



Register Your Support

Register Your Support

Show Your Support

Help us show North Hertfordshire District Council that this school is needed and wanted. Complete the short form below to register your support.

** indicates required fields

Name *

First

Last

Postcode *

Email

Only used to keep you updated if you opt in

Why do you support this new SEN school?

E.g. "I'm a parent of a child with autism and I know how difficult it is to find local support..."

Would you like to receive occasional updates about the campaign? *

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Consent Statement *

☐ I consent to my support being shared with local councillors and decision-makers to help demonstrate public backing for the SEN school. I understand my information will be stored securely and not used for any other purpose.

CAPTCHA

Register Your Support



Share Your Story

Share Your Story

Share Your Experience of SEND in Hertfordshire

Your story matters. Help us show why this new school is needed, for you, for your family, or for the children you work with. With your consent, we will use your testimonials (anonymously) in communications and planning discussions to support the campaign for the new school.

* indicates required fields

Name *

First

Last

Postcode *

Are you a (select all that apply)

- ☐ Parent or carer of a child with SEND
- ☐ SEND professional
- ☐ Teacher or education staff
- ☐ Local resident
- ☐ Other

Tell us about your experience *

E.g. "We've been waiting over a year for a placement..."

Can we quote your story anonymously on the campaign website or in materials shared with decision-makers? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Contact me first

Would you be willing to speak to us further about your experience? *

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Email

Optional, only if 'Yes' to above or to stay updated

Consent Statement *

- ☐ I give consent for my story to be stored and, if I choose, shared anonymously to support the campaign. I understand I can request to remove it at any time.

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Share My Story



Sign up for Updates

Sign up for Updates

Stay Informed

Sign up for occasional updates on the new SEN school proposals.

* indicates required fields

Name *

First

Last

Postcode or Local Area *

Email *

Are you a (select all that apply)

- ☐ Parent or carer of a child with SEND
- ☐ SEND professional
- ☐ Teacher or education staff
- ☐ Local resident
- ☐ Other

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Submit



Join the Campaign

Join the Campaign

Sign up for occasional updates on the proposals for the new SEN school.

* indicates required fields

Name *

First

Last

Postcode or Local Area *

Email *

Are you a (select all that apply)

- ☐ Parent or carer of a child with SEND
- ☐ SEND professional
- ☐ Teacher or education staff
- ☐ Local resident
- ☐ Other

Why do you support the proposals for a new SEN school in North Herts?

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Submit



Register Interest in a Place

Register Interest in a Place

We are currently seeking planning permission for a new specialist SEND school for pupils aged 11–17 with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. If you are interested in a place for your child, please let us know below.

This is not an application form, but it helps us demonstrate local demand and a need for new places.

** indicates required fields

Name *

First

Last

Postcode *

Helps us track interest by area

Email *

Are you a (select all that apply)

- ☐ Parent or carer of a child with SEND
- ☐ Family member
- ☐ Education or health professional
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Child's Age Range

What would you like to tell us about your interest or situation?

E.g. "My child has an EHCP and we've been waiting for a suitable place..."

Would you like to receive campaign updates?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

GDPR Consent

- ☐ I understand this is not a formal application and is for campaign purposes only. I give consent for my information to be used to demonstrate demand and to be contacted with relevant updates.

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Submit



Connect with Omnia

Connect with Omnia

We'd love to hear from professionals, educators and organisations who want to support or collaborate on this proposed SEND school in North Hertfordshire.

Whether you're working in education, health, therapy, social care or advocacy, get in touch using the form below.

* indicates required fields

Name *

First

Last

Email *

Job Title / Role

Organisation / Affiliation

I am interested in... (select all that apply)

- ☐ Collaborating with the school
- ☐ Offering professional insight
- ☐ Supporting the campaign
- ☐ Receiving updates from Omnia
- ☐ Other (please specify)

How would you like to support or connect with Omnia?

Briefly tell us how you'd like to engage

Would you like to receive occasional email updates about the campaign and the school?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

GDPR consent

- ☐ I consent to the Omnia Foundation and campaign team contacting me in relation to this project. My data will be stored securely and never shared without my permission.

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Submit



Appendix 2: Registered Support

* Names, full postcodes and addresses have been redacted to protect the privacy of respondents.

Address*	Support Type	Why do you support this new SEN school?
AL10	Signed Petition	I have a grandson with special educational needs
AL10	Signed Petition	Because I'm fed up of my son having to travel miles for an education it's not fair on him
AL4	Registered & Signed	Much needed for all our kids with SEN and EHCPs bit no placement. Independent schools are becoming an expensive lifeline but often the only option. My son lost his independent place in September, that he was offered in May- now no other school can meet needs within a suitable distance for medical needs. As my support submission stated- there is no specialist place for my son, however his needs are not SEMH, but this will provide much needed spaces for those children and few up spaces for ASD children like my son is other appropriate schools
AL8	Signed Petition	Too many children are missing out on the support and specialised teaching they desperately need. This is not something the parents should have to fight for, it's not fair on them or their child. A school is required as there are not currently enough places.
AL8	Registered Support	I know 2 lots of parents strung with children of autism and both have had very little support
EN5	Registered Support	The children need to be and feel loved and part of a society on their side. My granddaughter is part of the system already. Teaching in Stevenage.
En8	Signed Petition	Because my late daughter attended a SEN school and so I know the importance of them. I also had to fight to get her into it even though she was very ill at the time. My daughter should have automatically qualified like so many other children. Parents should not be fighting for their child's rights to education.
Stevenage	Signed Petition	SEN schools and SEN teachers are desperately needed to give all SEN children the best start in life and the same education as other children. Mainstream schools are struggling to meet their needs due to lack of funding and amenities.
Hitchin	Signed Petition	My child was left for 4 years with no secondary school education because of ASD and semh needs. He has been accepted early at springboards but it is not enough to repair the opportunities he has missed out on. There are not enough spaces for Sen children, so they get dismissed because the LA does not have the resources or placements to help them within the legal timeframes.
Hitchin	Signed Petition	Both of my children are diagnosed or so to be diagnosed with SEN needs. Thankfully they can be attend mainstream school, but I know other parents with children who are really struggling and this would have really helped them and their children. For lots of children with SEN, mainstream school just doesn't work!
Hitchin	Signed Petition	My sons both failed in mainstream school there was no support for them at all



