



**Ambitious  
about Autism**  
Schools Trust

**Consultation: Increase the  
Pupil Admission Number  
(PAN) at The Rise**

# Introduction

Set up five years ago by the Ambitious about Autism Schools Trust, the school has continued to grow and now has a vibrant learning community of over 100 pupils. Under the proposal, the collective maximum pupil number at The Rise School and Sixth Form would increase from 105 currently to 130 pupils as of September 2020.

This September, The Rise School opened a brand new sixth form provision at West Thames College. A number of pupils from the school have transferred to continue their learning at The Rise Sixth Form. This has enabled the school to cater for an increase in pupil numbers.

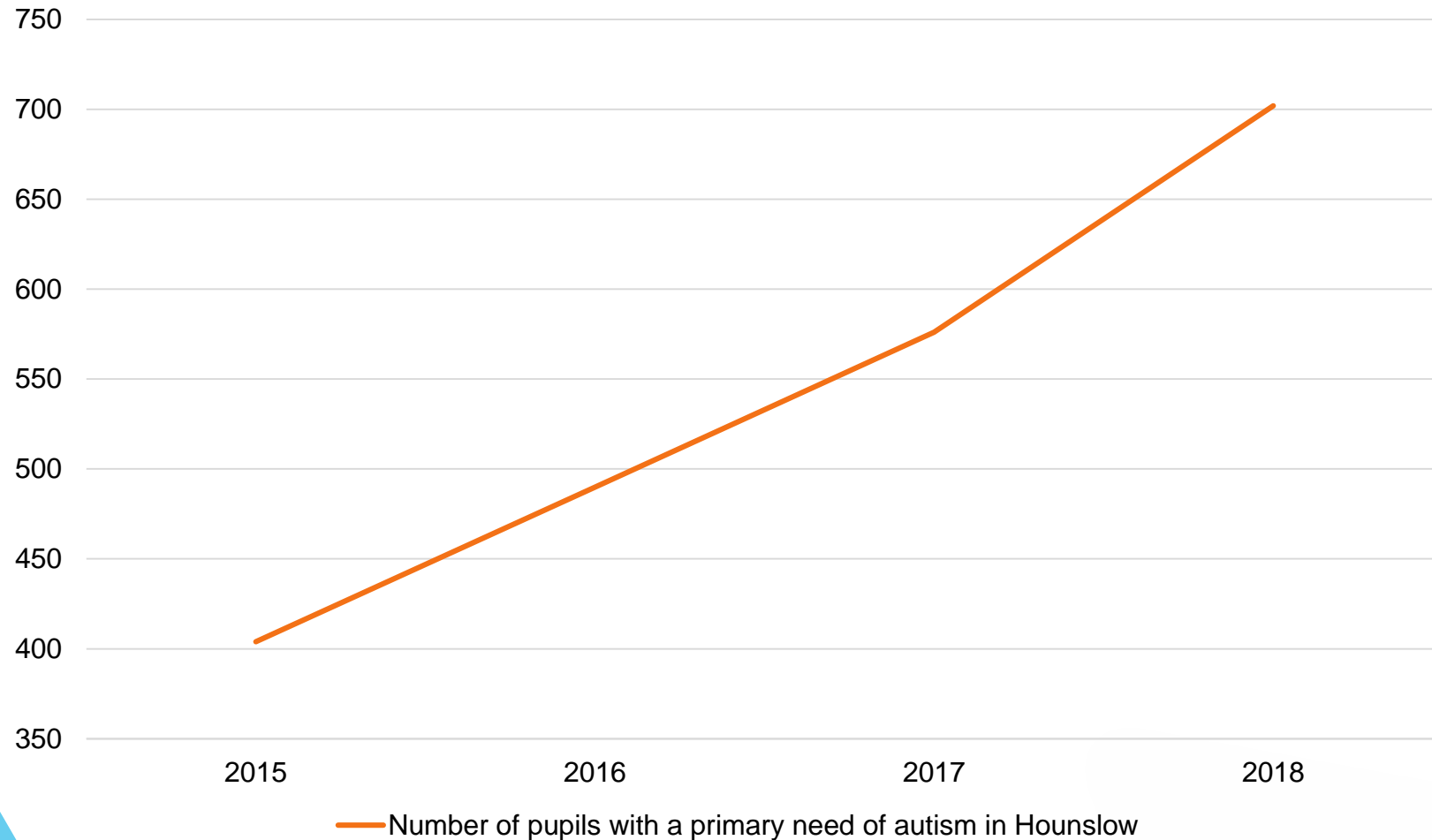
The Ambitious about Autism Schools Trust is holding a seven-week consultation on the proposal to ensure parents and carers feel supported and engaged. Feedback is encouraged as this will inform the business case which will be submitted to the Department of Education in January 2020.

