

# iSparc

Help us build a  
Centre of Excellence for  
Disability Sport, Arts & Culture  
for these very special people



Ifield Foundation Special School  
Cedar Avenue, Gravesend, Kent DA12 5JT

# PLANS APPROVED FOR ISPARC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR DISABILITY SPORT, ARTS AND CULTURE

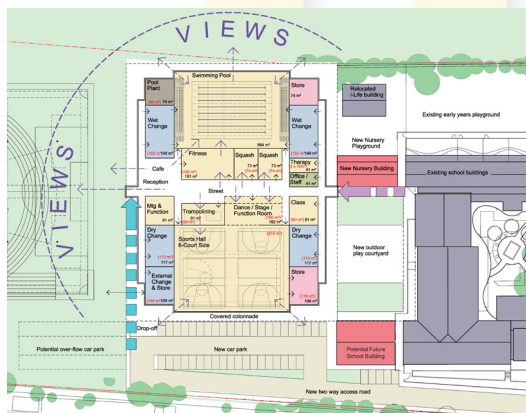
A state-of-the-art disability sport, arts and cultural centre for children, their families and the community is planned to be built in the grounds of Ifield Foundation Special School in Gravesend. Kent County Council has granted outline planning permission.

The project, currently known as 'iSparc', aims to create a centre of excellence for inclusive PE teacher training where coaches, teachers and managers can be trained to a very high level in disability sports teaching and art and culture.

The centre has been designed by Aukett Morley Architects – a joint venture between London based Michael Aukett Architects and David Morley Architects. It will include:

- A six-badminton court sports hall with equipment for Paralympic sports such as goalball, boccia, wheelchair basketball and other activities
- Accessible 25m eight-lane swimming pool with ramp, hoists, spectator area and cafeteria
- Dance and performing arts studio and therapy rooms
- Room with sunken trampolines, hoists and specialised equipment
- Outdoor football pitch, running track, climbing wall and wildlife area

Having cleared the first planning hurdle, the school will now be able to progress discussions with potential funders.



**Pam Jones OBE,**  
Headteacher of Ifield School:  
"We are delighted that Kent County Council has granted us outline planning permission for iSparc. The school has been trying to update new sports facilities since 2002. Our challenge now is to secure funding for such an exciting scheme. Kent does not currently have a combined disability sports, arts and cultural venue and this centre will help to inspire children with special needs across the county to become involved in a multitude of sports and performing arts."

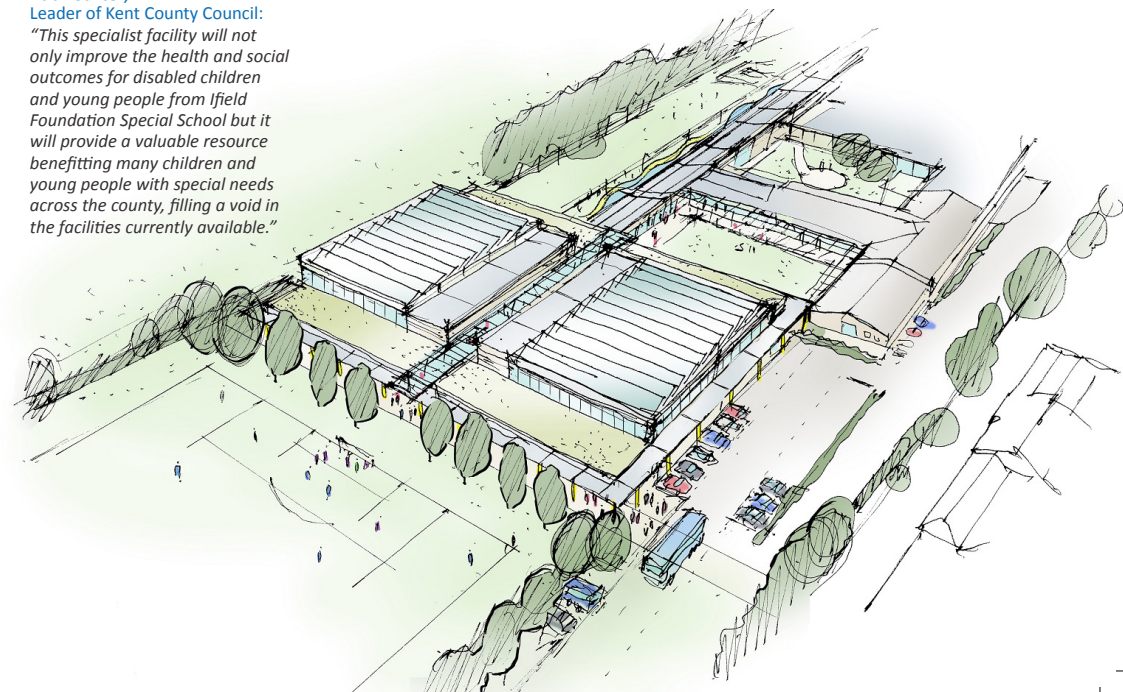
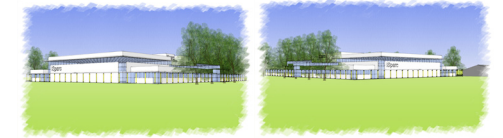
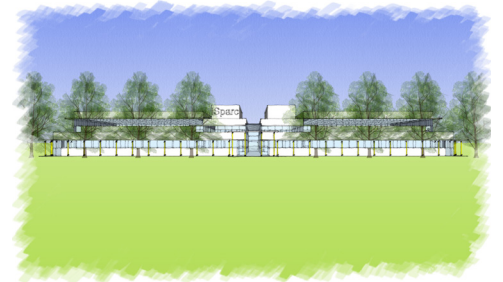
**Clare Stoddart,**  
Governor of Ifield School:  
"We want iSparc to become a centre for sports and performing arts for children and young people with disabilities and their families. The goal is to build an inspiring facility where coaches and managers can be trained to a very high level in disability sports teaching."

**Paul Carter,**  
Leader of Kent County Council:  
"This specialist facility will not only improve the health and social outcomes for disabled children and young people from Ifield Foundation Special School but it will provide a valuable resource benefitting many children and young people with special needs across the county, filling a void in the facilities currently available."

**"It's not about who we are- it's about who we can be."**

**Andy Mytom,**  
Partner, David Morley Architects:  
"iSparc is a shining example of what can be achieved by a Client that understands the potential for positive change through arts and sports. Ifield School's passion and commitment to make this vision a reality is second to none and we are delighted to be working alongside them on this incredible project."

**Steve Baker,**  
Michael Aukett Architects:  
"With a truly inspirational Client and brief, we are delighted to have supported the school in achieving this first milestone and we very much look forward to continuing to assist and to realise the aspirations for iSparc."



# INVEST IN iSPARC

## Can You Help Us?

We are actively seeking the interest and support of local and national businesses and individuals as well as community members to promote our significant fundraising campaign.

We are encouraging organisations and people with knowledge and experience within the fields of Sport, Arts & Culture to join with us to help bring our ambitious plans to reality.

We really hope that you will be able to reach out and help us. All donations, however large or small and offers of expertise and services are very much appreciated. The school will look to match fund whenever possible. We would love to hear from you if you can offer any of these things, but most importantly, if you have the passion, drive and desire to help us realise our vision.

Please contact us today to arrange a visit. We would love you to meet our very special pupils, the inspiration behind everything we do. We know that you will then want to be a part of this ground breaking project.

So while we're imagining the future for our children, let's stop speculating and start building iSparc.

We look forward to hearing from you very soon.

For further information, please contact:  
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[www.ifieldschool.com](http://www.ifieldschool.com)

