

**Question from Sue Whiting for the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 13 November 2017**

Could the chair please tell me how many Leicestershire children, who have Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP), have their needs met in placements situated in other Local authority areas for:-

- Age ranges a) 0-5  
b) 6-11  
c) 12-16  
d) 17-19  
e) 20-25?

**Response**

Age Range	Number
0-5	1
6-11	90
12-16	143
17-19	71
20-25	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>335</b>

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**Agenda item 10 – Proposals to Consult on Removal (Closure) of Residential Facilities at Maplewell Hall Special School.**

**Statement from Kirsty North, Care and Intervention Team Leader, Maplewell Hall School.**

**Overview of the residential provision at Maplewell Hall School.**

Students in Key Stage 3 and 4 are offered two nights per week for half a term at a time.

There is a rotation every half term to ensure that as many pupils as possible can have time in residence. Pupils typically get 3 half terms of residence per year.

Therefore an average 6 week half term equals 12 nights of residence which equals 36 nights over the academic year.

Attendance is optional and is decided by the pupil and their parents/carer.

There is a well-established positive approach to inclusion for all students who want to attend. Pupils with complex medical needs are supported whenever possible to facilitate attendance. This currently includes students with epilepsy and prescription diets.

Students can be offered more frequent stays if there is a recognised need for more continuous support. During 2016/2017 there were 10 students who accessed this every term and therefore stayed for around 72 nights.

This term we have been able to offer one student 4 nights per week of residence which has prevented her being placed in emergency care. Being able to stay in a familiar setting has had a significant impact on her emotional wellbeing.

In these situations the student's issues are discussed between senior staff, home school link workers, external agencies, parents and the student.

Key stage 5 students are offered a week-long stay 3 times per year. This is done when there is a 7 or 8 week term. This addresses issues and

topics relevant to their age group. The final week of the year includes students from Year 11 as part of their transition.

### **For students in KS3 and KS4 (2016/17)**

69 (54%) students accessed residence. 62 chose not to. This includes 7 students who attend The Eaves unit for students with Autism and additional needs. 13 of the students who are in KS4 who did not attend in 16/17 had previously attended residence when they were in KS3.

There are currently 11 boys' beds and 8 girls' beds. (Prior to September 2017 there were 15 boys beds, two rooms were withdrawn due to new fire regulations) and we are operating at capacity. As there are significantly more boys than girls attending Maplewell there were occasions last year when there was below capacity attendance for the girls beds.

### **Residential impact on educational outcomes for students.**

**Key stage 3** Students that access residential opportunities on a regular basis, significantly progress more (0.83) at school than those that do not (-0.4). (Score 0 = target achieved therefore + score equals greater than predicted attainment)

For students in the autism unit, where the pupils have the most complex educational, social and emotional needs, the progress is very significant

Eaves students attending residence on average achieved a score of + 0.4 compared with -1.2 for those students who did not attend.

The 2016 Ofsted report rated the residential provision as Outstanding and noted that

'The residential provision is a gateway to additional academic support and opportunities. The link between enhanced opportunities to progress well academically and residence is clear.'

# Have your say on the proposed closure of the residential facilities at Maplewell Hall School



## Tell us how this might affect you.

We are seeking views from parents/carers and other members of the public from **18 September to 29 October 2017**.

During this period we will be holding drop in sessions at the school and meeting with parent groups to provide you with the opportunity to ask questions and have your say.

Visit [leicestershire.gov.uk/maplewellhallschool](http://leicestershire.gov.uk/maplewellhallschool) to submit your comments.

## **Leicestershire County Council, working with the governing body of Maplewell Hall School, is proposing to close the residential facility at Maplewell Hall School.**

Maplewell Hall School, built in 1857 and located in Woodhouse Eaves, currently has capacity for 195 pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), in addition to a maximum nightly capacity of 24 pupils residential facility. The school is maintained by Leicestershire County Council.

The school caters predominantly for pupils with moderate learning difficulties. There are 183 pupils enrolled in the school, including 20 pupils within a designated Autism Spectrum Disorder facility.

Figures provided by the school indicate that the use of the residential facility is up to 24 students per night Monday to Thursday, with each pupil having on average 12-14 nights' attendance per school year.

## **What are we consulting on?**

Leicestershire County Council, working with the governing body of Maplewell Hall School, is proposing to close the residential facility from September 2018.

## **Why are we proposing this change?**

The school currently receives an allocation of £293,000 per year to support the residential education provision. However, no pupils with residential needs have been placed at the school in recent years and none currently attending the school have any requirement for residential provision included within their Education, Health or Care Plan (EHCP).

The withdrawal of the funding would help achieve savings for the SEND budget, and/or meet other budget demands on the service.

Maplewell Hall is the only special school of the six in the county that receives this type of funding, and there are no schools (of any type) maintained by Leicestershire County Council that have residential facilities.

## **The proposal in more detail**

The proposal is to close the residential facility from September 2018. This would enable a phased closure over several months, allowing sufficient time to work with any pupils/families affected by the closure to put alternative support in place if considered necessary after a social care assessment.