	Registered Support	My daughter was unable to attend school since October 2024. She is dyslexic and awaiting assessments for autism and ADHD. She has been burnt out and suffering extreme anxiety. We had no support and registered her to home educate so we could concentrate on her mental health and wellbeing. She is 11 and not able to attend mainstream school. A setting like this would be life changing for families like us.
Letchworth	Signed Petition	I'm doing my PhD on excluded students with send and semh and know how beneficial would that be in the area.
Letchworth	Signed Petition	Desperately need more schools in this area for children with additional needs
Letchworth	Signed Petition	I support the plans for the new school as I agree something needs to happen for the children with additional needs.
Letchworth	Signed Petition	More children need the right support and the right to school education
Letchworth	Signed Petition	
Letchworth	Signed Petition	Too many children are being left without a education and their needs not being met, this will help with children's growth and development.
LU2	Signed Petition	As a teaching assistant in a small rural primary school I see the desperate need for more specialist provision in SEN schools. Trying to shoehorn children with complex needs and no support into mainstream settings is not in the best interest of the children. Support all our families and provide an appropriate safe education for all.
LU3	Registered Support	As a SENCO in a Hitchin school this need is real and we need to reduce the wait times for children with ssen that need this level of provision
MK13	Signed Petition	I know of a friend who needs this to happen
MK42	Signed Petition	Son with additional needs- ASD and ADHD
MK43	Signed Petition	So it will help families with disabilities to get help for their kids
MK45	Registered Support	I believe there are not enough SEN placements in the area. I volunteer with Stevenage & District Riding for the Disabled and we often see and hear from parents etc the effect both the ponies, volunteers and the ambience have on the participants. Pound Farm sounds an ideal location. Good luck.
N21	Registered Support	Because the borough is overflowing with pupils without the right provision. I'm a special educational needs teacher and know how many places there are in comparison to the students that need them.
N21	Signed Petition	I work in Special Education and understand the need for more provisions.
PE19	Registered Support	I'm a SENCO in a mainstream school in Stevenage and I can see that the system is failing children with SEND and their families.
SG1	Registered Support	Because Sen children are being failed that cannot cope in mainstream school.
SG1	Registered & Signed	Too many children are struggling in main stream classrooms and this adds extra pressure on teachers and other children. All children have the right to an education that is suited to their individual needs



SG1	Signed Petition	I have a non-verbal autistic grandchild in another county and know the benefits having a specialist facility gives to the whole family.
SG1	Signed Petition	SEND CHILDREN DESERVE THE RIGHT TO PROPER EDUCATION THAT PROVIDES FOR THEIR NEEDS
Sg1	Registered Support	I'm a parent of a child with Autism who cannot find a place for my son. I'm also a wife with an ASD husband who could really have done with going to a SEN school as he had to leave mainstream due to not being able to cope and then lost all the very little social skills he had being homeschooling.
SG1	Signed Petition	I have a grandson with SEN
SG1	Signed Petition	There is not enough SEN schools too support all the additional needs children , And they deserve their right to be in school
SG1	Signed Petition	Because all children should have the right to learn and their individual needs met
Sg1	Signed Petition	I work in mainstream in a hub for children with SEN desperately waiting for specialist provision.
SG1	Registered Support	Having worked in childcare for many years and supported various children with SEN and their families I understand the difficulties of getting children into specialised provision to support their individual needs. There are so many children needing this support and not enough establishments to support them.
Sg1	Registered & Signed	There is lack of support for families living with SEN. My daughter is an intelligent, beautiful, happy little girl who is clever and loves learning. However because she doesn't fit in mainstream she finds big classes and crowds overwhelming there is no where for her to go
Sg1	Signed Petition	I have an autistic daughter and it's so difficult to get the right support
Sg1	Signed Petition	So many children are being failed in mainstream school
SG1	Signed Petition	I work in a SEN school and know that children all over the county and families are struggling to get their child the right support and education that they deserve because of the lack of schools for children with extra additional needs and resources.
SG1	Registered Support	I am a parent with a child with autism who will need a new school in a couple of years and there is just not many within our area
SG1	Registered Support	I have worked for the SEND TEAM as an EHC COORDINATOR and lack of spaces impacts every area of SEN support across the county. This new school will ensure mainstream schools are able to cope better as well as improving education to enable children who need Specialist school provision to thrive without local children having to endure long transportation/ commute to school. North Herts is also in desperate need of more SRP provision so I hope this will be included in the planning considerations
SG1	Registered Support	I work with send children in mainstream setting and feel having a school closer by would benefit so many of our children
SG1	Signed Petition	I am personally and professionally connected to SEN needs. Members of my family are struggling to get adequate support, facing long distances or relocation to find a suitable SEN school.



SG1	Signed Petition	I ran a special needs playscheme and I hear all the time how long parents have to wait to get a place and this would help so much with waiting times
SG1	Registered Support	I am a grandparent of 2 children with autism
SG1	Signed Petition	There is currently no suitable local school that my autistic son can attend. Because of this, he has been out of education for 4 years. This school is vital for local children.
SG1	Signed Petition	It's needed.
SG1	Signed Petition	Im also fighting to get my son into a sen school and having to go through tribunal
SG1	Signed Petition	Because there are not enough appropriate schools about for SEN children, this is because years ago so many were closed
SG1	Signed Petition	I have two children with adhd and asd that struggle with mainstream so much
SG1	Signed Petition	There is a great shortage of spaces for SEN children in the county.
SG1	Signed Petition	Every child deserves a place to learn and thrive and be given opportunities
SG1	Signed Petition	There is a high need for more SEN schools in the area and would like to see more children like mine being supported and their needs met which cant be in mainstream.
SG1	Signed Petition	
SG1	Signed Petition	
SG1	Signed Petition	Because I work with children who have SEN needs, and there's not enough places to cater for them. Children are getting excluded for having autism, ADHD and learning g difficulties because they can't cope in mainstream education!
SG15	Registered Support	I have a daughter with additional needs that unfortunately cannot attend mainstream school, however doesn't need the other extreme of a special school. There is no in between such as a school for children with ASD. I was working in education and had to leave my job to home educate her!
SG15	Signed Petition	My child needs a specialist provision and there aren't any spaces. I believe the wait lists are 2/3 years. Its not good enough. My child deserves the right support for her education
SG15	Registered Support	I am a mother of an autistic child and I have ADHD we have both been let down by the education system and have complex emotional issues that the current school system can't support us with. They can't even get a swing chair in the den. I have struggled so much to get support it has been so hard
SG15	Signed Petition	As a local teacher there are not enough provisions available for the students we have. Also interested in working at the school
SG15	Registered Support	I have two SEND sons that attended a local school that say they can accommodate my sons needs according to their EHCP and they are failing massively. I'm appealing the councils decision in Nov but to have another school in the area for choice would be brilliant



SG15	Signed Petition	I support this plan because I lead an internal school SEN provision . I see how first hand the need for more specialised spaces for children with send to flourish .
SG15	Registered Support	Im a parent of a child with autism and am aware of the struggles children with SEND have integrating into mainstream school and the need for more SEN schools in this area.
SG15	Registered Support	I'm a child if an AuDHD child who is home educating due to schools being unable to meet his needs. He was excluded after only 11 hours of contact time, with no SEN or EHCP plans in place.
SG15	Registered Support	I am a teaching assistant and work with SEN children whilst also understanding how difficult it is for parents going through EHCP procedure.
SG16	Registered Support	I am a parent of a child with ADHD and ASD. My 12 yr old son is in mainstream school and at the moment he's just barely keeping up with his peers. The school has implemented minimum support. It is simply the wrong environment for my son and those children with similar challenges. We desperately need a SEN school.
SG1	Signed Petition	Mainstream schools are failing to provide adequate provision for kids with ASD and other neuro diverse conditions. They need skilled and passionate staff to assist them.
SG1	Registered Support	As a SEN TA in a mainstream school we have a large amount of students in our setting that would benefit massively from a SEN school. Our setting is just not beneficial for them but with no SEN school available they have to stay in mainstream school. If a SEN school was to be made available to these students it would change there education journey massively.
Sg17	Signed Petition	
SG17	Registered Support	Local education professional - great need in the afea
SG18	Registered Support	There are simply not enough spaces to give children with SEND an education. Parents spend years fighting for their child to have the education that they deserve. I am a parent of an adopted child with Autism, ADHD and ACEs.
SG18	Signed Petition	More schools are needed like this for children with special needs so they can have a proper education like every child deserves instead of isolation from main stream schools treated differently
SG18	Registered Support	My grandson has autism and is currently struggling with routine in mainstream education. They are a young family struggling with finances and trying to juggle work commitments but he is their priority. They need stability and a place they know he is safe and can develop at his own pace
SG19	Registered Support	My nephew has autism, adhd and global learning delay, a school that can support his needs and my sisters would be amazing
SG19	Registered & Signed	I'm a parent of a Sen child and work in education the state of Sen education is embarrassing
SG2	Registered & Signed	I am a parent of 4 children with autism and Sen need and I know how difficult it is to find local support. Currently 3 of my children receive support and one doesn't not and hasn't even got a school because there isn't any so I'm in full support of another Sen school as I am



