



Free school bid form

For local authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision free schools

Published: July 2018

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The bid form explained

This free school bid form is for local authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision (AP) free schools.

Local authorities (either as a lead or sole bidder) can submit a bid for one special and one AP school in total in their area. Given the limited number of new schools we will create in this wave, it is highly unlikely that we will approve more than one school in any one local authority area. In the most exceptional of circumstances where you plan to make the case for two new schools in your area, you will need to complete a separate bid form for each school, although you should cross-reference where appropriate.

The overview section on the second tab asks for information about the number of bids you are submitting (i.e. one or two), the priority of each bid (if you are submitting two), what (if any) other bids you are supporting, and your expected future need for new special and AP schools (and when they are needed). If you are submitting two bids, you only need to complete the overview page on one form.

If your bid is successful, the opportunity will be advertised nationally, and if a strong proposal comes forward, the new school will be delivered and funded as part of the department's central free schools programme.

Before completing your bid, please ensure that you have read the ['guidance and criteria for local authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision free schools'](#) carefully, as this sets out the criteria by which your bid will be judged. Please provide all the information required.

The form should be completed by a local authority representative (or representatives, if it is a joint bid) with the approval of the Director(s) of Children's Services (DCS).

This bid form consists of 14 tabs in total (including this one). Please ensure you read all tabs carefully. You must complete the following tabs in full: overview, confirmation, A1, A2, B, C1, C2, C3, C4 and D. You will also need to complete tab 'A2 continued' if applicable and either tab 'Table C1i' or tab 'Table C1ii' depending on whether your bid is for a special or an AP free school.

Completed bid forms, specifications, and any supporting documentation (e.g. site plans, letters from commissioners)

should be submitted by midday on 15 October 2018. Submit your bid by email to:

APspecial.freeschool@education.gov.uk. Please title your email as follows: **Special/AP free school bid – [insert name of local authority (or lead local authority if joint bid)]**. Your email should not exceed 9 megabytes in size; anything larger will not be delivered. **If the bid is larger than 9 megabytes**, please split the documents and send two (or more)

emails clearly indicating that the emails are connected (e.g. email 1 of 3).

Free school bid forms should:

- maintain the pre-set printing format;
- not include any comments; and
- not include photographs, images or logos.

This opportunity **does not replace the [presumption](#) process and does not replace a local authority's sufficiency**

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1. This section must be completed.
2. If you are submitting more than one bid, you only need to complete this section once (on the form of your preferred bid).
3. Please refer to the 'guidance and criteria for local authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision free schools' for information about what to include in this section.
4. Please complete the form as provided, do not create any new fields. The text boxes can be made bigger by increasing the row height. To insert a new line in a text box, press alt + enter.

Overview

While local authorities (either as a lead or sole bidder) can submit a bid for one special and one AP school in total in their area, it is highly unlikely that we will approve more than one school in any one local authority area in this wave. However, we would like you to inform of us of expected future need for new schools.

Overview table	
Name of your local authority	Warrington
List the bid(s) you are submitting this wave, as either the lead or the sole local authority (including type of school e.g. special or AP) – please list these in priority order so that the first is your preferred bid	1. Special 2. Not applicable – submitting 1 bid
List the bid(s), if any, that another local authority is leading on and that you are supporting (including the name of the lead local authority)	N/A
Optional: brief description of your expected future need for new special and AP schools, and when they are needed	At present, we do not anticipate any future need to establish additional special or AP schools in Warrington.

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4. Please complete the form as provided, do not create any new fields. The text boxes can be made bigger by increasing the row height. To insert a new line in a text box, press alt + enter.

Confirmation

This confirmation must be signed by the relevant Director(s) of Children's Services at the local authority(ies) putting forward this bid.

I am the Director of Children's services at **Warrington Local Authority** and I have seen this expression of interest and support it.

I confirm that the information provided in this bid form is correct to the best of my knowledge.

I further confirm that the local authority and, if applicable, other commissioners (e.g. local schools commissioning AP places) named in section A of this bid have developed this proposal in partnership and, if the bid is successful, will commit to commissioning the number of places at the school as specified in this bid, and to paying the relevant top-up funding (indicative funding specified in this bid, to be confirmed by the local authority if the bid is successful).

I also confirm that I am aware of the financial consequences of the commissioning on our high needs budget.