# Headlines

- The maximum number of pupils at The Rise School, Feltham will remain at 100
- There will be a maximum number of 30 pupils at The Rise Sixth Form, West Thames
- Class sizes will largely remain the same
- Additional staff will be recruited to support the pupils at The Rise Sixth Form, West Thames
- There will be no building structure changes at The Rise School, Feltham



# An increased need for more places



A similar trend can be seen across the UK.

The Rise will continue to admit pupils from within Hounslow and surrounding boroughs.



**Why do we need to consult?**



# Business Case

Every school has a legal Pupil Admission Number (PAN) this is the maximum number of pupils a school can admit. If a school wants to change this number, then the Department for Education require a business case from the school or trust to apply for this change. The business case covers areas such as details on our academy trust, our governance structure and financial health, the rationale for the change, a consideration of the local context and details on our consultation and local support.

The consultation element of this business case ensures that the proposal speaks to the local need and considers all pupils, parents, carers, relevant local authorities and other local stakeholders.



**What would the impact be for my child?**

# There would be very little impact.

The PAN is the combined total number of pupils who can be admitted to both The Rise School, Feltham and The Rise Sixth Form, West Thames.

If your child currently attends The Rise School, Feltham then there will be no change to their routine or quality of education. Class sizes of between 8 and 10 will remain the same as will the maximum number of pupils at The Rise School, Feltham.



# What could 130 pupils look like?

- Example 1:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 100 \text{ pupils} & + & 30 \text{ pupils} & = & 130 \text{ pupils at The Rise} \\ \textit{The Rise School,} & & \textit{The Rise Sixth} & & \\ \textit{Feltham} & & \textit{Form,} & & \\ & & \textit{West Thames} & & \end{array}$$

- Example 2:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 95 \text{ pupils} & + & 35 \text{ pupils} & = & 130 \text{ pupils at the Rise} \\ \textit{The Rise School,} & & \textit{The Rise Sixth} & & \\ \textit{Feltham} & & \textit{Form,} & & \\ & & \textit{West Thames} & & \end{array}$$



The Rise School

**Why is the Sixth Form on a different site?**

# The Rise Sixth Form

The Rise Sixth Form works in partnership with West Thames College to allow us to offer The Rise Sixth Formers the best of both worlds. Being located at West Thames College enables our pupils to access the full range of courses at a large further education college. The Rise has its own bespoke and separate facilities at the West Thames College, staffed by our highly skilled and specialist team. This allows us to provide a structured, autism-friendly environment that replicates the high-quality facilities on offer at The Rise School, Feltham.

The Rise Sixth Form at West Thames allows us to provide a larger space for our older pupils including 4 classrooms, 2 quiet rooms, a common room, a kitchenette and an IT suite.

The off-site Sixth Form means we can increase the number of pupils overall at The Rise.

“

We receive a huge number of applications for The Rise School every year, by increasing capacity we can provide more autistic children and young people access to our purposeful school community in which they will thrive socially and academically.”



*Helen Ralston  
Head of The Rise School*

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)



# Will class sizes be affected?

No. Class sizes will not be effected as The Rise School, Feltham will continue to support a maximum of 100 pupils on site.

# Will you consider playground space for extra pupils?

The number of pupils at The Rise School in Feltham is not increasing. The maximum number of 100 pupils at The Rise School, Feltham will remain the same.

However, with any new pupil, the school considers the needs of the new pupil and the wider school in relation to being able to meet all pupils' needs. This includes consideration given to social and play area spaces.

## Will there be any structural changes to The Rise School, Feltham?

No. There will no changes necessary to the structural building or outdoor space at The Rise School, Feltham.

