

## Waving flag for SEND

UNDERSHAW is giving itself a massive pat on the back after receiving flagship status from the skills builder partnership.

The Undershaw employability curriculum has been transformed over the past few years and is now setting the standard for life skills education across SEND education.

Essential skills are key in pupils learning but Undershaw believes access to these skills isn't fair.

Leilah Sheridan, head of employability and life skills, said: "We were so delighted with our gold award last summer.

"As the academic year turned, we became increasingly aware of just how important it is to model what we teach.

"We focused on our creativity and aiming high as we set our sights on the flagship award. We have a responsibility to add our voice to change and with this flagship award, we have placed Undershaw at the forefront of the evolution."



The Undershaw team celebrate being awarded flagship status

## Children's home shut after three weeks

A CHILDREN'S home closed down less than three weeks after being registered amid concerns about the "conduct and integrity of staff, managers and senior leaders".

Ofsted inspectors brought forward their first visit to the home in Cranleigh having received "significant concerns and allegations in relation to the home".

Surrey Police confirmed an investigation into a child protection incident at the home was still ongoing.

Ofsted inspector Vevene Muhammad visited the home on September 21, after the home and manager's registration with the watchdog on September 4.

The home is run by Young Options Group Limited, which also has a Cranleigh address. The company's registered manager, Joseph Laplana, did not respond to a request for comment at the time of publication.

The inspector's report, published on October 18, said: "During the inspection, the provider was issued with a notice suspending the registration of the home."

# Weekend flights must be revisited, says MP Hunt

FARNBOROUGH Airport's flight expansion plans have met stiff opposition from the Chancellor of the Exchequer and South West Surrey MP Jeremy Hunt.

In his formal response to the consultation, Mr Hunt said the proposal to increase the number of flights from 50,000 to 70,000 per year "could have far-reaching implications for many who live under the flight paths and close to the airport".

He hailed the significance of Farnborough Airport to the UK's ability to attract international investment "and how important the airport is to our local economy", and praised the airport for establishing itself as a leader in the business aviation sector.

But added he is "acutely aware this expansion comes at a cost for local people, and I am keen to help ensure our responsibilities to these people and other responsibilities – especially environmental concerns – are properly addressed by [the airport] in this process".

Mr Hunt described the 70,000 flights forecast as an "ideal case

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scenario" for the airport which is more than double the number of flights currently operated per year from Farnborough, and said "whatever final number is agreed, it must be a balanced negotiation between all parties".

On the proposal to raise a cap on weekend flights from 8,900 (17.8 per cent of the current total limit) to 18,900 (27 per cent of the current limit), Mr Hunt said this is "something I completely understand local people under the flightpath find unreasonable and a severe imposition".

He continued: "Many residents have referred to an erosion of their mental health and feel the large increase in weekend flights would significantly negatively impact them.

"I therefore find this element of the consultation proposal hardest to reconcile.

"I strongly feel the proposed overall quantum of weekend flights needs to be revisited and

adjusted downwards."

He also criticised plans to extend the 8am-8pm weekend operating hours to 7am to 9pm, and to allow heavier aircraft to operate unrestricted at weekends, and reiterated his request for "actual noise levels" to be monitored at different locations.

But perhaps Mr Hunt's most stinging rebuke was reserved for his environmental concerns, on which he said an increase in flights "will inevitably increase total emissions and Farnborough Airport's carbon footprint".

"The nature of a business airport is such that fewer passengers per flight and thus emissions per passenger are significantly higher per customer," he said, adding that much of Farnborough's wider flightpath is over the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, a place of "quiet escape and tranquility".

"For these reasons I therefore fully support continuation of appropriate environmental restrictions at Farnborough Airport – in line with whatever is finally agreed in respect of flight numbers."

Notable objections to Farnborough's expansion proposals have also been submitted by:

- Surrey Heath MP and Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, Michel Gove (see <https://www.michaelgove.com/campaigns/farnborough-airport>)

- East Hampshire MP Damian Hinds (whose 1,200-word response can be downloaded at <https://tinyurl.com/bp5h478e>)

- The Conservative parliamentary candidate for the new Farnham and Bordon constituency, Greg Stafford. See <https://twitter.com/GregoryStafford>



MP Jeremy Hunt and Farnham and Bordon candidate Greg Stafford met airport CEO Simon Geere and COO Les Freer earlier this month

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