In addition, I intend to commission places beyond the first two years, as per the proposed school growth profile (pupil/capacity build up).

NB: an electronic signature is acceptable. If multiple local authorities are submitting this bid, complete a signature

Signed:	Steve Peddie
Position:	Executive Director of Families & Wellbeing (DCS) at Warrington Local Authority
Print name:	Steve Peddie
Date:	15/10/2018

Signed:
Position:
Print name:
Date:

Signed:
Position: Director of Children's Services at **[INSERT LOCAL AUTHORITY NAME]**
Print name:
Date:

Signed:
Position: Director of Children's Services at **[INSERT LOCAL AUTHORITY NAME]**
Print name:
Date:

Signed:
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Date:

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Section A1 – local authority(ies) putting forward this bid

Please complete table A1. If this is a joint bid, information must be provided for each local authority involved and the lead local authority must be stated. **Please note that including a local authority on this list means they have committed to commissioning places.**

If you are the sole local authority submitting a bid (i.e. it is not a joint bid), then you must provide the reason why in box A1.

Table A1 - local authority(ies) putting forward this bid		
Name of local authority	Name of person leading	Contact details
<p>Lead local authority: [select name of lead local authority in cell C30 below. This would be the local authority in which the school would be located]</p> <p>Warrington</p>	<p>Paula Worthington, Assistant Director Early Help, Education & SEND, Warrington Borough Council</p>	<p>Telephone: [REDACTED] Mobile: [REDACTED] Email: [REDACTED] Address: Warrington Borough Council, New Town House, Warrington, WA1 2NH</p>
<p>[If applicable, select name of second local authority in cell C36 below]</p>		<p>Telephone: Mobile: Email: Address:</p>
<p>[If applicable, select name of third local authority in cell C42 below]</p>		<p>Telephone: Mobile: Email: Address:</p>
<p>[If applicable, select name of fourth local authority in cell C48 below]</p>		<p>Telephone: Mobile: Email: Address:</p>
<p>[If applicable, select name of fifth local authority in cell C54 below]</p>		<p>Telephone: Mobile: Email: Address:</p>

Box A1 - if you are submitting a solo bid, please explain why

No places have been commissioned by other local authorities at this stage. Warrington decided it was not appropriate to submit a joint application with other LAs as we would be able to commission all places based on current out of area pupil numbers and projections of future need. It is important for Warrington to have a local provision that will be located in our community and reduce travel time for often very vulnerable children. A Warrington location will also help to reduce our SEN transport spend and reduce residential costs, as well as support children and young people to stay in their local community.

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Section A2 – evidence that the new school will be fully commissioned

You must complete table A2 on this tab, showing how many places you would use at the school for the first two years of the school's operation. If there are multiple commissioners, you also need to complete the larger table on tab 'Table A2 continued'.

In addition, if you are submitting a bid for a new AP free school, you must also:

- Attach commitments in writing from any commissioners other than local authorities (e.g. local schools) indicating their firm intention to commission a specific number of places in the first two years, including the top-up funding they will pay for the children occupying the places;
- Attach evidence that the commissioners have made an informed decision, for example, confirmation that commissioners have seen your bid, and are aware of the characteristics of the new school and the outcomes you want to achieve; and,
- Provide information in box A2 about the commissioning and funding model used in your area(s). To note, we will ask for further details

Box A2 - for AP schools only, please use this space to describe the commissioning and funding model(s)

N/A

Table A2 - evidence that the new school will be fully commissioned (to be completed for both special and AP schools)

Commissioner	Year of operation	Number of EY places	Number of KS1 places	Number of KS2 places	Number of KS3 places	Number of KS4 places	Number of 16-19 places
Warrington	First year of opening			■	■	■	
	Second year of opening			■	■	■	



1. *This table must be completed if there are multiple commissioners .*
2. *If you are submitting more than one bid, you must complete this section for each bid.*
3. *Please complete the form as provided, do not create any new fields. The text boxes can be made bigger by increasing the row height. To insert a new line in a text box, press alt + enter.*

Table A2 continued

You must complete table A2 on the previous tab, showing how many places you would use at the school for the first two years of the school's operation. If there are multiple commissioners, you also need to complete the table on this tab.

