

Proposals for Increasing Specialist Provision for Children and Young People with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

Proposed Development and Increase of places at Designated Specialist Provisions (DSP's) and Pupil Referral Unit's (PRU's) Consultation document

Your views are important to us.

We would like to gain your views and comments on the Council and Academies' proposals and provide you with the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the proposals.

November 2017

The Consultation

Background information

The Local Authority and Academies offer a range of educational provision across the Bradford District including Special schools, Pupil Referral Units (PRU's), Designated Specialist Provision (DSP's), Additionally Resourced Centres (ARC's), Mainstream schools and Academies.

Currently the Local Authority maintains six designated specialist provisions three for primary aged pupils and three for secondary aged pupils. In addition there are four primary and eight secondary academies who also host designated specialist provisions.

Table showing current Designated Specialist Provision

School	Area of Need	Registered Places	Maintained school or Academy	Phase
Crossflatts	ASD	12	Maintained	Primary
Denholme	ASD	8	Academy	Primary
Haworth	ASD	12	Academy	Primary
Carrwood	ASD	12	Maintained	Primary
Bradford Academy	ASD	12	Academy	Secondary
Parkside	ASD	12	Maintained	Secondary
Holy Family	ASD	12	Maintained	Secondary
Southfield Grange	ASD	12	Academy	Secondary
Grange Technology	ASD	12	Academy	Secondary
Titus Salt	LD	15	Maintained	Secondary
Beckfoot Thornton	LD	15	Academy	Secondary
Bradford Forster Academy	LD	15	Academy	Secondary
Green Lane	SLCN	9	Academy	Primary
High Craggs	SLCN	6	Academy	Primary
Oasis Lister Park	SLCN	4	Academy	Secondary
Beckfoot	PD	10	Academy	Secondary
Bradford Academy	PD	15	Academy	Secondary
Learn & Play – High Park Special School	C&I /ASD	16	Academy	Early Years

ASD = Autism

LD = Learning Difficulties

SLCN = Speech Language and Communication Needs

C& I / ASD = Communication and Interaction needs including Autism

PD = Physical Difficulties

The Local Authority currently maintains 4 Pupil referral Units for children and young people with Social Emotional and Mental Health Needs (SEMH), one for primary aged pupils and three for secondary aged pupils.

Table showing current Designated Specialist Provision

School	Area of Need	Registered Places	Maintained school or Academy	Phase
Park Primary PRU	SEMH	50	Maintained	Primary
Ellar Carr	SEMH	36	Maintained	Secondary
District PRU	SEMH	160	Maintained	Secondary
Central PRU	SEMH	50	Maintained	Secondary

SEMH = Social Emotional and Mental Health

What are we proposing and where?

The Local Authority is proposing to increase the number of Designated Specialist Provision places for pupils in maintained schools with effect from April to September 2018 by:

- Developing new provision for primary aged children and young people with communication and interaction needs including autistic spectrum disorders (ASD) at:
 - Crossley Hall Primary School – 12 places proposed by September 2018
- Expanding the existing provision for primary aged children and young people with communication and interactions including autistic spectrum conditions (ASD) at:
 - Crossflatts Primary School from 12 places to 16 places proposed by April 2018
- Expanding the existing provision for secondary aged children and young people with communication and interactions including autistic spectrum conditions (ASD) at:
 - Holy Family Catholic School from 12 places to 16 places proposed by April 2018
- Expanding the existing provision for secondary aged children and young people with cognition and learning needs at:
 - Titus Salt School from 16 places to 30 places proposed by April 2018
- Developing new provision for primary aged children and young people with social emotional and mental health needs (SEMH) at:
 - Long Lee Primary School – 10 places proposed by April 2018
 - Cottingley Village Primary School – 10 places by April 2018

The Local Authority is proposing to increase the number of Pupil Referral Unit places for pupils with effect from April to September 2018 by:

- Expanding the existing provision for secondary aged children and young people with social emotional and mental health needs (SEMH) at:
 - Ellar Carr Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) from 36 places to 70 places proposed by April 2018

The following Academies are proposing to increase the number of Designated Specialist Provision places with effect from April to September 2018 by:

- Developing new provision for primary aged children and young people with communication and interaction needs including autistic spectrum disorders (ASD) at:
 - Green Lane Primary School – 12 places proposed by September 2018
 - Worth Valley Primary Academy – 8 places proposed by April 2018
- Expanding the existing provision for primary aged children and young people with speech language and communication needs (SLCN) at:
 - Green Lane Primary School from 9 places to 12 places proposed by April 2018

The Local Authority is working closely with the Academies on their proposals and is carrying out the consultation process on their behalf.

