



Partnership Learning

As a result of the continuing increased need for post-16 special school places in the local authority, the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham has made a request to Partnership Learning (the academy trust that oversees the school) for Riverside Bridge School to extend its age range. It is proposed to extend Riverside Bridge School's age range upwards by three years, from the current 4-16 to a proposed new range of 4-19, starting in September 2023.

This document sets out the opportunities for interested parties to give their views on the proposals outlined in more detail below.

Riverside Bridge School is a day special school in Barking and Dagenham which opened in 2015, serving the special educational needs of young people currently ranging from 4 years of age to 16 years of age, with a maximum legal capacity of 270 pupils.

The school is based on two sites – the original Riverside Campus site on the Barking Riverside development (which is also home to Riverside Primary School and Riverside Secondary School) and the Thames Road (City Farm) site which opened in September 2022.

The school is part of the Partnership Learning multi-academy trust, which oversees thirteen schools in Barking and Dagenham, neighbouring boroughs and Southend-on-Sea.

All the current state-funded special school provisions for post-16 pupils in Barking and Dagenham are full for pupils with ASD - Autistic Spectrum Disorder, MLD - Moderate Learning Difficulty, SLD - Severe Learning Difficulty and PMLD - Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulty.

However, the Local Authority has identified a continuing rise in demand for post-16 places in special schools and is therefore requesting the proposed age range extension at Riverside Bridge School.

Consultation Period Ends: 12 noon on Friday 31st March 2023

5.2 Actions following on from the Consultation

Partnership Learning will read and consider all responses received.

The Trust will produce a summary of the responses to the consultation, which will be published on their website: www.partnershiplearning.com

The Trust hopes to be able to address comments received and will explain in the summary on their website how they have tried to do this and how they intend to take into account in their plans the comments received.

The summary will be submitted to the Department for Education in order to inform their decision on whether to approve the proposed age range extension.

You may find out more about the proposals by visiting the Trust or school websites:

www.partnershiplearning.com

www.riversidecampus.com/bridge/

or by emailing Partnership Learning, at:

office@partnershiplearning.com

You are also invited to attend an informal drop-in Consultation Event, to give your views or ask questions, at Riverside Bridge School, Renwick Road, Barking IG11 0FU on Tuesday 28th , Renw

or by post to:

Chief Executive
Partnership
Parsloes
Dagenham
RM9 5QS

You may also give your views in person at a drop-in Consultation Event to be held at Riverside Bridge School, Renwick Road, Barking DFU on Tuesday 28th March 2023 at any time between 3.00 pm and 6.00 pm.

Alternatively, or in addition, you may wish to respond by answering the questions in the Consultation Questionnaire. If you are submitting your answers by email or post to the addresses above.

A consultation is underway regarding proposals to extend Riverside Bridge School's age range upwards by three years, from the current 4-16 to a proposed new range of 4-19, from September 2023, in order to provide additional post-16 special school places in Barking and Dagenham, following a request from the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham to Partnership Learning (the academy trust that oversees the school).

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