Table A2 continued - evidence that the new school will be fully commissioned (to be completed for both special and AP schools)							
Commissioner	Year of operation	Number of EY places	Number of KS1 places	Number of KS2 places	Number of KS3 places	Number of KS4 places	Number of 16-19 places
[NAME OF COMMISSIONER. COMPLETE A LINE FOR EACH COMMISSIONER]	First year of opening						
	Second year of opening						
[NAME OF COMMISSIONER. COMPLETE A LINE FOR EACH COMMISSIONER]	First year of opening						
	Second year of opening						
[NAME OF COMMISSIONER. COMPLETE A LINE FOR EACH COMMISSIONER]	First year of opening						
	Second year of opening						
[NAME OF COMMISSIONER. COMPLETE A LINE FOR EACH COMMISSIONER]	First year of opening						
	Second year of opening						
[NAME OF COMMISSIONER. COMPLETE A LINE FOR EACH COMMISSIONER]	First year of opening						
	Second year of opening						
[NAME OF COMMISSIONER. COMPLETE A LINE FOR EACH COMMISSIONER]	First year of opening						
	Second year of opening						
[NAME OF COMMISSIONER. COMPLETE A LINE FOR EACH COMMISSIONER]	First year of opening						
	Second year of opening						
[NAME OF COMMISSIONER. COMPLETE A LINE FOR EACH COMMISSIONER]	First year of opening						
	Second year of opening						
[NAME OF COMMISSIONER. COMPLETE A LINE FOR EACH COMMISSIONER]	First year of opening						
	Second year of opening						



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Section B – what type of school is wanted

There are no assessment criteria for section B. Please provide key information about the school you would like to commission in table Bi. Additionally, please set out the expected pupil build up (how the school would fill year-on-year once it opens) in table Bii.

Table Bi - what type of school is wanted	
Type of school	Special free school
Category of provision/needs (if more than one type, with different top-up rates, please explain)	Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). If appropriate, places can also be offered for Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) and Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) dependent on individual needs and profile of the cohort.
Age range	7 to 16
Per-pupil revenue funding you would expect to pay (if a range of rates, please explain)	██████ per place (base funding) plus ██████████ dependent on individual needs (subject to LA SEN Funding review) per pupil (top-up funding)
Gender (co-educational/boys/girls)	Co-educational
Total number of proposed full time equivalent places (once school is at full capacity - including 16-19 places, but not including nursery places)	56 FTE
Type of places offered (e.g. full time, short term, part time)	Full time with some short term placements
Number of nursery places, if applicable	N/A
Number of 16-19 places, if applicable	N/A
Describe any planned outreach, training and/or reintegration support (including details of funding that will be made available to support the school with this)	Outreach to resourced provisions and mainstream Short term access to intervention places with return to mainstream wherever possible Training for staff across the authority Support to parents / carers

Table Bii - pupil build up							
	Year of opening	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6
Nursery							
Reception							
Key stage 1 (Y1-2)							
Key stage 2 (Y3-6)							
Key stage 3 (Y7-9)							
Key stage 4 (Y10-11)							
16-19: commissioner referred							
Totals							

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Section C1 – the current context in your area

We are looking for bids in areas where a new school will most support local authorities to manage current and/or anticipated pressures on special school places or on the overall high needs budget, so that the needs of children can be better met. We will not be inclined to approve bids that have the side effect of decreasing the inclusion in mainstream schools of children with SEN, or who are at risk of permanent or fixed term exclusions, or of creating excess spare capacity in existing special or AP school. Bids will score more highly if they can demonstrate that a new school will be filled by students who would otherwise be going to more expensive or poor performing provision.

Please use box C1 to provide information about existing provision in your area, future expected growth and use of your high needs budget. You should also use this box to provide commentary around the information sources listed in Annex B of the [guidance](#) that we will use to support our assessment of this section.

Box C1 - the current context in your area

(we expect your response to this section to be no more than around 500 words, excluding your entries on table C1i/C1ii)

A need has been identified for a new special school to support children and young people with a primary need of Autistic Spectrum Disorder from KS2 to KS4. There are currently four special school provisions in Warrington. Three of these are maintained special schools. Green Lane School is for Cognition and Learning, complex learning difficulties and additional medical conditions funded for 158 pupils. Fox Wood School supports with Communication and Interaction, severe learning difficulties and additional medical issues funded for 81 pupils. Woolston Brook School supports Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs from KS2 to KS4 funded for 72 places. Chaigeley School is an independent school for SEMH. Green Lane School was judged to be outstanding in its last Ofsted inspection. The other special schools are judged to be good.

