



2020

Chatten Free School



Statutory
Consultation

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Statutory Consultation



Public Consultation:

Have your say

- New Special School planned for Essex
- Chatten Free School
- Opening under the Market Field Learning Community Trust
- Consultation closes 4th December 2020

What is this consultation?

Market Field Learning Community intends to open a new SEND free school known as Chatten Free School. This consultation provides information on the project and requests you share your views with us. It can be completed online by going to our website www.chatten.co.uk and following the link to the section 10 page at the top of the page and then clicking the link at the bottom of that page to access the survey. Alternatively, you can scan the QR code later in the document. If you do not have access to an online device, you can fill out this paper copy and return by post to the details at the end of this document. This document provides an overview of the project – you can access more details via the website.

The Proposed Academy

Chatten Free School is a school set to open in September 2021 under the Market Field Learning Community (MFLC) trust.

Chatten is a school designed to meet the needs of pupils with severe autism. Most pupils will be pre-or developing verbal. Many will display high levels of challenging behaviour although the lack of said behaviour is not exclusionary nor is the presence of challenging behaviour the only important factor in gaining a placement.

The Essex Local authority has confirmed the need for Chatten Free School and agreed top up funding to be available for pupils to attend.

The school will offer full time education and therapeutic behavioural support to 75 pupils in Essex and potentially surrounding areas. Pupils will be aged 4-19 and will have an EHCP.

The school will be built and located at the end of the New Rickstones Academy playing Field on the Rickstones road CM8 2MQ.



Our Vision and Ethos for the Academy

We are looking to establish a school which mirrors and reflects the ethos, values and vision of our sister schools and academy trust (Market Field School, Southview School, Market Field learning community).

We believe that through a consistent and thorough individualised curriculum using effective and evidence based learning techniques we can ensure that our pupils leave us as independent as possible and able to access the world around them in a rich and meaningful way.

Our primary vision for our pupils is:

Happiness
Independence
Respect

We have high expectations of the progress our pupils can make with the correct support and we believe that their input, needs and happiness should be valued in the wider society.

Education and Curriculum

Chatten Free School will seek to meet individual educational needs using a bespoke 1:1 curriculum. Our focus as a school will be to teach the skills and competencies that our pupils will need in order to be as independent as possible in later life.

We will address communication as a priority and our intention is that all pupils will leave us with some functional means to communicate their basic wants and needs. After this we will focus on other essential skills for our pupils.

We will cover the national curriculum in a way which is appropriate to our individual pupils.

Staffing will be at a 1:1 level to ensure we can deliver a fully individualised curriculum.

The building

On the 9th of May 2019 MFLC held a public planning consultation around the building plans for Chatten Free School. This was well attended and feedback was considered in how to move the building plans forwards. Work has now begun on site and we have provisional opening date set for the 1/9/2021.



Access and transport plans

Because Chatten Free School is a SEN school the majority of pupils will likely come in via taxi or mini bus. The School is designed with a turning circle to support pupil access and a separate staff and visitor carpark. Both of these elements will minimise any queueing to the site.



Local impact

As the school is a SEN provision it is not limited to a particular catchment area. However, we believe the school will have beneficial local impact in a number of areas:

Employment: The School is set to employ 100+ staff to support the high level needs of our pupils. It is likely that people in the local area will apply for positions working at the school and thus the school will improve employment prospects in the local area.

Local business: As a school focused on supporting independence the pupils will be encouraged to visit and make use of local community amenities and businesses.

SEN awareness: As with our local sister school (Southview School) we aim to work with the community and local mainstream schools to raise awareness of SEN and autism in the local community.

The demand for the school

On the 15th of September 2016 the Local Authority confirmed in writing that 'there is a need for the type of proposed provision in the local area' They suggested that they would name Chatten Free School in 25 pupil's EHCP's in year one, 50 in year two and 75 in year three.

Admissions

The School is designed to meet the needs of pupils with an autism diagnosis and those who can be said to be 'severely affected' by their autism. Pupils will likely have limited vocal communication and may display highly challenging behaviour.

As we are a SEN school we will work with the Local Authority's (LA's) Statutory Assessment Service (SAS) to ensure admissions are appropriate for the provision we provide.

You can access a full copy of our admissions document at www.chattenfreeschool.co.uk.

You can also access further details of our school and curriculum at www.chattenfreeschool.co.uk

Why are we consulting with you?

It is our intention to open Chatten Free School in the 2021/2022 academic year and your opinions count.

In 2016, the DfE approved MFLC's application to open a free School

This application has the full support of the Essex County Council.

As part of this planning process we have a legal obligation to consult interested parties on whether the Secretary of State should sign a funding agreement with MFLC which will enable Chatten Free School to open.

The Funding Agreement is a contract that details key aspects of the Trust's responsibilities and how the school must function, such as how it abides by the Admissions Code and SEN Code of Conduct. It also outlines the circumstances in which the Secretary of State can intervene should the school's performance be considered unacceptable.

An example of a model funding agreement can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/academy-and-free-school-funding-agreements-multi-academy-trust>

What you need to do

Please visit: www.chattenfreeschool.co.uk and scroll to the bottom of the page where you can complete the survey online. Or scan the QR code below:



Alternatively, if you do not have access to a computer or the internet you can complete the paper survey below and post it back to Market Field School (School Rd, Elmstead Market, CO7 7ET) care of Adam Dean

Many thanks

Adam Dean

Head Designate

Chatten Free School

Chatten Free School Public Consultation survey

Note: You can also complete this survey online at

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=qiwxvQSfpU2HU-kGvGKiaCnxehUW8l9PlqizXcAiCX5UNjhRSDBPQ0xPUkIVSkxBSUIXMTFVWDE3Qi4u>

Or scan the QR code below:



Having considered the information provided here and/or on the website, please answer the following by drawing a circle around your response to each question:

1. Do you think that the Secretary of State for Education should enter into a funding agreement with Market Field Learning Community to run Chatten Free School?

YES

NO

DON'T KNOW

2. Do you believe that the proposed provision will have a positive impact on the lives of pupils who attend?

YES

NO

DON'T KNOW

3. Do you believe that the proposed provision will have a positive impact on SEN provision in Essex?

YES

NO

DON'T KNOW

4. Do you believe the Chatten project will have a positive impact on the local community?

YES

NO

DON'T KNOW

5. If you answered NO to any of the above, please give your reasons here:

6. If you have any other comments or queries, please list them here:

About you

Please circle any of the following that applies to you:

7. Which group best describes you:

- Parent / Carer
- Student
- Work within the education sector
- Work for the local authority
- Local business / employer
- Work within the MFLC trust
- Other

8. Where do you live? (please select the closest)

- Witham

- Chelmsford
- Braintree
- Tendring
- Essex but none of the above
- Outside of Essex

9. Would you like to hear from us?

Please tick here if you want to be contacted by a member of Market Field Learning Community regarding this consultation or to receive updates about the new school opening:

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If you ticked the above, please give your contact details below:

Name:

Address:

Email:

Telephone:

Thank you for completing the consultation survey.

Please put it in a sealed envelope to be returned no later than 4/12/2020

Market Field Learning Community will not share your information with external parties.

Consultation ends on 4th December 2020 any forms received after this date will not be considered in the survey.