Consultation document for a proposal to expand the current resourced provision for children with ASC at Puss Bank School & Nursery from 7 to 14 pupils.

Consultation period 21st November 2018 to 19th December 2018

This consultation document sets out:

- Information about Puss Bank School & Nursery
- Why we need further resource provision in the Macclesfield area
- Why we are proposing that Puss Bank School & Nursery increases the resourced provision
- The proposal
- How you can give your views
- What happens after the consultation
- The consultation timetable

Puss Bank School & Nursery

Puss Bank School & Nursery is part of The Aspire Educational Trust, a multi academy trust and is located at Barracks Lane, Macclesfield SK10 1QJ. The school comprises of a nursery taking children from age 2 and admits up to 60 children into the reception class in September of each year. Currently the school educates a number of children with a variety of special educational needs, including 7 children within the resourced provision for children with autism.

Why do we need resource provision places in Macclesfield?

The council have completed a sufficiency review of its special educational needs provision across the local authority. It has identified that there is a need within the Macclesfield area to provide at least a further 23 places in specialist resource provision for children with a primary need of ASC.

There is a growing need across Cheshire East for more specialist resourced provision places and currently due to the lack of places some children are being educated in schools outside of Cheshire East. This lack of provision means that children are spending time travelling to and from school at a significant cost to the local authority.

Why are we proposing that Puss Bank School & Nursery increases the resourced provision?
We have a proven track record of successfully working with children with ASC and feel that we have the capacity to expand this provision to 14 children. This would coincide with the building of a new building to house part of the provision (a replacement building for one removed due to its poor condition in October 2016).

The proposal

If the proposal goes ahead a further 7 places will be offered to children with a primary need of ASD across Reception, KS1 and KS2 who have an EHCP and the resourced provision at Puss Bank School & Nursery is named as their preferred provision. The allocation of a place in the resource provision will be given by the local authority SEN panel.

The school is currently working with the local authority to replace the double mobile classrooms which were removed in October 2016 due to their very poor state of repair. The new building will house much of the additional facilities for the Resourced Provision.

How can you give your views?

You can:

- Complete the attached paper questionnaire and hand it into the school office or post it to the school
- Complete the Electronic Survey on line at https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school_organisation/school_organisation.aspx

What happens after the consultation?

All the feedback will be collated and reported back to trustees of The Aspire Educational Trust. They will make a decision on whether to go ahead with the expansion of the resourced provision based upon the feedback.

If a decision to expand is taken then the school will notify the Education Funding and Support Agency (EFSA) which will include the responses to the consultation and the school’s response to that. The Secretary of State will then consider, and the EFSA will notify the school of the Secretary of State’s decision regarding the proposal.

Process

1. The school carries out a 4 week consultation with stakeholders including parents/carers and local residents
2. Responses collated
3. Analysis of responses
4. Outcomes report produced
5. Secretary of State approval requested
6. Approval or rejection for the Secretary of State
7. EFSA notifies the school of the decision and takes necessary action
8. The school implements proposed change (if approved)

Timetable
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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>When</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Start of consultation</td>
<td>21st November 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Deadline for feedback and comments</td>
<td>19th December 2018</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 Analysis of responses</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<td>5 Consultation outcomes report produced</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<td>6 Academy Trust consider the outcomes of the consultation</td>
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<td>7 Approval from Secretary of State sought</td>
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<td>8 Secretary of State considers proposal</td>
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<td>9 EFSA notifies school of decision</td>
<td>TBC</td>
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<td>10 Implementation of proposal</td>
<td>January 2020</td>
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