

2020

Treetops Free School



Paul Smith
Statutory Consultation

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Public Consultation:

Have your say

- New Special School planned for Thurrock
- Treetops Free School
- Consultation closes Friday 6th November 2020

The Proposed Academy

Treetops Free School is a Special School, which has been commissioned by Thurrock Council and sponsored by Treetops Learning Community (MAT).

The Thurrock Pupil Place Planning document 2018 confirmed a significant need for more school provision by 2020, as a result of the demographic shift from London and due to Thurrock being a key part of the regeneration of the Eastern region. Existing school sites are unable to cater for the demand but are supporting additional pupils where they can in the lead up to the opening of the Free School.

In addition to the current waiting list, last year, over 100 families viewed Treetops and were keen to secure a place. Feedback from families is always positive but the majority of applications are unsuccessful as Treetops is oversubscribed. The new school will provide these, more vulnerable pupils, with a greater chance of a place.

The Academy will offer fulltime education and therapeutic behavioural support to 140 pupils in Thurrock and potentially surrounding areas. Pupils will be aged 5-16 and will normally have an EHCP. The main areas of need will be ASD, MLD, ADHD and Speech, Language and Communication Needs.

The Academy will be co-located on the existing Treetops Site in Buxton Road, Grays, Essex, RM16 2WU. During the course of this academic year, 2020-2021, the new school will be built on the parcel of land formerly occupied by Torrels Secondary School.



Our Vision and Ethos for the Academy

We are looking to establish a school which mirrors and reflects the ethos, values and vision of the existing Treetops School.

For more information, please visit our website: www.treetopsschool.org

Education and Curriculum

As with the existing Treetops School, the curriculum will be broad, balanced and appropriately differentiated to meet individual needs.

There will be a number of pathways in order that everyone can achieve their potential.

For more information, please visit our website: www.treetopsschool.org

Why are we consulting with you?

It is our intention to open Treetops Free School in the 2021 / 2022 academic year and your opinions count.

In December 2015, Treetops School was approached by the DfE to gauge our interest in opening and sponsoring a new special school. The application was completed and submitted in September 2016.

This application has the full support of our local authority, Thurrock.

As part of this planning process we have a legal obligation to consult interested parties on whether the Secretary of State should sign a funding agreement with Treetops Learning Community which will enable Treetops Free School to open.

The Funding Agreement is a contract that details key aspects of the Trust's responsibilities and how the school must function, such as how it abides by the Admissions Code and SEN Code of Conduct. It also outlines the circumstances in which the Secretary of State can intervene should the school's performance be considered unacceptable.

What you need to do

Please visit the main Treetops website: www.treetopsschool.org where you can find how it is intended for the new school to work and complete the survey online. You will find the survey in the Free School section.

Many thanks

Paul Smith

CEO

Treetops Learning Community