Warrington also has a number of resourced provisions linked to mainstream schools. There are 11 resourced provisions in six Primary schools and 6 provisions in five Secondary schools. These cater for ASD (6 provisions - 70 places), SEMH (1 provision - 10 places), Cognition and Learning (5 provisions - 56 places) and KS1 Development Centres (5 provisions - 42 places). All of the Primary schools and one of the Secondary schools have an Ofsted judgement of good. All of the resourced provisions receive an annual LA-led quality assurance review, the most recent of which showed they were performing well.

In Warrington, the number of pupils with ASD has increased by 40% in the past four years and as of January 2018 there were 335 pupils in primary, secondary and special schools. Around two thirds of pupils with Autism attend a mainstream school. The majority of pupils with Autism attend a school in Warrington, however 32 school age children attend out of borough provision and the likelihood of this increases with age. It is this cohort who will be targeted to fill places in the new special school. During the pupil's EHCP annual review, consideration can be given to a move back to a Warrington provision, particularly at key transition points. Coupled with this is work currently being undertaken to develop more post-16 and preparation for adulthood opportunities (e.g. Supported Internships) in Warrington.

There are no unregistered schools in Warrington. Home tuition and elective home education numbers are very low compared to statistical neighbours (84 EHE children - only 6 with an EHCP). There have been no permanent exclusions of pupils with EHCPs since 2016. There has been an historic issue related to fixed term exclusions at the two SEMH special schools which is being addressed.

Like many other local authorities, Warrington is predicting an overspend on its high needs budget. To address this, the LA have been working closely with education providers and health to ensure value for money and to develop innovative ways to reduce costs without impacting negatively on children and young people. The costs associated with developing provision in Warrington will be offset by the savings made from ceasing to use costly out of borough independent provision.

Word count: 500

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1. This table must be completed if you are submitting a bid for a special free school.
2. If you are submitting more than one bid, you must complete this section for each bid.
3. Please refer to tab 'C1 - current context' as well as the 'guidance and criteria for local authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision free schools' for information about what to include in this section.
4. Please complete the form as provided, do not create any new fields. The text boxes can be made bigger by increasing the row height. To insert a new line in a text box, press alt + enter.

Table C1i - trends in your specialist provision for all children with EHC plans

Type of provision	Number of providers used	Please indicate the number of pupils with an EHC plan living in your local authority who are placed within these settings, and the total cost (including base, top-up and transportation if applicable) of all placements at each setting											
						Projected figures without the new school you want				Projected figures if your bid for a new school is successful			
		2014 (pupils)	2014 (cost)	2018 (pupils)	2018 (cost)	2022 (pupils)	2022 (cost)	2026 (pupils)	2026 (cost)	2022 (pupils)	2022 (cost)	2026 (pupils)	2026 (cost)
Resourced provision and units inside local authority	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Resourced provision and units outside local authority	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Special schools (either maintained or academies) inside local authority	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Special schools (either maintained or academies) outside local authority	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Independent / non-maintained special schools inside local authority	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Independent / non-maintained special schools outside local authority	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Mainstream schools inside local authority	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Mainstream schools outside local authority	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
General FE colleges (if relevant) inside local authority													
General FE colleges (if relevant) outside local authority													
Specialist FE providers (if relevant) inside local authority													
Specialist FE providers (if relevant) outside local authority													

Section C1 – the current context in your area

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1. *This table must be completed if you are submitting a bid for an AP free school.*
2. *If you are submitting more than one bid, you must complete this section for each bid.*
3. *Please refer to tab 'C1 - current context' as well as the 'guidance and criteria for local authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision free schools' for information about what to include in this section.*
4. *Please complete the form as provided, do not create any new fields. The text boxes can be made bigger by increasing the row height. To insert a new line in a text box, press alt + enter.*

