



Proposal to create a Specialist Resourced Provision for Autism (ASD) in the East Cambridgeshire district, by establishing an Enhanced Resource Base (ERB) at Burrough Green CofE Primary Academy.

Proposal:

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) is consulting on the following changes at Burrough Green CofE Primary Academy, Bradley Road, Burrough Green, Cambridgeshire, CB8 9NH.

Creation of an Enhanced Resource Base (ERB) provision, offering 10 places for learners with Autism (ASD) as their primary EHCP need.

The school and Local Authority propose to create a 10-space provision for children with an EHCP and Autism as their primary need, the provision will be able to meet learners' needs, whilst also offering opportunities of inclusion within the main school community.

Local Authority (LA) Details:

Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC), New Shire Hall, Emery Crescent, Enterprise Campus, Alconbury Weald, Huntingdon PE28 4YE.

School details:

Burrough Green CofE Primary Academy has yet to be inspected by Ofsted since it converted to an Academy in September 2024, now under the ACT Multi Academy Trust.

The main school has a roll of 54 children, but with a capacity of 105 forecasts demonstrate that the school's growth will still allow ample capacity to account for this new provision.

The school wish to establish a formal ERB provision with the Local Authority, utilising available accommodation and the expertise of school staff and the Academy Trust's experience of running similar provisions at their other schools.

Description of alteration and evidence of demand:

The SEND census data (see table 1) shows that the number of children with an EHCP in Cambridgeshire has risen by nearly 52% between 2020 and 2025.

Table 2 shows the total number of children with Autism as their primary need by year. This shows that there was an increase of 72% between 2018 and 2023 (last available data for primary need break down)

CCC is therefore implementing a SEND Strategy to address the deficit and demand on specialist support for children and young people with SEND and EHCP's, part of which is increasing capacity and sufficiency, working with mainstream schools to create further SEND Units and Resourced Provisions.

Table 1 – Total number of children and young people with an EHCP

School Year	TOTAL
2020/2021	5292
2021/2022	6100
2022/2023	6972
2023/2024	7318
2024/2025	8007

Table 2 – Total number of children and young people with Autism as their primary need. (Data for academic years 23/24 and 24/25 not available at time of this report)

School Year	Total 1-3	Total 4-10	Total 11-15	Total post 16	TOTAL
2018/2019	0	528	384	379	1291
2019/2020	0	617	441	420	1478
2020/2021	0	717	484	452	1653
2021/2022	0	811	549	519	1879
2022/2023	21	895	714	591	2221

CCC must ensure that children and young people receive a level of support which will help them achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes.

Burrough Green CofE Primary Academy currently has an area of the school building that is under used and would suit the creation of suitable accommodation in which to run such a provision. There is a substantial "classroom" space currently used as a staff room, an additional break out room, and rooms intended to be a sensory space

and other required facilities such as toilets. The area also benefits from direct access for learners, not through the main school, and access to an area for a dedicated outdoor space to be created. The proposal is for this space to be remodelled to be made appropriate for the intended proposed use, with secure fobbed access and a sensory room built in one of the smaller rooms.

The school would also like to consult as part of this process in changing their designation to reflect the new provision and their ability to support learners with Autism (ASD) as a specialism.

This consultation is looking at:

Creating a 10 place Autism provision for East Cambridgeshire, by way of an Enhanced Resource Base (ERB) attached to Burrough Green CofE Primary Academy. This will provide much needed and suitable provision in the area for learners with an EHCP and ASD as their primary need. It will provide specialist education for these learners, whilst also offering opportunities for inclusion within the mainstream school community.

The underpinning rationale for this proposed change is that:

- The number of children in Cambridgeshire, with EHCPs has risen steadily over the last decade. The proposed change is part of a wider expansion strategy to address the growing demand for specialist educational places.
- Autism (ASD) as a Primary Need continues to grow, so ensuring adequate amounts of specialist provisions and places across the county to support children with these needs is important, as is ensuring the provisions available meet all age range requirements.

Objectives (including how the proposal would increase educational standards and parental choice):

- To support CCC in providing additional specialist places for children within the Cambridge City locality, specifically those with an Autism (ASD) diagnosis and significant speech language and communication needs.
- For children attending the provision at the school to have opportunities of inclusion within the mainstream school community as appropriate to their individual needs and abilities.

The effect on other educational institutions within the local area:

- The proposal will help mitigate the demand on local special schools by providing more spaces available in the locality for children with these needs to be able to access.

- This will provide additional provision within East Cambridgeshire for students with an ASD need, relieving pressure on schools with students on roll that they are struggling to meet need for.

Project costs and indications of how these will be met:

The creation of the provision at Burrough Green CofE Primary Academy will be accommodated in currently available and underused space on the school site. Capital costs for the improvement works required to this accommodation will be covered by CCC. Once completed, the school will take on maintenance to ensure ongoing compliance and quality of this accommodation.

Other considerations:

Admissions:

All children would require an EHCP and a diagnosis of autism or autism with significant speech and language communication needs. The school would need to meet both the parents and child during consultation before a place will be offered to ensure we can meet the child's needs, and the placement is appropriate.

Transition to new placements following Year 6:

The school will work closely with all destination schools and specialist provisions to ensure that children transition smoothly into their next phase of education.

For example, where appropriate for the needs of the child, Burrough Green CofE Primary Academy will work closely with local area special schools or mainstream secondary schools to ensure well-supported transitions that enable the next destination to be fully informed to meet the learners need.

Staffing, HR and training:

The school will be responsible for the recruitment of staff required and adherence to safer recruitment practice and guidance and continued professional development.

To ensure the needs of the children are met, one teacher with three supporting TAs, one possibly responsible for intimate care, will be required.

Governance:

Governance will continue to be the responsibility of the Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body of Burrough Green CofE Primary Academy.

Implementation plan:

As part of CCC's decision-making process a consultation on the proposed changes will run for a period of 4 weeks from 19/01/26 to 13/02/26 and will seek the views of all interested parties.

CCC will give careful consideration to all comments received during the consultation period before reaching a decision on whether or not to proceed with the proposal. If the proposal is agreed, it is proposed that it would come into effect in the September 2026

How can you ask questions, or get more information or comment on the proposal?

If you have any questions, would like more information or wish to make a comment on this proposal please attend the consultation event/s (see details below) or email school.consultations@cambridgeshire.gov.uk making sure to include Burrough Green CofE Primary Academy, ASD ERB in the email title.

A consultation event will be held at Burrough Green CofE Primary Academy on 05/02/26 at 9am for those that wish to attend, enquire and comment.

A further online consultation event will be held via Teams on 05/02/26 from 6pm.

Link to Teams meeting:

[Burrough Green ASD ERB - Online Consultation event - Teams meeting](#)

Further information can be found on the website:

<https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/children-and-families/schools-learning/school-changes-consultations>

There will be representatives from Cambridgeshire County Council, the school, ACT trust and the Governing Body at both events to answers any questions you may have.