Discussions have commenced with the school about:

- The removal of funding from September 2018.
- Any necessary support for families/pupils as a consequence of this.
- The process to be followed if the proposal is to go ahead.

## How will the consultation work?

This first round of consultation lasts for six weeks. It is a chance for us to hear the views of those affected and the general public, before any formal decisions are made.

**To support the consultation, we will be holding events where representatives from the school and local authority will be attending. This will allow parents to talk on a one to one basis about their child's needs. The events are on the following dates:**

- **Thursday 21 September 2017, 7–8pm**  
(at the end of our Family Learning Event and governor's meeting)
- **Friday 6 October 2017, 11am – 12 noon**  
(at the end of our Open Morning)

You can tell us what you think by filling out our survey [online](#).

### You can also post your responses to:

Maplewell Hall School consultation  
Leicestershire County Council  
Have Your Say  
FREEPOST NAT 18685  
LE3 8XR

Please submit your response by midnight on 29 October 2017

**If you need help to complete this questionnaire, or have any questions about the consultation, please call 0116 305 6661 or email [SchoolOrgService@leics.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolOrgService@leics.gov.uk)**

## Next steps

Following this consultation, a report detailing the outcomes of the consultation will go back to Leicestershire County Council's cabinet for their consideration.

If the cabinet decide to progress with the proposal, the formal stage, including a statutory notice and a further four weeks of formal consultation, would start in early spring 2018.

## You can view the latest information in a number of ways

Visit us online at [leicestershire.gov.uk/maplewellhallschool](http://leicestershire.gov.uk/maplewellhallschool)

Our web pages will be kept up-to-date with the latest information and developments. You'll also be able to access the survey here.

Send an email to [SchoolOrgService@leics.gov.uk](mailto:SchoolOrgService@leics.gov.uk) to register for the latest news and updates.

Follow us [@leicscountyhall](https://twitter.com/leicscountyhall) for general updates from the council, including the developments on the budget.

Alternatively, you can telephone **0116 305 6661** to ask for information in printed or alternative formats.

જો આપ આ માહિતી આપની ભાષામાં સમજવામાં થોડી મદદ ઇચ્છતાં હો તો 0116 305 6661 નંબર પર ફોન કરશો અને અમે આપને મદદ કરવા યવસ્થા કરીશું.

જેવર ત્રહાનું ઈસ જાણવારી નું સમજાવે વિષ વ્રજ મદદ જાગીલી હૈ તાં વિરપા કરવે 0116 305 6661 નંબર તે ફોન કરે અટે અસીં ત્રહાડી મદદ લઈ વિસે દા પૂર્ણ કર દવાંગે।

এই তথ্য নিজের ভাষায় বুঝার জন্য আপনার যদি কোন সাহায্যের প্রয়োজন হয়, তবে 0116 305 6661 এই নম্বরে ফোন করলে আমরা উপযুক্ত ব্যক্তির ব্যবস্থা করবো।

اگر آپ کو یہ معلومات سمجھنے میں کچھ مدد درکار ہے تو براہ مہربانی اس نمبر پر کال کریں اور ہم آپ کی مدد کے لئے کسی کا انتظام کر دیں گے۔ 0116 305 6661

假如閣下需要幫助，用你的語言去明白這些資訊，請致電 0116 305 6661，我們會安排有關人員為你提供幫助。

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tej informacji w Twoim języku, zadzwoń pod numer 0116 305 6661, a my Ci dopomożemy.



## STATEMENT BY KAYTI RYAN, PARENT AT MAPLEWELL HALL SCHOOL

Good afternoon, I'm here on behalf of my autistic daughter and all students at Maplewell hall school to ask you to stop the proposed closure of the residential facility.

The residential facility at Maplewell is not 'respite' for parents to have a break. It is an essential educational resource for our children to learn to socialise and overcome the barriers their disabilities present every single day.

The children learn valuable skills including self-care, positive peer interaction, life skills, preparation for adulthood and independence. These skills can only be learnt at Maplewell as it offers a familiar and safe environment with familiar and trusted people it's an added bonus for the children they get to sleep over with their friends. These skills cannot be taught at home (independence especially) to any effective degree. You would not take away a maths department or sports hall, residential at Maplewell is no different it's a vital facility. Losing the residential would be just as devastating to our children.

The fact that residential is not stated on our children's EHCPs is because it has always been presented to us as a facility the school offers to all students, from a finance perspective I would urge you to consider the long term effects on LCC social care and transport budgets by withdrawing residence. Please do not take this outstanding facility away from our children, it is needed now and will be needed for future children studying at Maplewell. Rather than closing residential LCC should be showing Maplewell off as a flagship for what can be achieved for special needs children by such a facility and open more across the county. To close I would like to point out Maplewell Hall School consistently achieves excellent Ofsted reports and it's proven that children that use residential gain far more than the children that don't. I urge you to reconsider this proposal.  
Thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak today.

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