

# Ben Jonson School Statutory Notice

## Introduction

On Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January Ben Jonson 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 Ben Jonson School.

### **Proposal for a prescribed alteration to Ben Jonson School to establish an up to 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 Ben Jonson 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:**

Ben Jonson School, Harford St, Mile End, London E1 4PZ

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

Ben Jonson is a 4-11 Primary School. Address above

## Implementation

### **Date on which it is proposed to establish the Special Educational Needs (SEND) provision:**

September 1st 2021

## Reason for Establishing SEMH provision

The governing body of Ben Jonson 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 Ben Jonson Primary School to establish an up to 12 place Primary SEMH provision.

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 at Cherry Trees School 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.

Ben Jonson School have worked with Bowden House 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:

Ben Jonson is a co-educational mainstream Primary School for pupils aged four to eleven with an adjacent Nursery provision at Harry Roberts Nursery School. Ben Jonson School provides for children from four years old. The school has a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 90 for each year group. As at September 2020 the school had 584 pupils on roll.

## **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.

## **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 29 pupils on roll at Ben Jonson who have an Educational Health and Care Plan. Ben Jonson Schools has fully accessible buildings. The provision would address the SEND Strategy and increase the level of suitable provision for children in Tower Hamlets with SEND needs. Up to 12 pupils with EHCPlans identifying SEMH needs could be placed at the school.

## **Travel**

Not applicable for Ben Jonson pupils.

As Ben Jonson 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 Ben Jonson 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:

Email: [consult1@benjonson.towerhamlets.sch.uk](mailto:consult1@benjonson.towerhamlets.sch.uk)

cc

[school.organisation@towerhamlets.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@towerhamlets.gov.uk)

Post: 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's Services  
Town Hall  
Mulberry Place  
5 Clove Crescent  
E14 5BG

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 8th February**

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

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