Table C1ii - trends in alternative provision													
Type of provision	Number of providers used	Please indicate the no. of pupils living in your local authority who are placed within these settings, and the total cost (including base, top-up and transportation if applicable) of all placements at each setting											
						Projected figures without the new school you want				Projected figures if your bid for a new school is successful			
		2014 (pupils)	2014 (cost)	2018 (pupils)	2018 (cost)	2022 (pupils)	2022 (cost)	2026 (pupils)	2026 (cost)	2022 (pupils)	2022 (cost)	2026 (pupils)	2026 (cost)
Maintained PRUs inside local authority													
Maintained PRUs outside local authority													
Maintained AP free schools or academies inside local authority													
Maintained AP free schools or academies outside local authority													
Independent AP settings (registered) inside local authority													
Independent AP settings (registered) outside local authority													
Independent AP settings (unregistered) inside local authority													
Independent AP settings (unregistered) outside local authority													
AP units located in or attached to mainstream schools inside local authority													
AP units located in or attached to mainstream schools outside local authority													
Places designated for AP commissioned from special schools inside local authority													
Places designated for AP commissioned from special schools outside local authority													
Places designated for AP in further education settings inside local authority													
Places designated for AP in further education settings outside local authority													
Other AP inside local authority – please specify													
Other AP outside local authority – please specify													



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Section C2 – your strategy for high needs provision

You must use this section to tell us about your strategy for high needs provision. The purpose of this section is to help us understand your plan for children with SEND or those requiring alternative provision and make a judgement about whether the school you are proposing fits within your strategy.

Box C2 - your strategy for high needs provision

(we expect your response to this section to be no more than around 1000 words)

Warrington's 'Integrated Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy 2018/21' sets out the joint strategic plans of Warrington Borough Council (WBC) and Warrington Clinical Commissioning Group, and has been co-produced with Warrington Parents & Carers Forum (WARRPAC). The strategy can be found at:

Our vision for children and young people with SEND is to do their best at nursery, school and college, find employment, lead happy and fulfilled lives, have greater control over the support they receive and to feel valued. Within the strategy, Priority 5 is to increase the numbers of school places in Warrington and improve inclusive practice. The new special school will contribute to this, as well as ensuring children are able to access a joined up and local health offer in school (Priority 6) and to help improve transition planning across the key stages of children's lives (Priority 8). In response to Priority 5, our actions are to work in partnership with schools to support more children and young people to remain successfully in mainstream provision, review the level of school places to meet current and expected need within resourced provision or special schools, to reduce the number of pupils being placed out of area for their education and work with a wide range of providers to further develop provision, pathways into adulthood, supported internships and employability skills across the 16-19/25 phase.

Priority 3 within 'Warrington's Autism Strategy for Children, Young People and Adults 2018/22' is for children and young people to get the best from school and college by continuing to improve the knowledge, understanding and inclusive practice in schools in Warrington, encouraging more schools to be Autism friendly so that more children can remain at their local school, making sure there are enough local school places for children with Autism so that fewer children travel out of area to have their education needs met at primary and secondary school, and improving access to therapeutic interventions aimed specifically at children with Autism in our special schools and resourced provision ensuring they receive the sensory input they require to stay focused and organised throughout the day.

Warrington Inclusion Hub (now known as the SEN Review Board) was established in 2015 with a vision to increase capacity within the special educational needs system so that where possible, children and young people from Warrington are able to access and have their needs met in a Warrington school. However, given the rise in the number of EHC Plans maintained by the local authority, there are not enough school places locally to meet the needs of all children and young people with SEND. This has led to an increase in children placed in external education placements either in independent or other local authority maintained provision. The SEND Review Board has recently begun a review of SEN Provision to ensure the sufficiency and effectiveness of the continuum of provision in Warrington (mainstream, special schools, resourced provision, development centres and post-16) and consider the use made of independent out-of-borough placements - getting 'the right provision to the right people at the right time'. The aims are to ensure that we have a range of provision, with sufficient capacity, to meet the needs of all our children and young people with SEND; within the limits of the budget available, and delivering the best outcomes for our children and young people. The focus of the review is to ensure that we offer outstanding quality and meet the range of needs within Warrington, impact on the life outcomes for this group of children and young people in line with the aspirations for their non-SEN peer group, keep SEN children and young people within their home community and prepare them for adulthood, ensure improved outcomes and achievement of aspirations – ensuring all children and young people achieve their true potential, be multi-disciplinary in terms of collaborative working, but particularly around the production of EHCPs and to be person-centred.

Warrington has established the Committed to Inclusion Award to encourage schools to improve their inclusive practice with the aim of enabling more children and young people with SEND to successfully remain in a mainstream learning environment. 80% of Warrington's schools achieved the award in 2017/18.

