

19 July 2017

New secondary school Sutton needs comes a step closer

The Greenshaw Learning Trust's plans to build a new secondary school and ASD school in Sutton to provide much-needed school places have taken another step forward as the Council approves the principle of locating the new school at Rosehill Recreation Ground.

The Greenshaw Learning Trust has approval from the Government's Department for Education (DfE) to open a new 8-form entry comprehensive secondary school with sixth form and a small specialist school for secondary aged pupils on the autistic spectrum in Sutton.

Land at Rosehill Recreation Ground was first identified by the Council as an appropriate site for a new school in September 2014. The Council has progressed plans for a new secondary school at the Sutton Hospital site in Belmont, but projections show that the Borough will need a second new secondary school in September 2019. In December 2016 Sutton Council's Local Plan identified an area of land at Rosehill Rec as the preferred location for the second school.

On 17 July, Sutton Council's Strategy & Resources Committee approved the principle of the new secondary school and ASD school being built on the disused All Weather Pitch and a small part of the Sports Village at Rosehill Rec.

Mike Cooper, Chair of the Greenshaw Learning Trust, said:

"We are pleased that the Council has approved the principle of locating the new secondary school and ASD base at Rosehill Rec. We believe this site is the best location for the second new secondary school the Borough needs. It is a good location for the proposed new school, which can be built with minimal impact on the open parkland. The school and its students would benefit from close cooperation with the adjacent Sports Village and use of the recreation ground, which would continue to be open to the public."

The Greenshaw Learning Trust is working with the DfE's Education Funding Agency (EFA) and Greenwich Leisure Limited (GLL), operators of the Sports Village, to bring forward proposals to establish their new secondary school on the Rosehill Rec. site. The proposals will be dependent on planning permission being granted and the necessary agreements being concluded between the Trust, the EFA, GLL and Sutton Council.

Residents, recreation ground and sports village users and other interested groups will be informed and consulted throughout the process.

You can find out more about the Trust and its proposed new schools on the Trust website at www.greenshawlearningtrust.co.uk