



## ESCC Directory of Approved Alternative Provision

### Alternative Provision- Expression of Interest, March 2023

#### Overview

We are inviting expression of interests from providers to become an East Sussex County Council Alternative Provider and be included in our online directory. To express an interest and receive an application form, email: [APCommissioning@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:APCommissioning@eastsussex.gov.uk).

#### Introduction

East Sussex County Council is creating a directory of quality assured alternative provision in order to support schools secure high quality provision for children and young people across East Sussex. Our ambition is that every child and young person receives an inclusive education with effective early intervention, supported by a skilled workforce. This includes high quality alternative provision locally, operating alongside mainstream and special schools to meet the needs of East Sussex children and young people for some or all their education.

#### What is Alternative Provision (AP)?

Alternative provision is where children and young people of compulsory school age access education if they are not able to attend school full-time. These settings may or may not be registered with the Department for Education or be inspected by Ofsted; the individual needs of the children and amount of provision offered by the provider will determine this. Providers should be clear about their responsibilities to formally register as an [Independent School](#), when completing this application, as appropriate. Responsibility for monitoring the quality of these settings lies with the commissioner of the AP placement, the school. Visit the Government's website for more information about [Alternative Provision](#).

#### Who will commission Alternative Provision from this Directory?

Schools in East Sussex will use the directory to commission provision for their pupils as required. Once a provider is approved to be part of the directory, schools will decide who they want to commission and will be expected to enter into a separate agreement with regards to funding and quality assurance. East Sussex recommends that schools only commission alternative provision from providers in the directory.

## Programme requirements

Applications should demonstrate how they will ensure that children and young people will receive a good education that enables them to engage with provision and achieve good educational achievements on par with mainstream schools.

## How Do I Become an Approved Provider?

The Council has established a robust quality assurance process to secure high quality alternative provision. It is essential that you follow the required processes to be considered as an approved alternative provider and be included in the directory which will be available on the East Sussex County Council website.

1. Register your interest to become an approved provider by emailing :  
[APCommissioning@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:APCommissioning@eastsussex.gov.uk)
2. Follow the guidance for the approved provider application form, complete each section in detail, including required evidence, before you return it to:  
[APCommissioning@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:APCommissioning@eastsussex.gov.uk)
3. Support the AP Commissioner with the on-site quality assurance visit.
4. Meet the relevant deadlines as outlined in the guidance for the approved provider application form.

**Optional** - Book an individual session with the AP Commissioner to receive guidance on completion and evidence required. Request a meeting by email and put “AP Meeting” in the subject: [APCommissioning@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:APCommissioning@eastsussex.gov.uk)