Warrington's Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for SEND was refreshed during the summer of 2017 by WBC with various partners and agencies, such as Bridgewater Community Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Warrington CCG, NHS England and WARRPAC. The intention of the JSNA is to present a full analysis of need and where there may be opportunities for development in the local area. The findings were that there are insufficient places to meet current and expected need within designated provision or special schools in Warrington to meet the needs of pupils with an EHC plan leading to a number of pupils being placed out of area for their education. Based on the increasing number of children with neuro-development conditions, it is proposed that more ASD educational and respite provision needs to be developed,

including post 18 support. The declined application for the ASD school needs to be revisited and a business case developed for a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) or independent provider to supply the shortfall in provision (the need for a new ASD provision has been acknowledged for some time - a previous application to open a new ASD special school in 2016 was rejected). More resourced / special school places are required based on the low number of places currently available in Warrington compared to regional and statistical neighbours sufficiency. Three of the commissioning opportunities identified are to develop the local offer to meet the increasing number of children and young people with EHC Plans and a primary need of ASD, identify children with SEND at the earliest opportunity to support better forecasting for school places and planning for other provision and develop appropriate (local) post 16 – 25 provision so that young people have access to opportunities near home and are not travelling out of the area.

Word count:

995

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Section C3 – why you want a new school and how it fits with your strategy and the local landscape

We want to open new schools where they are the right solution for the area. We are looking for bids where a new school will help local authorities meet children's needs, fit into the local authority's strategic plan for high needs provision and complement the local education offer.

Please use box C3 to explain the rationale for a new school.

In addition, please use table C3 to provide evidence of engagement with others and attach any supporting evidence of this (e.g. letters) when you submit your bid.

Box C3 - why you want a new school and how it fits with your overall strategy

(we expect your response to this section to be no more than around 500 words)

In Warrington, there is a lack of special school provision which results in children and young people accessing their education outside of the borough, often with very expensive independent providers. This leads to a disconnect from their peers and home community and results in difficulties for their transition to adulthood. This has also led to greater pressures on Warrington's high needs funding. Our spend on independent specialist provision has increased dramatically and is a significant contributory factor to our high needs overspend, whilst our SEN transport budget is also overspent. These children and young people tend to be the most complex. The independent specialist sector are able to invest in impressive therapeutic facilities which impress parents further adding to pressure to place children in these provisions.

Warrington and it's partners have been reviewing the provision and support for children and young people with SEND. This has resulted in the development of our SEND Strategy which outlines Warrington's vision to increase capacity within the special educational needs system so that where possible, children and young people are able to have their needs met in Warrington. A much higher number of pupils with SEND are educated in mainstream schools in Warrington compared to the national and regional averages - 52% compared to 40% across the North West and 43% in England (January 2017). Only 28% of pupils were educated in a special school in Warrington compared to 44% in the North West and 41% across England. This reflects the small number of specialist education places available locally which has resulted in significantly large increases in pupils being placed in expensive out of area placements. There is also a greater dependency on out of area education as young people with ASD get older, again due to the lack of appropriate specialist provision in Warrington.

The new special school will be established to directly reduce the numbers of children and young people in out of area placements and will alleviate the need for future use. The new school will have the therapeutic approaches needed through strong partnerships with Health services. It is not our plan to move pupils from mainstream settings unless this is in the best interests of the child. Warrington has a number of resourced provisions linked to mainstream schools which are often the first response for children struggling in mainstream. However, the new special school will support with short term placements and outreach support to mainstream and resourced provisions. We have identified Autistic Spectrum Disorder, coupled with Social, Emotional and Mental Health and Speech, Language and Communication Needs as our focus areas for the new special school, particularly looking for creative approaches to supporting vulnerable girls. This has been developed in liaison with our education providers, parents/carers and Health through our SEND Review Board and consultations. Our approach is supported by local data which shows that since 2014, there has been a 26% increase in children and young people with a primary need of ASD, whilst SLCN has increased by 63%.

Word count:

