



STATUTORY PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATION TO MAINTAINED SCHOOL

Local Authority Proposal

1. School and local authority details

Springfield School
Crewe Green Road
Crewe
CW1 5HS.

This proposal is regarding Springfield Wilmslow campus
Ringstead Drive
Dean Row
Wilmslow
SK9 2HA

Springfield School is maintained by
Cheshire East Borough Council
Westfields
Sandbach
Cheshire
CW11 1HZ

2. Implementation

September 2025

3. Proposed Alteration

Springfield Wilmslow opened in January 2024, it is a satellite school of Springfield School, Crewe, which supports pupils with Severe Learning Difficulties and Complex Needs.

We are consulting on a proposal to expand Springfield Wilmslow by an additional 20 places for pupils between the ages 4 to 16 increasing the overall capacity from the current 80 places to 100 places.

The proposal, if agreed, would involve increasing the accommodation at Springfield Wilmslow by 2 classrooms along with providing some ancillary spaces. The scheme would involve the refurbishment and repurposing of the adjacent former community centre building for use by the school.

In 2023 the Council published online its updated Sufficiency Statement for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs. This document highlights the specialist provision necessary within the Borough and provides the evidence base for the associated SEN plan 2023 – 2026.

<https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/pdf/livewell/sen/send-sufficiency-statement-forchildren-and-young-people-with-special-educational-needs-2023-2026.pdf>

4. Need or demand for additional places

The Council's Sufficiency Statement and 3-year plan has informed of the need for additional specialist places in the Borough. An opportunity to provide for these additional placements at Springfield Wilmslow campus has been identified. Spring Wilmslow is a satellite of Springfield School, Crewe, which is an OFSTED Outstanding rated school.

5. Objectives of the Proposal and Educational Standards

The Council's SEND Sufficiency Statement for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs states: -

Cheshire East is committed to supporting our children and young people to access the best education to meet their needs and to ensure they achieve the best possible outcomes. Having the right educational placement is key to supporting children and young people to achieve their potential and to develop the range of skills and experiences they need to equip them for adulthood.

We want all our children and young people to be happy, healthy, and safe, and to be able to live a life that is full of opportunities to learn and develop.

Our Children and Young People's Plan is based on what children and young people told us was most important to them. It has six priority areas that we are working to achieve across the partnership to ensure that Cheshire East is a great place to be young. We want to ensure that all our children and young people:

1. Have a voice, and are actively involved in decisions that affect their lives and communities
2. Feel safe
3. Are happy and have good emotional and mental health
4. Are healthy and make positive choices
5. Leave school with the best skills and qualifications they can achieve, and the life skills they need to thrive into adulthood
6. Children and young people with additional needs have better chances in life

The statement contributes to the authorities work across all of these priorities, but it is particularly related to priority 6; ensuring that children and young people with additional needs have better chances in life.

It's also important to us that we make the very best use of our resources so that we can provide the best quality service possible to all children and young people that need support. This means ensuring that we use our resources innovatively, match our services to the needs within our population, and also that we don't duplicate services. This also means reducing costs on any additional expenditure that doesn't contribute to children and young people's attainment or wellbeing, such as travel costs for long distance travel.

Through developing our SEND provision, we want to:

- Enable children to achieve the best possible outcomes for children and young people.
- Ensure that there are the right number and type of places to meet children and young people's needs.
- Ensure that children and young people can have their needs met within their local community wherever possible.
- Make the best use of resources.

The focus for the plan is **RIGHT time, RIGHT support, RIGHT place**, which is embedded within the SEND strategy and the Dedicated School grant Management Plan.

6. Effect on other Educational Establishments in the Area

The next nearest Cheshire East School delivering similar provision to Springfield Wilmslow is Park Lane School in Macclesfield.

This School is in the North of the Borough which is over 6 miles (straight line distance) from Springfield Wilmslow and 15 miles (straight line distance) from Springfield School, Crewe.

7. Project costs and Value for Money

The authority believes that to provide long term value for money it is right to expand schools with permanent accommodation where possible. Permanent expansion provides new facilities providing reassurance to parents and providing children with the most favourable good quality learning environment. It also allows the children to be educated within Cheshire East allowing them to spend more time with their friends and family and allows the Council to make better use of its resources.

The proposed expansion at Springfield Wilmslow is to increase specialist provision within the Borough by a further 20 places for 4 -16 year olds.

A full detailed feasibility will be undertaken to ensure the project delivers the accommodation required for the additional pupils. The costs for the scheme are yet to be confirmed following completion of the feasibility study. Subsequent works will be procured in line with the Councils frameworks.

8. Objections and comments

Within 4 weeks from the date of publication of this proposal i.e., by **11 October 2024** any person may support, object to, or make comments on the proposal by: -

- Completing the online survey at www.cheshireeast.gov.uk
- Via email to SOCS@cheshireeast.gov.uk
- Completing the Feedback Form and handing it in at the school or post it to the school at -.

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