These proposals set out to increase provision, by creating an additional 77 Designated Specialist Places for primary and secondary aged pupils with a range of special educational needs and disabilities across Bradford Maintained and Academy schools.

These proposals also set out to increase SEMH provision by creating an additional 34 Pupil Referral Unit places.

Why are the Council and Academies proposing to increase provision?

The Bradford District has experienced a significant increase in demand for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision in the last 10 years.

It is projected that the demand for SEND provision will continue to grow and that in the next 3 years a minimum of 360 additional specialist places across all sectors (DSP's, Special Schools and Pupil Referral Units) in the Bradford District will be required.

- There is an urgent need for more specialist places in Bradford due to the increase in population
- Currently only 1% of Bradford's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities pupils are in special schools and there is a growing need for more specialist places to meet need and demand
- All children are to be valued equally, regardless of their ability, behaviour, family circumstances, ethnic origin, gender and sexual orientation
- All children are to be provided with the best learning opportunities, environment and experience which maximises their learning
- All children are entitled to a broad, balanced and relevant curriculum which is differentiated to meet individual needs
- Children's diverse special educational needs and disabilities require a range of flexible and varied provision

These proposals will expand and develop further specialist provision to enhance the network of DSP's and PRU's which form part of:

- A coherent geographical spread of provision across the District, minimising travel times
- A dynamic network for sharing best practice and experience
- Flexible and responsive provision to best meet the needs

When are we proposing to increase provision?

Before the Local Authority can increase provision in maintained schools, there is a statutory process that we must follow. Whenever the Local Authority proposes to increase places or make changes to specialist provision, all interested parties who are likely to be affected by the Council's proposals must be consulted in the development of the proposals prior to publication of statutory notices.

In relation to the academies proposals, the academies will consider the responses to the consultation and decide whether to submit a proposal for change and full business case to the Regional Schools Commissioner for permission in relation to their proposals.

A timeline for completing the consultation and statutory processes is set out below:

Activity	Timescales
Consultation period for maintained schools and academies begins	16 th November 2017
Consultation period for maintained schools and academies ends	14 th December 2017
For maintained schools the Director of Children's Services considers consultation responses and decides whether to publish statutory notices	14 th to 21 st December 2017
Academies consider the consultation responses and write Business Cases	14 th to 22 nd December 2017
Statutory notices published in the local newspapers (Consultation period begins)	4 th January 2018
Academies submit their full Business Cases to the DfE and RSC	4 th January 2018
End of 4 week Statutory Consultation period	1 st February 2018
Academies receive confirmation of approval from the DfE and RSC	January to March 2018
Report to Council Executive to consider the outcome of consultation and statutory notices and determine proposals (maintained schools only)	6 th March 2018
Proposed implementation date	April to September 2018

How will this affect my child? And is this the best option for Children and Young people with SEND?

The Local Authority and Academies offer a range of educational provision across the Bradford District including Special schools, Designated Specialist Provision (DSP's), Pupil Referral Units (PRU's), Additionally Resourced Centres (ARC's), Mainstream schools and Academies.

These proposals set out to create an additional 77 Designated Specialist Provision (DSP) places for pupils with a range of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities and also proposes to increase SEMH provision by creating an additional 34 Pupil Referral Unit places.

Children and Young People with a range of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities will continue to be well served in Bradford. The council is looking at the best way to offer a full range of provision locally for all children. We believe that a flexible district wide model will be able to respond effectively to local changes in demand.

The proposed changes will ensure the continued delivery of high quality and cost effective provision for the Children and Young People of Bradford.

