, voluntary and independent early years market and the landscape can be subject to change, often with little or no notice. |
| Will attending the nursery mean that my child automatically receives a place at the school in Reception?                     | No, there is no automatic entry into Reception if a child is attending the school's nursery. An application needs to be made for Reception entry at the appropriate time. More information regarding the application process is available on SCC's website.  |
| <b>Impact on children</b>  |  |
| Has Surrey County Council / Kite considered the impact on children post Covid? Has the school spoken to pupils about moving? | Staff at Lakeside Primary Academy have discussed the proposal to move the school to the Mindenhurst development and will continue to support pupils throughout the transition, should the proposal be agreed.  |
| What is the impact of in-year transfers on pupils?   | In-year transfers may be difficult for some pupils as they settle into a new school. The new school will support children and parents with the transition. Further advice on in-year transfers is available on SCC's website.  |