500

Table C3 - engagement with others		
Who	How you have engaged (e.g. surveys, meetings)	Summary of engagement (e.g. summary of survey findings and/or conversations)
Your neighbouring local authorities – please specify	Communication by email and phone calls (Halton, St Helens and Wigan LAs).	Decided not appropriate to submit a joint application as Warrington would be able to commission all places based on current out of area pupil numbers and projections. Important for Warrington to have a local provision that will become part of the community and reduce travel time for these vulnerable children, also to help reduce SEN transport spend.
Commissioning bodies in your area – please specify	Warrington Clinical Commissioning Group - attendance at meetings and forums.	Fully supportive of new special school for ASD and associated needs.
Local mainstream schools – please specify	SEND Review Board, Executive Directors Briefing - attendance at meetings	Analysis of numbers and funding being used for out of area placements. Schools supportive of developing our own local provision. Keen to have short term placements for children and outreach to mainstream schools.
School representative bodies e.g. schools forum – please specify	Meetings - Schools Forum, Warrington Association of Primary Headteachers, Warrington Association of Secondary & College Leaders, Warrington Association of Special School Headteachers, SEND Review Board and subgroups	Analysis of numbers and funding being used for out of area placements. Schools supportive of developing our own local provision. Keen to have short term placements for children and outreach to mainstream schools. Pressure on high needs budget causing concern at School Forum - overseeing strategies to reduce spend whilst still supporting needs of pupils with the SEND Review Board.
Representatives of parents and carers and young people e.g. parent/carer forum – please specify	Warrington Parents and Carers Forum (WARRPAC) - attendance at meetings - SEND strategic meetings, ASD Group representation, feedback from parents (SEND Strategy)	Fully supportive of new special school for ASD and associated needs. Parents/carers want more local provision in their community that will meet children's needs.
Any other partners e.g. community groups, FE colleges – please specify		

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1. This section must be completed.
2. If you are submitting more than one bid, you must complete this section for each bid.
3. Please refer to the 'guidance and criteria for local authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision free schools' for information about what to include in this section.
4. Please complete the form as provided, do not create any new fields. The text boxes can be made bigger by increasing the row height. To insert a new line in a text box, press alt + enter.

Section C4 – the expected outcomes

To be approvable, bids must demonstrate that the new school will:

- Help to achieve better outcomes for children and young people (compared with existing options); and,
- Support inclusion, including re-integration where appropriate and providing expertise to mainstream schools.

Please use box C4 to describe the impact you expect the school to have, as well as the potential risks and how you would mitigate those.

Box C4 - expected outcomes

(we expect your response to this section to be no more than around 500 words)

Warrington has high expectations of all of its schools and providers and we already have a culture of support and co-operation across the sector. Specialist provisions, such as our resourced provisions and special schools, already deliver informal outreach support to mainstream schools. A team of Specialist Teachers also already provide support and interventions for ASD and SEMH. We are about to start discussions with some of our existing providers about short term assessment places and a more formalised outreach offer, and would expect the new special school to be involved with this. The new special school will work closely with our Teaching Schools to further help support the development of good practice across all schools.

Children and young people who move to the new special school on a short term basis will remain dual rolled with their home school, the expectation being that they will return to their school at an agreed date with heavily supported re-integration. The local authority is committed to funding this as an 'invest to save' initiative as it will help to reduce the numbers of children and young people who would potentially move to specialist provision. Our future projections are based on this approach working so that more children remain in mainstream. Wherever possible, children and young people who are able to access mainstream provision should be supported to do this and annual reviews will be a key point in assessing whether a child is still in the right provision each year. As young people progress towards adulthood, we would expect the school to engage in our local preparation for adulthood offer taking advantage of opportunities that exist in Warrington to develop pupil's social, employability and independence skills.

The desired outcomes for the school would be:

- The school will be judged to be Outstanding by Ofsted
- 95% of pupils will achieve or exceed their personalised targets
- 100% of pupils will access an extended and fulfilling curriculum, including out of school activities
- 100% of pupils in KS4 will engage in relevant work placement
- 100% of pupils will progress into further education, training or employment after leaving the school
- 100% of pupils will move to independent or supported living accommodation if this is their personal preference
- 100% of pupils will remain in the care of their families and live in their local communities if this is their personal preference
- 100% of pupils will report a high level of satisfaction about their education, health and social care plans and packages
- 100% of parents will be satisfied with the school and will recommend it to others

The main risk involved in establishing the provision is that it might not stem the use of out of area placements. This could be due to parental preference, additional demand for places or resistance from the new school to accept more complex children and young people. The local authority will need to be clear, transparent and consistent in its messages and decision making to mitigate against this.

Word count:

494



Free school bid form [1 of 1]

- 1. This section must be completed.
- 2. If you are submitting more than one bid, you must complete this section for each bid.
- 3. Please refer to the 'guidance and criteria for local authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision free schools' for information about what to include in this section.
- 4. Please complete the form as provided, do not create any new fields. The text boxes can be made bigger by increasing the row height. To insert a new line in a text box, press alt + enter.

