

Forest Oak and Merstone Special Schools



Expansion Proposal:

The Council, working in partnership with the Headteacher and Governing Body of Forest Oak and Merstone Special Schools, is consulting on a proposal to expand both Schools from September 2023.

This expansion will create 30 additional places. To accommodate the additional places the proposal will see Forest Oak School expand on to another site to create a hub. The hub will be located off Wheatfield Close, Smith's Wood, about 5 minutes' walk from the main school sites. The Council is seeking to purchase this hub for sole use by the special schools.

It is intended that the hub will be used by the older pupils at Forest Oak School. This will allow places on the main school sites to be reorganised to create additional places across both Forest Oak and Merstone Schools. Further details about the proposal can be found on our [website](#).

Consulting you:

Consultation Event	Forest Oak and Merstone Schools	Monday 20 March 2023	2:00pm - 4:00pm
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We are holding a consultation event. This is a **drop in event** so that you can come and look at plans for the hub and speak to staff, governors and council officers about the proposal.

You can make your views known by:

Email	researchandpolicy@solihull.gov.uk
Online	The online response form and up to date information can be found on our website

The Current Timeline

06 March 2023	Consultation period begins
31 March 2023	Consultation period ends
April 2023	Cabinet Member decision session (if required)
April 2023	If approved, publication of statutory notices & 4 week representation period
June 2023	Cabinet Members final decision on the expansion of Forest Oak and Merstone Special Schools

This timeline is for guidance and could be subject to change as a result of the consultation process.

The **closing date** for responses to the consultation is **5pm on Friday 31 March 2023**.