		aware of how difficult it is for Sen child to receive the support they need
SG2	Registered Support	I am the grandparent of a grandson with autism I struggle watching my daughter struggle I had no idea how difficult it is for the parents and for the children themselves. In this day and age , it should not be happening
SG2	Signed Petition	I work in a nursery and each way I see children that are it ready for mainstream school being placed in a mainstream school and they are not able to offer them the support they need this is not fair in the children and makes me sad parents and children having to go through this they been send a schools they are just as important as mainstream schools
SG2	Registered Support	My friend's son has been allocated a place in a SEND school in Milton Keynes so will have to travel each day from Hitchin as it appears there isnt the space locally
Sg2	Registered Support	My niece and nephews have special needs and crucially rely on SEN support. With one already in Lonsdale school, and one on the brink of starting secondary school, and who has struggled to get through primary and only has due to support he is given. It is absolutely imperative that children are supported in the right way. And with other SEN schools becoming next to impossible to attend. Another school will be a huge opportunity for many kids who need the support but are missing out due to more severe cases.
SG2	Registered Support	I have 1 granddaughter and 1 great granddaughter who are autistic, and have only just realised how needed Sen places are for families living in this area.
Sg2	Signed Petition	My daughter has SEN needs and currently struggles in mainstream. This school would be amazing for my daughter if it was proposed and made available.
SG2	Registered & Signed	My great grandson has had to go to a Special school like this over 2 hours away. This makes it extremely hard for family to visit and for him to have visits at home. The school, however, is really helping him to understand and deal with his feelings. A school in North Hertfordshire is desperately needed. There are no schools like this in North Herts and there is a great need.
SG2	Registered Support	My son has ASD/ADHD and know first hand how hard it is to find a school that can support his needs and help him to flourish. We need more SEN schools in Hertfordshire!
Sg2	Signed Petition	As I have family who are affected by this and not in education.
Sg2	Registered Support	I am a parent of a child with autism and we are currently fighting to get her into specialist provision.
SG3	Registered & Signed	I've got a few close friends that have children with autism and I just think it's really important to have the support as it's so hard to get. Knowing through friends how difficult it is to get help. I just think it's so important for parents to get the help for their children that need the extra help, especially if it's local,
Sg3	Signed Petition	I have worked with SEN children and know how desperately they need more support and learning tailored to their needs.



SG4	Signed Petition	Because of the lack of available spaces at current SEN schools and the impact this has on mainstream schools and pupils
SG4	Signed Petition	Send school urgently needed as there is way too little support for families
SG4	Registered & Signed	My child has special needs and I'm fully aware of the need for this school. There is such a need for this in the area. I have a child with sen so am fully aware of the battle parents face as there just aren't enough places locally.
SG4	Signed Petition	Forcing SEN children into underfunded mainstream schools is nowhere near adequate in supporting their individual needs
SG4	Registered Support	Lack of options in North Herts. My son is 10 and has ADHD, autism and it's a huge challenge to try and find somewhere for him.
SG4	Signed Petition	As the mother of 2 autistic children & 1 with adhd , I've witnessed first hand the lack of resources available for sen children. Too much pressure is on mainstream schools. There seems to be more autism now , more schools need to be built.
SG4	Signed Petition	My grandson would benefit but the time this takes he maybe unable but so many children will benefit
SG4	Signed Petition	My Grandson has been in and out of school due to ADHD since 8 years old he is now 14 and only just been put in a school that suits his needs which is in Bishop Stortford. these children need a suitable school nearby.
SG4	Signed Petition	My daughter has special needs and goes to a send school which is an hour drive there and an hour drive back making it a really long day for her. There needs to be more send school for children.
SG4	Registered Support	Incredibly difficult to get a placement as not enough sen schools in Hertfordshire
SG4	Signed Petition	There is not enough specialist provision in the area. Children with additional needs are surviving, where they could thrive in a place better suited to their needs.
SG4	Signed Petition	I have 3 children all with SEN who have all struggled in mainstream school and feel they're needs have not been met
SG4	Signed Petition	Because I have a child who needs more specific schooling and there is no where for him. Also because I teach children who need specialist provision but are unable to access it
SG4	Signed Petition	
SG4	Signed Petition	I currently have 2 children in sen schools and feel like there just isn't enough schools around
SG4	Registered Support	We need a setting that shows our young people we are invested in them, and supports their long term development and wellbeing.
SG4	Registered Support	I am an assistant Headteacher in a special school and have worked in special schools for over 10 years. I recognise the challenges pupils with SEND face in mainstream settings and the need for placement in SEN school. I deliver outreach to mainstream school so I see first hand the struggles these schools can face in meeting the needs of pupils with SEND.
SG4	Signed Petition	Lack of SEN support in schools locally.
SG4	Registered Support	I am a teacher and currently work in a secondary SEMH school, predominantly for children with autism and high anxiety. It is



		absolutely transformative for the young people - the progress we see is unbelievable. Many of our children come in via tribunals now as we're having to say no, because we are now full, but there are so many young people that need to attend a special school. I say that both as a mother with a child who struggles with ADHD, and as a teacher who has mostly taught in mainstream, seeing how a mainstream setting is just not right for some children and young people.
SG4	Registered Support	I work for the Primary school outreach service In Hitchin, over the years I have seen families and children struggle with mainstream school who cannot meet their needs. This will be a massive help for local families who have SEN children
SG4	Signed Petition	There is a huge issue with inadequate SEND provision in Herts with children that cannot be supported in mainstream ending up without an education. Many of these children have the potential to contribute to society as adults if supported correctly during education.
SG4	Registered Support	My daughter is currently just started year 5 but would be crying out for a school like this.
SG4	Signed Petition	My children have sen and my youngest is going to need a Sen school when he is of age. Having another one local as there's waiting lists I hear everywhere would benefit us who will need to wait and they can't cope in mainstream
SG4	Registered Support	My son has ASD and ADHD and currently looking at secondary provisions. They are so limited and nothing suitable locally. There is a huge lack of support and places and I am desperately worried for his future.
SG4	Registered Support	I am a parent of a child diagnosed with ADHD and am currently in the process of fighting for his right to a full assessment. This journey has been incredibly stressful and exhausting, and I feel very let down by both the local authority and the school. My child urgently needs support—he is already struggling, finding homework and reading extremely difficult, and he is beginning to lose interest in learning altogether. At home, the lack of routine and structure with his absent father is having a further negative impact, and he is experiencing a very difficult time emotionally. While the school does offer some limited provisions, they are not enough. What my child really needs is proper support, a structured plan, and a pathway that gives him hope for the future. The proposal to build a new local SEND school is hugely important. Families like mine need access to specialist provision that understands the realities of ADHD and other needs, and can offer the right strategies, structure, and environment for children to thrive. This would not only help my child but also many other children who are currently struggling without the right support.
SG4	Registered Support	Due to my son having special needs and school that he is currently in admitting that they are not qualified and they're not able to support him in the mainstream school. Your school would be very close to us and a benefit to my son's education.



