

62775 Kaimes Special School

I am requesting information relating to Kaimes Special School.

Please provide:

1. The official pupil capacity/maximum roll, for Kaimes Special School for each of the following academic years: 2024–2025, 2025–2026, 2026–2027.
2. For each academic year above, please confirm: the number of pupil places recorded as available at the school and whether any cap was applied to admissions.
3. If the capacity figure changed during this period, please provide:
 - the previous and revised capacity figures;
 - the date of the change;
 - the reason recorded for the change;
4. If the Council does not hold a figure called “capacity” or “capped capacity”, please provide the closest equivalent measure used by the Council to determine the maximum number of pupils that Kaimes Special School could admit or enrol in each academic year.

The capacity for Kaimes Special School:

2024–2025 = 96

2025–2026 = 96

2026–2027 = 90

The high number of S6 leavers has created an additional space for August 2026 which has allowed us to review the space to ensure it meets the needs of learners.

The current building has a limited number of spaces available for supporting emotional regulation, de-escalation, and therapeutic interventions. Demand for these spaces regularly exceeds availability, reducing opportunities for pupils to access timely support and affecting their ability to engage fully in learning. A reduction in pupil numbers would allow existing accommodation to be used more flexibly and effectively to meet individual needs.

The school also faces challenges relating to circulation and safe movement throughout the building. The layout can result in congestion at key transition times, particularly for pupils who require additional support with sensory regulation, anxiety, or social interaction. Lower pupil numbers would reduce pressure on shared spaces.

A number of classrooms and toilet facilities currently in use were originally designed for primary-aged pupils and are therefore limited in size for the older secondary-aged young people who now access them. As pupils grow older and larger, these spaces become increasingly constrained, impacting on comfort, accessibility, movement within the room, and the delivery of learning activities. This also presents challenges where additional staffing, specialist equipment, or personalised workstations are required to support individual needs. We have taken the decision to reduce the number of pupils and therefore the number of classes for session 2026/27. This will help to alleviate pressure on these spaces and ensure accommodation is more appropriate for the age and stage of the pupil population. This will be reviewed and re-considered for session 2027/28.