

Education, Leisure & Lifelong Learning Service

Strategic School Improvement Programme

**CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

**PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH SPECIALIST PROVISION FOR PRIMARY AGE PUPILS** **WITH**

**AUTISTIC SPECTRUM DISORDER (ASD)**

**AT**

**BLAENHONDDAN PRIMARY SCHOOL,**

**MAIN ROAD, BRYNCOCH, SA10 7PE.**



Large print and alternative format or language versions of this document are available on request

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**Introduction**

***What is this report about?***

This document is for parents/carers, school staff, school governors and anyone who has an interest in education in Neath Port Talbot.

It sets out details of the proposed establishment of a new specialist provision for primary age pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at Blaenhonddan Primary School, Main Road, Bryncoch, SA10 7PE.

**The background to our proposal**

The Council is responsible for promoting high educational standards and for delivering efficient primary and secondary education. Having the right schools in the right place and ensuring that they are fit for the 21st century learner is the challenge facing the Council. Achieving this will involve reviewing the number and type of schools the Council has in its area and assessing whether or not best use is being made of resources and facilities. This will include ensuring suitable provision for those pupils with special educational needs/additional learning needs.

Implementing the Strategic School Improvement Programme (SSIP) involves reviewing existing provision and determining the number and type of schools needed to deliver education effectively and efficiently across the County Borough. It will most likely lead to substantial change involving opening new schools, closing existing schools, merging or amalgamating schools, federating schools and promoting new initiatives that support collaborative working between schools. It will also involve re-organising education provision to ensure pupils gain access to and benefit from the specialist support, skills and expertise available within the County Borough.

The Council has decided to review its provision on the basis of:

* educational standards
* the need for places and the accessibility of schools
* the quality and suitability of school accommodation
* effective financial management

The Council provides for the pupils of Neath Port Talbot who require specialist support for their educational needs at special schools and at learning support/ inclusion centres attached to community primary/secondary schools. Currently, within NPT, there are currently 18 Learning Support Centres (LSC) offering 262 planned places for primary aged pupils with a range of Additional Learning Needs. The Local Authority also has 5 Learning Support Centres at secondary level, offering 177 planned places. These Learning Support Centres offer specialist placements for children and young people with needs including Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD); Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties (SEBD); Speech, Language and Communication (SLC); Hearing Impairment (HI) and Moderate / Severe / Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties S/M/PMLD. Additionally within NPT there are 2 special schools, catering for the needs of children and young people with the most complex ALN. There are currently 295 planned places within Ysgol Maes Y Coed and Ysgol Hendrefelin special schools.

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**The proposal and why change is being proposed**

It is intended to establish a provision for primary age pupils at Blaenhonddan Primary School. The provision will be a self-contained facility for pupils in receipt of a statement of special educational needs or a Local Authority Maintained IDP for ASD.

If approved the proposal will take effect during the spring term 2024.

Recent work on reviewing the number and type of primary planned places and assessment provision across Neath Port Talbot has indicated that there is a need for extra places in the areas of Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Speech and Language Difficulties (SLD), Social, Emotional and Behavioural Difficulties (SEBD) and Profound and Multiple Learning Difficulties (PMLD).

Initial work has led to the development of a continuum of support for pupils with ASD with the aim of ensuring that pupils at all stages have their needs assessed and are appropriately supported to make progress. As a result, additional pupil places have been provided at primary age in Waunceirch Primary School, and a new secondary ASD provision opened in Dŵr y Felin.

Currently for primary age pupils with ASD who need specialist support or assessment, provision is made at Gnoll Primary (18 places), Maesmarchog Primary (18 places) and Waunceirch Primary (21 places). Secondary provision is available at Cwmtawe Community School (13 places), Ysgol Bae Baglan (29 places), Dŵr y Felin (16 places) and Ysgol Hendrefelin (32 places). The high demand at both primary and secondary level is placing pressure on current provisions which are consistently full.

This proposal seeks to address identified need for further provision for pupils with ASD, specifically for primary aged pupils, with the aim of ensuring best possible outcomes for pupils.

The proposal seeks to complement the specialist provision and support already available within the County Borough.