SG4	Registered Support	I currently work in Primary Education in NHerts and have first hand experience of the very limited opportunities the pupils and families I support have when it comes to inclusive settings close to home.
SG4	Signed Petition	I have 4 child with adhd and autism and support that there is need for more semh school for our send child in north herts.
SG4	Signed Petition	To help children that need a lot more support and understanding than the average child there age or just in general
SG4	Registered Support	Because there's too many children being failed miserably in mainstream schools or mums are forced to quit everything and home educate our SEN kids. Something needs to change, how is this fair for these children, there needs to be more SEN schools around! Both my children are home educated, ny son was inappropriately touched by a pupil pn multiple occasions in one school and the school did nothing, the other school failed him awfully and he was crippled with anxiety and depression everyday was a struggle and he became suicidal! My daughter also found it extremely hard to go to school, and both kids started getting really bad health issues stemming from stress and anxiety. My daughter was also relentlessly bullied by a girl in her class who has ADHD but was really aggressive and violent with my daughter (and many other pupils and teachers) my daughter was hurt multiple times over the years, and threatened to be stabbed by this girl too. Then my brother killed himself waiting for his adhd and autism assessment, so I took my kids out of that hell hole and now they've been home educated ever since. My dad then drank himself to death, also waiting for an adhd and autism assessment as he clearly was both and couldn't cope with life. Its EXTREMELY important to help SEN children through childhood so they do not go through life so crippled with their mental health and turning to substances for "peace of mind", with a healthy home life and a healthy happy school life kids could thrive to their fullest, kids these days are barely making it through one week at school, it all needs to change and it all starts with opening more SEN schools around the UK so these kids have a place in life.
SG4	Signed Petition	I am a Headteacher at a SEND school. More SEND schools are required. ARM units are not a solution.
SG4	Signed Petition	
SG4	Registered & Signed	SEN needs in family and acutely aware of need for provisions in the area. I have a SEN child and there needs to be more provisions in the area for SEN children to improve their future.
SG4	Registered Support	Much needed. My Autistic son had to travel from North Herts to Hemel Hempstead to attend a specialist school and could spend up to 2 hours a day in a taxi. He was very lucky to get a placement as definitely way to few places.
SG4	Registered & Signed	We have SEN children and the provision for school which cater for their needs is serious lacking especially in north herts. We need a sen school. North herts has poor provision for sen children in schools. This will help with that gap.



SG4	Registered Support	I am a parent of a child who is adopted and has complex needs, there is a shortage of appropriate places in north herts so I fully support this proposal
SG4	Signed Petition	They are very much needed
SG5	Registered Support	Much needed locally
SG5	Registered Support	Everyone has a right to a good education and to belong happily.
SG5	Registered Support	I currently work in a Main stream school in Hitchin , we support to the best of our ability a lot of children with addiction needs , despite us going above and beyond it never feels enough , these children deserve more
SG5	Signed Petition	Provision for children with SEND who can't attend mainstream school is severely lacking with many children in Hitchin and North Herts learning from home. I co-own an inclusive children's bookshop in Hitchin and we see families crying out for support like this locally.
SG5	Registered Support	I'm a parent of 2 neurodivergent teenagers, one with anxiety too. Mainstream school is very stressful for them.
SG5	Signed Petition	Having a child with SEN needs and having to find a school suitable for her is more than 30mins drive away.
SG5	Registered Support	I work in education
SG5	Registered Support	I am a SEN teacher in a mainstream primary school in North Herts. We have many children who are waiting to access specialist provision but there are not enough places for them. This school is deffo purely needed
SG5	Registered Support	My son is on the send pathway and in the future may need to go to sen specific secondary school.
SG5	Registered Support	I work in SEND and understand the need for more provision across herts, beds and bucks.
SG5	Registered Support	Im a parent of a child with autism, and my daughter really struggles in a mainstream school resulting in not reaching her foolishness potential. School like this will benefit many children in similar situation, and it's also about time that school like this are available for struggling children and parents.
SG5	Registered Support	My child is in year 5 and I have been fighting for him since he was 2 years old (diagnosed by 4 years old) I've been refused help because he isn't "severe enough " he definitely though. He also would struggle with travel out of the area without a parent. More local sen schools should be a priority.
SG5	Signed Petition	Because autistic children deserve an education where all their needs are met all the time.
SG5	Registered Support	I have a child diagnosed ASD, ADHD, challenging behaviour and emotional dysregulation. Who is struggling in school with bullying and over stimulation. I know hardly any SEN schools around the area we moved here last year. Currently in process of EHCP which is also struggle to get alongside education support. Support with SEN children can make parents feel so isolated and alone. There needs to be more local support



SG5	Signed Petition	To support the needs of children and families who need it and will benefit from this greatly
SG5	Registered Support	Because I have a young 8 year old nephew who has missed out on his education due to the school continuing to exclude him and only allowing him to attend school for 1 hour a day, absolutely disgusting.
SG5	Signed Petition	Because we are in desperate need of more SEN schools in the hertfordshire area.
SG5	Signed Petition	Because its needed
SG5	Signed Petition	This would be a great opportunity for an inclusive school for sen children. Giving them a space to feel like they are seen and can express themselves in a safe environment.
SG5	Signed Petition	Because SEND children don't get enough support in mainstream school and .
SG5	Registered Support	I'm a teacher and believe this school could be extremely beneficial for content in it local area who are currently without a place in an appropriate setting.
SG5	Registered Support	I'm an private occupational therapist working in north Herts. It is very hard for the children and families I work for to find the find school. This could bridge the gap between education at home vs school and allow children to get the best education they deserve. I would be very interested in supporting the build and helping with getting the environment right with my clinical expertise.
SG5	Registered & Signed	My daughter is autistic, as are many of my friends' children. There is little support locally once the children leave primary. I don't know yet whether my daughter will cope with mainstream high school but if she doesn't, somewhere like this would be needed and there is nothing nearby.
SG5	Signed Petition	
SG5	Registered Support	There are not enough places available for send 10 year old children with adhd autism and pda. Parents with send children have a very stressful life trying to guide their children in the right direction this is made much worse by the lack of provision.
SG5	Registered Support	Because there are no facilities for 10 year old with autism adhd etc. in our area. Parents deserve a better choice that is more local to their needs.
SG5	Registered & Signed	Working in a mainstream school myself supporting SEN children, the lack of funding in mainstream and limited spaces in SEN provision across Hertfordshire means our children are not getting everything they need to succeed. Also with a lack of SEN provision local to hitchin, it would be those children who need SEN provision will not have to travel 45minutes + everyday to attend a school which can meet their needs. This would be a great local support network for parents of children across hitchin and Hertfordshire.
SG5	Registered & Signed	My granddaughter is autistic and struggling to find a school which can support her needs, this would be idea for her and others and is really needed in our area. My granddaughter has autism and my daughter is finding impossible to get support from local schools so has to be home schooled. A facility such as this would be a perfect for



