



24rd January 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

CONSULTATION PROPOSAL FOR THE BOULEVARD ACADEMY

This letter is to keep you up-to-date with a consultation proposal for The Boulevard Academy.

Hull, like many local authorities, is experiencing a rise in pupil numbers and there is a need to create additional school places for students with additional needs.

The proposal is to establish a 10 place SEN unit for students with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs. The proposal is in line with the recently published SEND Sufficiency Assessment, which notes the shortage of secondary SEMH specialist places in Hull. The LA and the Governing Body have identified the commissioning intent to fill the additional places.

The objective is to increase the number of secondary SEMH places available in the local area, in line with projected demand. There are currently children with an identified need for such places specified in their EHCP.

Increasing the number of available places will:

- increase educational standards by ensuring that children can access an education suitable for their identified needs.
- increase parental choice by ensuring that there are more places available in the city for children to access.

The proposal will have a positive impact on other educational institutions as it will allow children to access an education suitable for their identified needs, thereby reducing demand on the mainstream estate.

Consultation process timeline:

- 24th January 2024 - publication of statutory proposal notice
- 24th January – 21st February 2024 - formal consultation period
- 21st – 24th February 2024 – analysis of consultation responses and equalities impact assessment

This consultation seeks your views on whether you support this proposed increase in the numbers of pupils at the school. The consultation will remain open until Wednesday 21st February 2024.

A consultation form is attached; I would be grateful if you could complete this form and return it to the Academy reception. Alternatively, you can email your comments to info@theboulevardacademy.com

The outcomes of the consultation will be used to inform the final decision about whether to establish the Unit.

Frequently asked questions

What is an SEN Unit?

SEN units are special provisions within a mainstream school where the pupils with SEN are taught within separate classes for at least half of their time. Units:



- are designated specifically for SEN provision,
- receive additional funding from the LA on a per place basis, and top-up funding for any additional costs of support required by individual pupils
- cater for a specific type or types of SEN and are for pupils with an EHC plan.

All children attending a SEN Unit will have an Education Health and Care plan, and access will be managed by the local authority, in partnership with the school, as part of the statutory education, health and care plan pathway and school consultation with the mainstream school. Where a school responds positively to a school consultation and a placement is agreed, the local authority will name the mainstream school in section I of the EHC plan, with access to the resource base being detailed in section F of the EHC plan.

Who will pay for any adaptations required to the school?

The LA receives capital funding to support SEND provision in Hull, and this will be used if there are any works required at the school. Therefore there will be no negative impact on the schools budgets.

What will be the impact on school revenue funding?

Schools with an SEN Unit or Resourced Provision receive additional revenue funding to reflect the higher costs of educating children and young people with EHCPs. The funding for pupils attending a unit or provision is, therefore, comprised of a number of elements.

- Element 1: This is the AWPU (Age Weighted Pupil Unit). All schools get funding for each pupil at the school as part of the school's delegated funding. Schools also receive other pupil led elements in the formula (e.g. funding for pupils with free school meals, deprivation, English as an Additional Language).
- Element 2: Fixed sums for each pupil in the unit or provision, known as 'place funding'
- Element 3: Top-up funding for all EHCP children at any school, based on the child's individual needs. The top-up funding will be reviewed annually as part of the child's annual EHCP review.

There will therefore be no negative impacts on school budgets from this proposal, as all costs will be fully funded.

Yours sincerely

Janice Mitchell
Headteacher