

# Bowden House School Full Statutory Notice

## Introduction

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January Bowden House Governing Body, with Tower Hamlets Local Authority support, approved the recommendation to publish a **Statutory Notice** on the proposal to make a prescribed alteration to Bowden House School.

### **Proposal for a prescribed alteration to Bowden House School to establish a 12 place Special Educational Needs provision from September 2021**

Notice is given in accordance with Section 15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (as amended by the Education Act 2011) and the School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013 that Tower Hamlets Local Authority will decide whether to establish a 12 place SEMH provision at Bowden House Primary School.

This will be established following the implementation of the Tower Hamlets SEND Strategy and Tower Hamlets Primary SEMH Implementation Plan.

## Contact details

### **Name and address of school publishing the proposal, with Local Authority support:**

Bowden House School, Firle Road, Seaford, BN25 2JB

### **Name, address and category of school making prescribed alteration:**

Bowden House is a 9-19 Residential Special School, catering for boys with Social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs . Address above

## Implementation

### **Date on which it is proposed to extend the Special Educational Needs (SEND) provision as part of an integrated provision at the Ben Jonson School site:**

September 1st 2021

## Reason for Establishing SEMH provision

The governing body of Bowden House School, in partnership with Tower Hamlets Local Authority, has expressed an interest, and been accepted to, develop proposals to address the Tower Hamlets SEND Strategy and Primary SEMH Implementation Plan. To achieve this a prescribed alteration is necessary for Bowden House Primary School to part of an Integrated 24 place Primary SEMH provision at the Ben Jonson site. Up to 12 pupils at the site will be on the Bowden House school roll.

The council's education policy is to move towards integrated specialist provision, where appropriate and matched to pupils needs. The Local Authority SEND review made clear that the following aspects of current primary provision needed alteration

- There is currently no specialist SEMH girls' primary provision in Tower Hamlets
- The current SEMH Primary boys' provision does not offer sufficient access to the curriculum
- The current SEMH provision does not offer sufficient flexible of provision to quickly meet children's needs, particularly within an inclusive continuum offering access to mainstream provision, where appropriate.

Bowden House School have worked with Ben Jonson School to develop a proposal that would address these issues, that would also provide an alternative top quality provision should the decision be taken to close Cherry Trees School.

## Pupil Numbers and Admissions

The numbers for whom provision is currently made at the school: 38

Bowden House is a residential provision for boys with EHCP plans that identify SEMH Needs.

In the September Census 2020 34 boys attended the school, with an additional 4 children post 16. There will be no change to the number of secondary age boys attending.

The change in age range will increase co-educational primary provision by 12 children (35%)

## Displaced Pupils

This proposal forms part of a newly commissioned provision, and therefore no pupils will be displaced. If approved the provision would be suitable for pupils who might be displaced if Cherry Trees School were to be closed.

There will be no change for secondary age pupils based at Bowden House School in Seaford.

## **Impact on the Community**

The proposal would improve provision for the Tower Hamlets community in line with the Tower Hamlets SEND Strategy. Therefore, it is not anticipated that there will be any adverse impact on the community, rather that the community will benefit from enhanced provision.

## **Rural Primary Schools**

Not applicable

## **Balance of Denominational Provision**

Not applicable

## **Nursery Provision**

Not applicable

## **Sixth Form Provision**

Not applicable

## **Special Educational Needs Provision**

There are 38 secondary age boys on roll at Bowden House who have an Educational Health and Care Plan. They will not be affected by these alterations.

The provision would address the Borough's SEND Strategy and increase the level of suitable provision for children in Tower Hamlets with SEND needs.

## **Travel**

No change for Bowden House secondary age pupils.

As the Integrated Provision at Ben Johnson School is centrally placed in Tower Hamlets (.5 mile from Mile End) the furthest Tower Hamlets Primary School from the provision is 3.4 miles. Any child living more than 3 miles from the school would have access to Local Authority Travel support and EHCPs naming the provision would give due consideration to travel needs.

## Finances

If the changes are made, the Local Authority would commission provision through a Service Level Agreement. Funding would be to Bowden House School.

## Procedure for Making Representations (objections and comments)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this statutory notice, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by:

By email: [admin@bowdenhouse.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:admin@bowdenhouse.towerhamlets.sch.uk)  
Or [consult1@benjonson.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:consult1@benjonson.towerhamlets.sch.uk)  
cc. [school.organisation@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

By post: Bowden House School, Firle Road, Seaford, BN25 2JB  
Or Ben Jonson School, Harford St, Mile End, London E1 4PZ  
Or School Organisation and Place Planning Manager  
Pupil Services and School Sufficiency, Tower Hamlets Children and Culture, Town Hall, Mulberry Place, 5 Clove Crescent, E14 5BG

Bowden House and Ben Jonson parents and school staff will also be given the opportunity to attend virtual meetings during the Statutory Notice period.

**Closing date for responses is 5pm, Monday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2021**

We will not be able to consider any responses received after this date. A report considering all responses received during the representation period will be published on the Council's website in late February 2021, as part of papers to Cabinet. The report will also be available on the School's website.

The website addresses are:

<https://bowdenhouse.school>

<https://www.benjonson.towerhamlets.sch.uk>

<https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/>