		her and others with the same condition. I am also a councillor in Holwell.
SG5	Registered & Signed	Because as a parent of a girl with autism and severe destructive OCD that was exacerbated by the COVID experience there are just so many SEN children struggling in mainstream and since all the specialist settings were wiped out nationwide in the 90s there is no alternative for them - I do agree that SEN children should be integrated wherever possible and they can cope with just some light additional support in a mainstream environment, that is good for both them and the non-SEN kids at the school too, but for those that can't cope with that there has to be an alternative setting, and this doesn't just apply to secondary, but also primary too. My wife is a TA at a Hitchin primary, and now that we are well into the "COVID cohorts it is eminently clear that the volumes of SEN children and the severity of their needs have increased from the COVID experience - why that is I am sure we will only find out in 25 years once the necessary research has been done, but we need to scale the system and resources to cope now before we get to a situation where it is too late!
SG5	Signed Petition	I work as a TA in a primary school and time and time again we see children placed in mainstream school who will never be able to thrive there, no matter how hard the school tries to fulfill their needs with zero budget for special resources. Some children with SEN need a SEN School and there just aren't enough such schools available anymore.
SG5	Signed Petition	Shortage of senior provision. My son attends a SEN school
SG5	Signed Petition	Overwhelming need and necessity.
SG5	Registered Support	I'm a parent of a child with autism and complex needs and recognise how much this would mean to kids in his situation
SG5	Registered Support	I do not support this proposal. Irrespective of the need or otherwise for a new SEN school; this is a cynically obscured proposal to add a massive number of houses to Ickleford Village outside of the NHDC Local Plan and the Ickleford neighbourhood plan. Some on green belt and the rest on land designated as rural countryside.
SG5	Signed Petition	Used to work in SEN
SG5	Signed Petition	We have a son with autism and special needs. Provision wasn't good when our son was younger. It's dire now and has got much harder for parents and carers.
SG5	Signed Petition	Have a son with autism.
SG5	Registered Support	I have a 20 year old that can barely read or write due to lack of support at secondary school and an 11 year old with Dyslexia and an EHCP that appears to be useless to the school as I'm told EHCP's work differently at secondary schools and my child needs to find her feet!!!
SG5	Signed Petition	Because there's children not going to school because of their needs not being met school My son goes to a SEN school and loves it so much better for him



SG5	Registered Support	I have an autistic child and I know how desperately we need suitable education provision locally
SG5	Registered Support	I work in a SEMH school and we have a huge waiting list for pupils. Our school changes lives! There needs to be more of us to support families in need. X
SG5	Registered Support	My son is in desperate need for a school like this! There are none in the area, he struggles in mainstream and the only schools suitable are miles away and mostly prep schools. He has a echp and struggles in mainstream as no school suitable is within access.
SG5	Signed Petition	I work as an outreach worker supporting pupils with SEMH needs in mainstream schools. As such I see first hand the need for alternative provision, some pupils, despite accommodations made, cannot access education in a mainstream setting. The years they spend waiting for a placement are years of learning they are not accessing.
SG5	Registered Support	Because there are not enough specialist school places and vulnerable children are being disadvantaged and this will impact on their progress, health and happiness.
SG5	Signed Petition	Because there are not enough schools to support SEN.
SG5	Signed Petition	There is not enough Sen school to support children, my son is currently missing out on primary school because he can't cope in mainstream school there needs to be more for children who struggle
SG5	Signed Petition	Child are being sent to school 15/20 miles away on Buses without their parents It would be a great use of any space
SG5	Registered Support	I currently work in a Main Stream primary school and see the effects of children with SEMH and SEN be failed by the system. Lack of funding, lack of space and lack of staff which is making it impossible for children with SEMH and SEN to achieve their full potential.
SG5	Registered Support	I am acutely aware of the shortage of SEND provision within Hertfordshire. Having seen a friend battle the process, with periods of child out of education, this is absolutely needed.
SG5	Signed Petition	As a mother with SEN children I can see the need for much more support as unfortunately they have failed mine.
SG5	Registered & Signed	My child is Autistic, amongst other diagnosis, he can't access Mainstream but had no peers in SEN setting at Ivel Valley. My son currently has to travel 50 mins to and from school in Cambridge as there are no suitable schools locally, either in Central Beds or North Herts. A local school would make all the difference to his life.
SG5	Signed Petition	It is very much needed in the current crisis
SG5	Registered & Signed	Because my child is effectively excluded from main stream school due to his SEND needs and there is no funding available to give him the education he is entitled to
SG5	Registered & Signed	I'm a parent of a child with autism, pda and adhd and he's home educated due to not being able to find a suitable placement for him.
SG6	Signed Petition	There's not enough SEN support within mainstream schools. Another specialist SEN school will help meet the needs of these children.
SG6	Registered Support	Previously worked in mainstream school where many children needed specialist provision and had to wait years for a space



SG6	Signed Petition	As there is a huge need for this school, support and funding too give children the best chance in school life and beyond
SG6	Registered & Signed	I have a 14 year old and 10 year old that can't manage mainstream school, and would thoroughly benefit from a more active school that understands their needs. We need more semh provisions in North Herts. Because i have 2 children who would greatly benefit from this school. There aren't enough provisions like this in our area.
SG6	Registered & Signed	My daughter has severely struggled through secondary school. It took 7 years to finally get an autism diagnosis and she's now in year 11. Her mental and emotional health has been damaged by being forced to attend a mainstream school which is overwhelming for her. She has missed a lot of school as a result. This will come to late to help her but I know she would have thrived in the right environment. I fully support this to help others. My daughter is autistic and has severely struggled through school. Her mental health has been effected by being forced to attend a mainstream school that she finds overwhelming due to her sensory issues and social struggles. She has missed a lot of education as a result. She loves the sciences and I know she would have thrived in the right educational environment. This will be too late to help her but I fully support this to help others. Thank you.
SG6	Signed Petition	Because I know of close friends with SEN children and this sounds perfect, there is not enough support out there.
SG6	Signed Petition	I have a sends child and needed a school for him and there wasn't any school with spaces.
SG6	Signed Petition	Because I have children who are SEN. So many children are failed because they don't have the right support. More needs to be done!
SG6	Signed Petition	Children with Special Needs find it difficult to be in mainstream school and the teachers do not have the time to spend with them.
SG6	Signed Petition	We have friends who have a son for whom they have had great difficulty finding and being offered a place gif his special needs.
SG6	Signed Petition	To help children get the provision they need sooner unlike my grandson who had to wait 2 and a half years.
SG6	Registered Support	I have children that require Sen support but there seems to be a severe lack of placements in hertfordshire sen schools
SG6	Signed Petition	I have 2 children waiting for specialist placements
SG6	Signed Petition	I have worked with sen children and have sen grandchildren. This will be an amazing place to have a school fir them close to home .
SG6	Signed Petition	My nephew has quite severe SEN needs and I think there us a growing need to create a special school for these children for their benefit and also the mainstream schools so that the education of other children is not disrupted.
SG6	Signed Petition	Because I believe all children with special needs should be educated close to home. It's difficult enough for them without making it worse by making their school day too long.
SG6	Signed Petition	I am a SENCo in a local school and strongly believe that a another specialist school for children with SEND is needed in the area.
SG6	Registered & Signed	We desperately need SEN schools in Hertfordshire for high functioning ASD, my child had to go out of county as nothing suitable available in Hertfordshire