The Council intend to have a District wide structure of DSP's and PRU's that will:

- Provide local DSP's and PRU's, reducing the need for pupils to travel long distances across the District
- Provide an equitable distribution of DSP's and PRU's for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities
- Provide increased access to the curriculum; both social and academic will be increased due to the staffing experience and capacity of the new DSP's and PRU's. It will be possible to individually differentiate and support the work and potential of each individual pupil
- Provide an increased level of available support to all pupils and will give the greatest opportunity to increase inclusion for DSP and PRU pupils who are otherwise very vulnerable
- Provide an improved support network, especially related to training that will support and develop the proposals
- Extend and target multi-agency support into the new DSP's and PRU's especially from the health authority and more specifically speech and language therapy.
- Provide a progression pathway from Primary phase to Secondary phase.

Who are we consulting with?

- Parents/Carers
- School staff and Governors
- Bradford and Airedale Parents Forum
- Bradford and Airedale NHS Trusts/CCG's
- Elected members
- Local MPs
- Trade Unions
- Neighbouring Authorities
- SENDIASS - Barnado's
- Parish & Mosque Councils
- Muslim Association
- CoE and Catholic Diocese for Bradford/Leeds
- Relevant charities and voluntary organisations
- Any other interested parties

Why are we consulting with you?

Whenever the Local Authority and Academies propose to increase places or make changes to specialist provision, all interested parties who are likely to be affected by the proposals must be consulted in the development of the proposals.

It is important that the proposals are the subject of broad consultation with all interested parties to ensure that your views are considered and that you are fully informed and involved before a final recommendation is made.

The responses to this consultation for maintained schools must be fully analysed and considered before the Council decides to publish statutory notices in the local newspapers. The final decision on the proposals for increasing places and alteration of SEND provision at maintained schools rests with the Council Executive.

In the case of academies the academy trusts will be required to submit a full business case to the Department for Education (DfE) outlining their proposed changes. The academy trusts will be required to confirm as part of their business case that a fair and open local consultation has taken place.

The Local Authority is working closely with the academies and is carrying out the academy school consultations on behalf of the academy trusts alongside the consultation process for maintained schools. However the final decision on the academies proposals rests with the DfE and the Regional Schools Commissioner.

In addition, when proposing changes to existing SEND provision the Proposers have to meet the SEN Improvement Test and be able to demonstrate that the proposed arrangements are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and/or range of educational provision for children with special educational needs and disabilities.

Information on the required improvements is detailed in the full SEN Improvement Test which is located online.

How to respond to the consultation

- **Please refer to the below supporting documents:**
 - SEN Improvement Test – DSP's & PRU's
 - Evidence of Need
 - Equality Impact Assessment
 - Maps showing Current and Proposed Provision
 - Full list of Consultees
 - Consultation Questionnaire

All of the above documents can be found online by visiting:

<https://localoffer.bradford.gov.uk/Content.aspx?mid=589> - Bradford SEND Local offer
www.bradford.gov.uk/consultations
<https://bso.bradford.gov.uk>

If you do not have access to the internet or you would prefer a paper copy of any of the documents, please contact telephone 01274 439261 or email Localoffer@bradford.gov.uk

- **Complete the Consultation Questionnaire for both maintained schools and academies or let us have your comments no later than Thursday 14th December 2017**
- **The Local Authority is working closely with the academies on their proposals and is carrying out the consultation process on their behalf.**

Online responses can be made by visiting:

<https://localoffer.bradford.gov.uk/Content.aspx?mid=589> - Bradford SEND Local offer
www.bradford.gov.uk/consultations
<https://bso.bradford.gov.uk>

Alternatively please send responses to Emma Hamer, Planning and Project Manager, SEND Services, 5th Floor Margaret McMillan Tower, Bradford BD1 1NN

If you do not have access to the internet or you would prefer a paper copy of any of the documents, please contact telephone 01274 439261 or email Localoffer@bradford.gov.uk

- **Attend one of the Public Consultation Meetings, they are being held on the below dates:**

Monday 27th November 7pm - 8pm at Central Hall Keighley –
Alice Street, Keighley, BD21 3JD

Tuesday 5th December 7pm – 8pm at Margret McMillan Tower –
Princes Way, Bradford, BD1 1NN

Tuesday 12th December 7pm - 8pm at Queensbury Victoria Hall –
Children's Centre, Station Road, Queensbury, BD13 1AB

Thank you for taking the time to read this consultation document. Your views are important. Please make your views known to us by completing the Consultation questionnaire or let us have your comments.

Thank you