Section D – the proposed location and site

Finding a suitable site is an essential part of opening a free school. As part of preparing your bid you should investigate potential sites for the school and tell us about them in your bid. In this wave we will undertake a desktop assessment of site and consider the value for money, timescale and delivery risks in securing a site for the proposed school in the proposed area.

We will give preference to those projects where our site assessments shows that we are likely to secure a value for money site in a timely manner with an acceptable level of risk, in particular, those bids that include an available site on a peppercorn basis. Making a site available on a peppercorn lease gives the greatest chance of the school opening successfully, and on time.

Please complete table D to tell us about where the school would be located and the preferred site.


Please also provide the name and contact details for the main local authority lead for sites. The ESFA may contact this person to ask questions about the site. **If you know any of these site details before submitting your bid, please let DfE know (by emailing FSC.EOI@education.gov.uk) so we can start conversations with you.**

Kate Guise - Assistant Head of Service: Planning & Participation, [REDACTED]
.....

Please tick the box below to confirm that the relevant Lead Member for Corporate Property has seen this bid and is content with the information provided about site (if provided).

Please tick to confirm

Table D - the proposed location and site	
Please describe the location in which you propose to set up your school being as specific as possible. This could include the name of the area in which you would like to put the school, the part of a city, town or suburb. Please also consider how flexible you are - how far from your preferred location are you willing to go? Please include an annotated map as an additional file and send it to APspecial.freeschool@education.gov.uk, if possible. If applicable, please also describe the potential impact of any specialism that you plan for your school to have on the site requirement.	[REDACTED]
Please tell us the postcode of a central location in your preferred area. You need to provide this even if you have already identified a preferred site. It must be a full postcode e.g. SW1P 3BT, not SW1.	[REDACTED]
Your calculated building space using the ESFA formula (see section D in the guidance) and any comments on this.	56 ambulant pupils = $56 \times 14.5 + 1050 = 1862\text{m}^2$
If you have identified a preferred site, please complete the rest of the table:	
Full address and postcode of preferred site. It must be a full postcode e.g. SW1P 3BT, not SW1.	[REDACTED]
In which local authority is your preferred site?	Warrington
Please tell us how you found the site.	Former site of Local Authority maintained school
Please confirm the tenure.	The local authority submitting the bid
Please include information on purchase or lease price if known.	Not known
Who owns the site?	Local authority building
Is the site available/on the market? (Please attach agents' particulars as an additional file and send it to APspecial.freeschool@education.gov.uk if available)	No
Name and contact details of owner and/or the agent or local authority representative	[REDACTED]
If the site is local authority owned, which local authority owns it?	Warrington
If the site is local authority owned, please state if the local authority have confirmed that, if successful, the site may be used by the free school. Please include terms (e.g. 125 year peppercorn lease). Please also provide details of any other local authority contribution towards the capital costs of the project (e.g. developer contributions).	If successful, the site can be used for the free school on a 125 year peppercorn lease
What kind of site is it?	Existing building
What is the current use?	School/education building

<p>Why have you chosen this site? What makes it suitable?</p>	
<p>If known, how big is the building and the site? Please attach any site and building plans as an additional file and send it to APspecial.freeschool@education.gov.uk</p>	<p>Building: 1014m2 Site: 7810m2</p>
<p>Please comment on the condition of the building. Please attach photos if available as an additional file and send it to APspecial.freeschool@education.gov.uk</p>	<p>The building is in good condition but would require capital investment for remodelling as a special school including changes to access, staff and visitor parking and perimeter fencing arrangements in order for the Free school to operate completely independently of Bruche Primary School. Additional building work may also be required to ensure adequate total floor area. The building was constructed in the 1960's and is in the main a single storey "Vic Hallom" system build, except for a recently added traditionally constructed extension. The building has recently been used on a temporary basis by a free school and has now been handed back to the Council having been cleaned and redecorated etc. The building is currently being used for storage and will require investment to bring it up to the level required for a fully operating school, with numerous upgrades being required.</p>
<p>If the named site is part of a housing development or the school is attracting Section 106 contributions, please give as much detail as possible, including: the development and developer, timing and programme of build, number of housing units, status of planning application and any links to planning applications/decision notices, extent of funding coming from the developer plus confirmation of the local authority's position in relation to your free school using this site.</p>	<p>N/A</p>

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