SG6	Signed Petition	There are no schools suitable for my autistic granddaughter. I am hoping there will be one for children in the future who will need the school.
SG6	Signed Petition	Because too many children are loosing out on an education and the opportunity to build friendships
SG6	Registered Support	As a teacher in a exondary school, I see daily that we are failing our send students. We do the best we can but they deserve better!
SG6	Registered Support	Because I have seen too many children clearly struggling and unable to be their best and most full selves because schools - even though staff try their best - do not have the resources to support children in the way they need.
SG6	Signed Petition	I AM BEGGING YOU! I have 2 autistic biys who haven't been assessed yet and I think you guys will probably understand why, but I have two boys, 2 & 5 and both are on the spectrum, PLEASE PLEASE DO THIS! Please 🙏 im on my last string, I dont have family, I have no village, this would really help me and many other families in my position in this area.
SG6	Registered Support	I am a parent to a little boy that needed a semh provision for 2 years and was already at alternative provision as mainstream couldn't manage and at risk of permanent exclusion. If we had somewhere more local he could have moved to where he needed to be sooner and not had to go through 2 years of struggling to cope.
SG6	Signed Petition	So children don't have to travel that far and also provide a safe space for children to be able to have full time education
SG6	Registered Support	I work in a local mainstream secondary school which has no option but to accept students with high SEND needs but we are failing them as we cannot provide a high enough level of support and education due to them not being mainstream students.
SG6	Registered Support	I'm a parent of a visually impaired autistic boy and have really struggled to find the right SEND provision
SG6	Registered Support	As we definitely need another Send school in Hertfordshire as many young people with disabilities deserve the right to have an education that they can thrive in. As a disabled person who went to send school for my education it gave me the independence and opportunities to work at my pace to callibrate with mainstream education when I was 17-18 gaining GNVQ in business.
SG6	Registered & Signed	I have a grandson who has complex needs and is 6 next week and still waiting for a place in a SEN school
SG6	Signed Petition	I have 2 sen children myself. I know how useful this could be
SG6	Registered Support	There are not enough SEN schools to support the amount of SEN children within North Hertfordshire and more needs to be done. I was also a SEN teaching assistant and I feel SEN school can help better facilitate SEN children and their needs.
SG6	Registered & Signed	I am a parent of a child with Autism any there is absolutely little to no local support, it is damaging and means children who are desperately seeking further support are going unheard, unseen and ignored because there is no space. When a child is "lucky" enough to be accepted, they are then sent miles away to a different county. This causes anxiety and stress for both the children and the parents.



		Receiving an education is a bare minimum and a legal requirement so why is there a lack of places and SEN schools available locally? This results in children who are unable to develop, grow and learn at a pace that isn't a "one fits all" approach. I completely support and agree with a new SEN schools being introduced more locally, this will enable more children to be supported by another provision being opened and also means the children will not be sent miles away to receive the bare minimum of an education.
SG6	Registered Support	I am an Auntie to twins who both have SEN needs this would be very beneficial for them and their parents
SG6	Signed Petition	I work in a sen school myself and I also have a sen child.
SG6	Signed Petition	Because too many children in the local area are excluded from school because of their disability and these children need a special school where they can go and be comfortable
SG6	Registered Support	Because my daughter is in desperate need of this type of school. That can deal with changing behaviours and just around the corner from home would help keep friendship in school holidays.
SG6	Registered Support	Both my children have been to specialist schools Woolgrove school and the valley school they are amazing nurturing schools for children with specialist needs , there are not enough specialists schools for children who needs the right education and support to be able to thrive and get the help they deserve.
SG6	Signed Petition	
SG6	Registered & Signed	I am a parent of a child with sen needs , and there are far too many kids not able to attend main stream.schools , the lack of sen education settings locally leaves many without placement for long periods of time all kids matter and deserve the right to be educated. All kids have the right to education and the shortage of sen placements mean kids are left without what they need or sent far from home , every child matters and change needs to happen
SG6	Signed Petition	The pressure on primary schools currently to support send children is far beyond what they are able to cope with
SG6	Signed Petition	I have a special needs son who is currently at primary school. his only option currently when transitioning to secondary school is to go to a school based in stevenage that has a broad selection of send criteria that includes behavioural issues. these children should not be lumped together as a catchment for all non mainstream children.
SG6	Registered Support	My son (6) is autistic with PDA profile and ADHD, he has been unable to access a full time education for almost a year now due to the inability to meet his needs so this type of setting would provide him with a place he could truly flourish and access the education he is legally entitled to. I have an autistic son that has been unable to access a full time education for almost a year now due to the inability to meet his needs. This type of setting would provide him with the ability to harness his true potential, flourish and gain access to the education he is legally entitled to.



SG6	Registered Support	I feel that Sen children are left out of so many activities at schools due to behaviours and sensory issues so having this opens doors for the less fortunate children
SG6	Registered Support	I'm a SEN teacher and I know how many children are without a school placement because of a real shortage of SEN schools, particularly in this area.
SG6	Registered & Signed	My 8 year old daughter has Williams Syndrome which comes with moderate learning difficulties/ mild learning disability, she is held back a year at school and currently in mainstream, next year she will start attending a specialist school, I worry about the future when it comes to secondary school.
SG6	Registered Support	My children need school send none kn north herts
SG6	Registered Support	I support this sen school as my son has SEMH and ASD. He currently is within a Sen primary school not within our own town. I know exactly how difficult this is to find local support and have facilities locally to help support and encourage children with ASD to flourish and have the same opportunities as children without.
SG6	Signed Petition	Need schools with better sens
SG6	Signed Petition	My daughter needs to go to a sen school and there's not enough local to us
SG6	Registered & Signed	I am a parent of a child with autism, selective mutism, adhd and sensory processing disorder and other issues hrs been put of school for 2 and half school years as mainstream wasn't appropriate and no specialist school would accept him. Because there isn't anything g locally that could a cept my child as mainstream was inappropriate
SG6	Signed Petition	My youngest grandson is in desperate need of this kind of support. He has not been in school for over a year and he is only 6. The system is setting him up to fail before he's even begun
SG6	Signed Petition	
SG6	Registered Support	I am a parent of a child who is autistic and ADHD and can't seem to find the correct support for my son
SG6	Registered Support	I have two autistic daughters who have been massively failed in their education at mainstream
SG6	Signed Petition	More and more children are being diagnosed and need this support
SG6	Signed Petition	There is a desperate need for a school of this type locally.
SG6	Registered Support	I have 3 SEN children - 2 struggled in mainstream, one has now finished with an alternative provision and attending a special college and my youngest child is without education needing an SEMH as stated by HCC but they won't accept him so this will help other children struggling with placements and help the parents/caregivers greatly.
SG6	Registered Support	My granddaughter is Autistic she has to leave early by transport bus to Stevenage as there is nit ond local to help with her needs
SG6	Signed Petition	My child is on a waitlist for SEMH/ASD provision in Letchworth, with family in ickleford. This would be incredible, if not for my son for many families locally.



