SEND Places - Appendix 1 - Watergate Expansion Anonymised Consultation Results

ID	Do you support the proposal?	Reason for views - What are the reasons for your views?
1	Yes	Watergate is already significantly oversubscribed and has utilised all available space on site to accommodate the pupil numbers currently on roll. There are many pupils needing to attend Watergate who are unable to do so. Therefore, the school would need to expand externally in order to accommodate these pupils. As an 'outstanding' school, I believe that it has the foundations and expertise in place to make such an expansion successful. It would be of enormous benefit to nursery age pupils and their families if our nursery facility could be used for the purpose intended, rather than having to be used to give much needed places to children aged 5+.
2	Yes	I do, but the funding needs to be adequate so that the provision is not diluted for existing pupils and those new to the school. There would need to be increased common areas that are in line the increased numbers of staff and pupils, to accommodate the new pupils. The needs of pupils with SLD and PMLD are over and above pupils in mainstream schools and this should be recognised by providing staffing to support these children, space for them to learn and grow, and if the expansion were to go ahead it should not be at the detriment of pupils already attending Watergate School. Equally the offer the new pupils receive should provide opportunities for hydro-therapy/ swimming, sensory circuits, interactive sensory rooms, soft play and playground space, additional toileting facilities, as well as a high quota of well qualified, trained staff. Additional leadership and staff would be needed and these all have to be factored in as well as parking facilities for staff and visitors.
3	I Don't Know	Every child that needs a SEN place should have one, but creating a larger school should be done carefully so as not to damage the existing educational environment, e.g. Class sizes need to remain small so as to not overwhem the children, building work should not be too noisy/disruptive and it should not take away too much outside space. I think there could be positives to having a larger school, if it meant more services and facilities (improved playing ares, more visiting therapists, arts, sports etc). Would another option be to create specialist units attached to mainstream schools? Other boroughs do this and I think it would be popular with some parents/pupils and aid integration. Or if 60 new places are needed, and this figure is probably likely to rise, it may be worth creating a whole new sister site, maybe in the north of the borough?
4	No	I think 108 kids to much. They cant manage more kids and no space. At this time I can say big mess at school / I think need to look first at all management how they work and progress and after this maybe possible increase kids number.