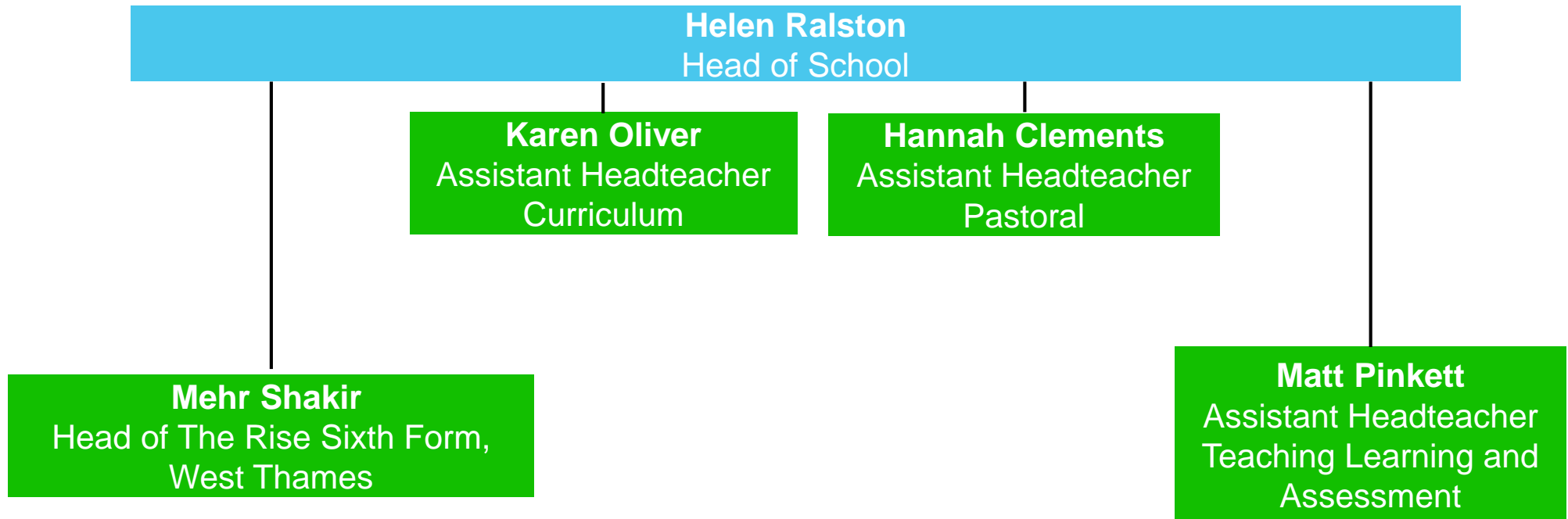
All our FAQs can be found on [The Rise](#) website.

# Does The Rise have the staff capacity to support more pupils?

Absolutely. The Rise has employed a Head of Sixth Form and 6 Teaching and Learning Assistants to support the pupils at The Rise Sixth Form, West Thames.

For further details on our organisational structure see the next slide.

# Organisational chart







**One in 100**

people in the UK are autistic



Almost  
**one third**

of parents of autistic children  
have given up their job due to  
school exclusions.

**Four times as many  
boys as girls are  
diagnosed with autism,**  
although this ratio may change as  
the needs of girls on the spectrum  
become better understood.



Formal exclusions  
of children with autism in  
England have risen by almost  
**60% in five years.**

# Have your say

There are several ways to share your feedback on our proposal, including:

**Online survey:** complete our 5-minute [online survey](#).

**Get in touch:** email your feedback directly to [consultation@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk](mailto:consultation@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk).

You must submit your feedback through one of the methods above by 6.00pm on Monday 4 November 2019. Please note we will not be able to individually acknowledge or respond to your comments but that all feedback submitted will be taken into account.

## We are Ambitious about Autism

Ambitious about Autism is the national charity for children and young people with autism.

We provide services, raise awareness and understanding, and campaign for social and policy change. Through TreeHouse School, The Rise School and Ambitious College, we offer specialist education and support.

Our ambition is to make the ordinary possible for more children and young people with autism.

### Contact us

The Pears National Centre for Autism Education  
Woodside Avenue, London N10 3JA

☎ 020 8815 5444

✉ [info@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk](mailto:info@ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk)

🌐 [ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk](http://ambitiousaboutautism.org.uk)

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