SG7	Signed Petition	My daughter struggles with send needs and alot of kids do and parents struggle also as schools haven't got right resources and funding to help oue children out.
SG7	Signed Petition	We don't have enough send schools in north Herts
SG7	Registered Support	I'm a SENCo at a Stevenage secondary specialist school and have experienced the desperate need for more specialist provision. So many children are missing in education, especially those with Autism and SEMH needs.
SG7	Signed Petition	Our daughter went through SEN education and it was everything she needed- not mainstream, long journeys or home tuition.
SG7	Registered Support	As a parent of a SEND child, a friend to many parents of SEND children and TA in a school which does its best to teach a range of SEND children, this school is a necessity. We have children who are not coping in mainstream school but cannot get the support and teaching they need because there are no available spaces in the local schools. Education is failing them, and us, as we try (and often fail) to meet their diverse needs with the lack of training, funding and resources we have to deal with.
SG7	Signed Petition	As a local teacher to see the impact the lack of SEN funding is having and it breaks my heart everyday that these families and children are educated in mainstreams schools which do not have the funding or expertise to fulfil their specialist needs.
SG7	Registered Support	SEND provision is at an old time distressingly woeful low. My son had just started university he was diagnosed with autism and global development delay he went to woolgrove (superb school saved my son) he then progressed to high field school and within two years my adorable fun loving son was suicidal literally from the inhuman bullying (he would be taken out of class not the bully and he missed even more education) I decided to risk my career and my financial stability to take my son out of school and home school he went to prodirect academy at hitchin town football club studied for 3 years got hoghest grade ever achieved he got unconditional offer to study BA sports journalism he has two podcasts with over 4,000 followers - that same boy I could be visiting in the graveyard because of the lack off human support by caring educated individuals - I work with families who are on their knees it's totally immoral something has to be done - it isn't fair on neurotypical kids and it certainly isn't right for neurodiverse children to have to suffer a lack of education and on top mental anguish it makes me sick
SG7	Signed Petition	It is very much needed to help support our children with additional needs.
SG7	Registered Support	Children are suffering this needs to happen !
SG7	Signed Petition	I work in education and know how children are being failed and let down due to the lack of support! We need more school like this.
SG7	Registered Support	Because I I now first hand the struggles my 7 and 8 year old have had and continue to have without the support they so desperately require.
SG7	Registered & Signed	I am a parent of four. One is has autism. One had autism , PDA & situational mutism. One with adhd / autism. Our children deserve to



		be understood, have their needs met and learn in a less demanding environment where they are not forced to comply and instead can learn at their own pace feeling relaxed, not having to mask throughout their school days. There is not enough SEN schools in our area. Our children are in desperate need of this. We have struggled with schooling for our middle son for years. We are at the point of considering home education as school just cannot meet need even with an EHCP. Our children deserve an education system that doesn't force them to comply and instead lets them be their true authentic self and learn at a slower, less demanding pace.
SG7	Registered & Signed	Parent of a SEND child, also an aunt to 3 SEND children.
SG8	Signed Petition	I have a grandson diagnosed with ASD, ADHD and PDA and the school he's been attending has been failing him from day one, instead of support he instead gets separated from others at school because they cut his hours to just 2 hours and under instead of educating themselves they've simply given up at the first hurdle and done little to nothing to actively get him assessed leaving his family to have to pay privately with money they don't have.
SG8	Registered & Signed	I have two additional needs children currently attending a mainstream school - one with an EHCP and one on the pathway to get one. The school still with this support cannot meet the needs of my children. We need more schools that can meet the needs of our children and give them the best education possible. I'm 100% for a new SEN school! I have two additional needs children that struggle with mainstream school but yet there is no spaces and long waiting lists for specialist schools.
SG8	Signed Petition	Working in a school I see how there is not enough places that send children need especially in our area as we are on the border of the county & can't not cross county borders.
SG8	Signed Petition	I work in a mainstream primary first school, and over the last 10 years I have witnessed an increase amount of child requiring SEN placement get failed, we try our hardest to give this children what they need but we fail because of the environment we are teaching them in, we have the most vulnerable children being taught by the least qualified teachers assistance not even teachers. We are watching this children get turned down again and again by the system. The whole system needs change and we shouldn't have to fight for years to try to give this children what they need, and we shouldn't have to send the most vulnerable children in taxi miles away from home just so they can get their needs meet. We are going to see the impact of these failures in years down the line as the impact has an effect on every single children.
SG8	Signed Petition	My son is without a provision
SG8	Signed Petition	Because I know of a child who could benefit from it
SG8	Signed Petition	not enough support locally
SG9	Registered Support	My daughter is SEN and it took me years and lots of fighting to get her into a SEN school due to lack of spaces and support. I now teach SEN teens who have not been able to access SEN education



Stevenage	Signed Petition	The school I teach in has a higher parentage of SEN children than a specialist provision. We have the highest in Stevenage and are a mainstream infants and junior school
Stevenage	Signed Petition	I have a child in a SEND school and it's amazing. Every child who needs an education like that should have the chance
Stevenage	Signed Petition	Because I am one of the families affected by the lack of Sen provision places available for our children, this school is very much needed
Stevenage	Signed Petition	I have a son who is 3 who is non verbal and I see the struggles he faces and the challenges he has to overcome by being in a main stream pre school. I believe that is so important that children with SEN needs and additional needs have a school that is suited to them and can offer help and support to give our children the best start in life and the best education that they deserve. Yes our children may learn differently but that doesn't mean our children should be left to struggle in a main stream school and become stressed and overwhelmed because they cannot cope within that certain environment. I strongly believe that education is for everyone and every child should have the same equal opportunity. SEN children often get left behind and forgotten about and funding taken away from them and they are left to try and strive in their own I believe and feel that this is unfair and they should have a school that offers children with SEN needs and additional needs help and support also to the parents who often feel very alone and isolated. Overall my opinion there seems to be a massive stigma on special needs children when in fact children with special needs are the same as any other child they just learn differently and need extra support that should not mean they should fight and struggle to have the same equal opportunities as other children in main stream schools. Education should and needs to be for everyone therefore I agree for a SEN school to be built for children to thrive and have a safe environment.
Stotfold	Signed Petition	All children should have a place where they can receive an education that works for them and have all of their needs met in this setting.
TW2	Signed Petition	My nephew is autistic and lives in this area
WD23	Signed Petition	There are not enough SEN schools and they are needed as mainstream is not the right environment for some children who end up being left behind or out of education



Appendix 3: Consultation Website

Home Page and Header

The screenshot shows the home page of the Icknield Fields consultation website. The header features the 'Icknield Fields' logo on the left and a navigation menu with links: Home, Overview, New School, Landscape, New Homes, Facilities, Improved Connection, Sustainability, Benefits, The Site, Bugler & Omnia, FAQs, and Feedback. The main content area has a large video player. The video title is 'A new SEN school, 50% affordable homes, and a landscape-led neighbourhood for Ickleford'. Below the title is a subtitle: 'Welcome to the consultation on the proposals for Icknield Fields at Land South of Pound Farm in Ickleford.' The video player shows a man in a suit standing in a field, with a play button overlay. Text on the video reads 'CELEBRATE THE ICKNIELD WAY AS A CENTRAL FEATURE'. The video player controls show a duration of 4:05 and the Wistia logo. Below the video player, there is a paragraph of text: 'Bugler Homes, in partnership with Omnia Foundation, is consulting on Icknield Fields, proposals for a new neighbourhood south of Pound Farm in Ickleford. The proposals will deliver a new Special Educational Needs (SEN) School, and up to 250 homes, including 50% affordable housing, a new 3G sports pitch and publicly accessible meadows, parks and play areas. These will form part of a landscape-led masterplan designed to celebrate the Icknield Way Path and promote active travel, with around 40% of the site provided as green space.' At the bottom of the page, there are two buttons: 'Give Your Feedback' and 'Register for Updates'.

Icknield Fields

Home Overview New School Landscape New Homes Facilities Improved Connection Sustainability Benefits The Site Bugler & Omnia FAQs Feedback

A new SEN school, 50% affordable homes, and a landscape-led neighbourhood for Ickleford

Welcome to the consultation on the proposals for Icknield Fields at Land South of Pound Farm in Ickleford.

