**Special Provision Capital Fund**

**Guidance Note for Schools and Settings**

**May 2021**

The Government recently announced a further round of the [Special Provision Capital Fund](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1tm7aXVnoOp4VpFYlURWOOeaTcJUBOJLR/view?usp=sharing). Together with unallocated funding from previous rounds, the London Borough of Sutton has £3.4m in its programme and is looking to use this to support our Ambitious for SEND programme in the Local Area.

The government is committed to investing in new places for children and young

people with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or who require

alternative provision (AP). The funding is intended to address the need for places for academic year 2022/23 with the aim that it should enable local authorities to invest in providing new places or to improve existing provision for pupils and students with high needs across a range of different educational settings.

Examples of how this funding can be used is:

* projects that enable and/or increase access to mainstream placements for

pupils with high needs (who might otherwise have required more specialist

provision);

* projects that increase the local availability of high needs places to help reduce

out of area placements and associated transport or residential costs, and/or

reduce reliance on more expensive provision where local provision can be

provided at less ongoing cost;

* projects that adapt, re-model or improve existing high needs places to make

them suitable for a wider range of pupil needs.

This could be achieved through:

* Expansion(s) to existing high needs provision, including at the same site or at

a different site.

* Reconfiguring provision to make available space for additional places or

facilities.

* Repurposing areas so that they meet the needs of pupils with SEND.
* Investment in accessibility to improve access to existing provision.

We are now inviting applications from schools and other educational settings from across the 0-25 range.

We have written to schools and settings separately with information on:

* what you need to know in terms of who can apply,
* what projects this fund is intended to support,
* what criteria LBS will use to prioritise projects,
* how you can make an application on behalf of your setting,
* how many application windows there will be.

Please note the first deadline for applications is **28 May**. A further window of applications will open in the autumn term.

If you have any questions please contact jack.cutler@sutton.gov.uk