CELEBRATE THE
ICKNIELD WAY
AS A CENTRAL FEATURE

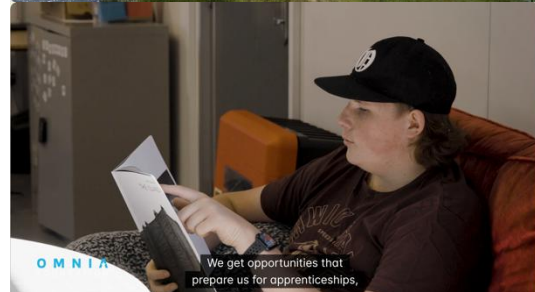
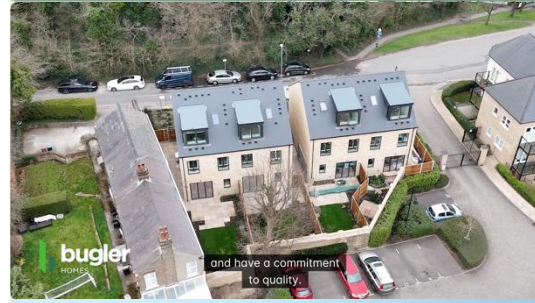
4:05 Wistia

Bugler Homes, in partnership with Omnia Foundation, is consulting on Icknield Fields, proposals for a new neighbourhood south of Pound Farm in Ickleford. The proposals will deliver a new Special Educational Needs (SEN) School, and up to 250 homes, including 50% affordable housing, a new 3G sports pitch and publicly accessible meadows, parks and play areas. These will form part of a landscape-led masterplan designed to celebrate the Icknield Way Path and promote active travel, with around 40% of the site provided as green space.

[Give Your Feedback](#) [Register for Updates](#)



Video





Overview

Icknield Fields at a glance



New SEN School

fully funded and delivered first, helping young people with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) access the education they need closer to home.



A mix of homes

with the majority being family houses, meeting needs for local people.



50% affordable housing

supporting local families, first-time buyers, key workers and downsizers.



Landscape-led masterplan

around 40% green space, featuring publicly accessible meadows, parks, play areas, the Icknield Way "Green Link", and new walking and cycling routes.



Sports Pitches

a new 3G sports pitch will be provided with the school, available for community use, alongside land with the potential for future sports and recreation use.



Environmental and Sustainability benefits

at least 10% biodiversity net gain through new habitats, trees, landscaping and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS).



Active travel improvements

including enhancements to public rights of way, cycle routes and improvements to bus services and safer crossings on the Bedford Road.

Application and consultation timetable

We will be submitting a hybrid planning application this year, with detailed proposals for the SEN school and around 100 homes in Phase 1, and outline proposals for the rest of the site. A further detailed application (Reserved Matters) will be submitted in the future should outline permission be granted.

The public consultation is open throughout November and will close **Friday 12 December**. This consultation website will remain live throughout the application process. Please share your views to help shape the plans.

[Give Your Feedback](#)

[Register for Updates](#)



New School

A New SEN School

An Independent Special School for North Hertfordshire

At the heart of our proposals is a new **Independent Special School (ISS)** for around 30 pupils aged 12-17 with Autism and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs.

The school will be owned and run by the **Omnia Foundation**, following their bespoke DfE approved **therapy-first curriculum**. The school will include:

- Specialist classrooms and therapy spaces
- Safe outdoor spaces and recreation areas
- Sports facilities, including the new 3G pitch
- A calm, inclusive environment where pupils can thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

The new SEN school will help local children access the right education closer to home, easing SEN pressures on local secondary schools and improving outcomes for young people across the area.



Sketch illustration of the new SEN School

SEND Need in Hertfordshire

There is a **SEND crisis** in Hertfordshire. Local families are struggling to find the right support for their children, and the Local Authority is being forced to fund expensive out-of-county placements.

- **23.4%** of children with identified SEND needs in Hertfordshire are not receiving the support they require (approx. 8,400 children).
- Around **6,500** children in Hertfordshire with Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) have SEMH as their primary need.
- Diagnoses of Autism have risen by **49%** in Hertfordshire between 2015-16 and 2019-20.

Hertfordshire is expanding SEND provision, but more is needed. The new SEND School at Icknield Fields offers a practical, deliverable solution.

Community Voices So Far

Over 250 people have expressed their support for a new SEN school and the wider proposals at Icknield Fields, recognising the urgent need for local provision.

Parents, carers, teachers and residents from across North Hertfordshire have told us that a school like this will change lives for local children and families, helping to bridge the gap in local provision.

This consultation is your chance to learn more about the overall plans and share your views before a planning application is submitted.

Key Information

- **Phase 1 Delivery**, the school will be built and delivered first.
- **30 specialist places**, for pupils aged 12-17 with Autism and SEMH needs.
- **Therapy first approach**, approved by the Department for Education.
- **Safe and inclusive environment**, designed for learning, wellbeing and growth.
- **Places commissioned by Local Authorities**, through the EHCP process, with no fees for families.
- **Fully funded through the development**, no public funding required.

For more information about Omnia Foundation and the new school, visit northhertsend.co.uk.



Landscape

Landscape-Led Masterplan & the Icknield Way

Icknield Fields has been planned as a landscape-led masterplan, shaped by its rural setting, trees, views and public rights of way, rather than by roads or buildings, with the green spaces and habitats shaping the layout of the homes, streets and community spaces, not the other way around.

Around 40% of the site will be green space, including publicly accessible parks, meadows, children's play areas and natural habitats and new walking and cycling routes that weave between the new homes and SEN school. This approach creates a green and sustainable neighbourhood that feels like a natural, sympathetic addition to Ickleford that respects and enhances the rural landscape that defines the village.



Initial Landscape Strategy Illustration



The Icknield Way

The historic Icknield Way Path runs through the centre of the site. The masterplan celebrates this heritage by creating a wide, green corridor, or Green Link at the heart of the new neighbourhood.

The Green Link will:

- ✓ Be a generous park-like space for residents to enjoy
- ✓ Provide a safe, attractive route for walking and cycling between Ickleford and Pirton
- ✓ Include play spaces, seating and meadows for informal recreation
- ✓ Connect directly to the wider Public Rights of Way (PRoW) network
- ✓ Frame long views across open countryside

This green link will be both a daily walking route and a destination, a place to walk, relax and socialise that honours the area's landscape and history.



The Green Link

Character Areas

The landscape design proposes a network of linked open spaces providing access to nature, recreation and biodiversity, each with its own role and identity.



Character Areas Plan



The Green Link (Icknield Way Path)

A park-like space following the Icknield Way, with paths, trees and play features connecting homes, the school and open countryside.

The Green Link will:

- Provide a safe, accessible route for walkers, cyclists, and families
- Include play areas, benches, and meadows to encourage social and active use
- Link directly to the wider **Public Rights of Way network**, improving connections to Ickleford and Pirton



Wetland Park (Northern Edge)

Located at the lowest point of the site, this park will create a rich wetland habitat using ponds, swales, and meadows. It will:

- Support wildlife and pollinators through wet woodland and meadow planting
- Include **nature learning spaces** near the SEN school for outdoor education, pond-dipping, and play
- Reinforce the **Green Belt edge** with trees and native shrubs to filter views of new homes