**Identifying Potential Host Schools**

***Initial Scoping exercise***

Following more detailed work on identifying the demand for planned places in the primary sector it was recognised that the pressure to provide support for ASD primary pupils has increased.

In identifying host schools for the proposed primary ASD provision the following criteria has been applied.

The host school will:

* be fully committed to inclusion and provide a caring and supportive environment that will have a positive impact on pupils' personal well-being and development
* demonstrate a good track record for ensuring the progress of all pupils
* be a mainstream school delivering primary phase education as pupils will need to access the Curriculum for Wales
* provide the opportunity for integration, as appropriate, into mainstream classes and mainstream activities
* be able to provide pupils with high quality learning experiences
* have space available suitable to meet the needs and requirements of the pupils
* be within reasonable travelling distance for primary age pupils and have easy vehicular access

Applying these criteria Blaenhonddan Primary School has been identified as being suitable for hosting this provision. The headteacher has been involved in the development of this proposal and is fully supportive of this initiative. The Governing Body and staff have also shown initial support for the proposal.

At its meeting of 25th May 2023, Education, Skills and Wellbeing Cabinet Board Members approved consultation on the establishment of a specialist facility at Blaenhonddan Primary School for primary age pupils with ASD.

**The benefits of the proposal**

The proposal seeks to complement the specialist provision and support already available within the County Borough. The specialist provision at Blaenhonddan Primary School will form part of a continuum of support.

At Blaenhonddan Primary School it is intended to establish a Primary Autistic Spectrum Disorder Learning Support Centre (LSC) for up to 16 primary age pupils who are in receipt of a Statement of SEN or a Local Authority Maintained IDP.

The provision will be managed by the school and be under the school’s governance. However it will be a provision recognised by the Council as reserved for pupils with ALN and pupils admitted to the provision would be in addition to the admission number of the school. Admission to the provision would be via a special admission panel of the Council and specific entry and exit criteria would apply.

Pupils at the proposed LSC will benefit from being taught by specialist staff, experienced in working with pupils with ASD needs. This facility will be for pupils in receipt of a statement of SEN/ Local Authority Maintained IDP and who require longer-term provision.

The proposed provision will alleviate the current pressure to address demand for places for pupils with ASD needs, avoiding potential costly out of county placements and allowing opportunities for children to access learning within their local community.

**What options have been considered?**

The Council has the responsibility for ensuring that it is making the most effective use of resources and facilities in order to deliver the very best educational opportunities for children and young people.

***Option 1* – status quo, maintain existing provision in Neath Port Talbot**

The establishment of a LSC has been identified as an important requirement within the delivery model of a continuum of support for pupils with ASD. The continuum will ensure that schools and the Council work in partnership to focus on prevention in order to meet the needs of vulnerable children and young people and to ensure the best possible outcomes.

Maintaining the status quo will not realise opportunities to address these concerns or to alleviate the current pressure to address demand for places for pupils with ASD.

Without this provision some pupils may have difficulty maintaining a place at a mainstream school with the possible result that vulnerable pupils could have their education interrupted with potentially damaging long term consequences and exclusion rates may increase.

Failing to implement the proposal will result in a range of teaching/learning and financial benefits not being fully realised, including the loss of opportunities for a pupils to access specialist staff and support, and for more efficient and effective use of resources.

This option is not preferred by officers.

***Option 2* – establish a provision for primary aged pupils with ASD at a location within the County Borough other than Blaenhonddan Primary school**

Blaenhonddan Primary School has been identified as a suitable location for the provision for primary aged pupils with ASD for a number of clearly identified reasons including the experience and expertise that can be provided by its staff, the nurturing and supportive ethos within the school and the effective links developed with a wide range of partners.

Additionally, it has been recognised that the provision should be situated within a primary school to ensure that pupils at the LSC can access the full curriculum and have opportunities to integrate with mainstream pupils as appropriate. Blaenhonddan is a good school with senior managers and staff committed to providing effective teaching and learning experiences and as such is well placed to ensure that pupils attending the provision will also be able to benefit from the opportunities available to mainstream pupils. The school currently hosts a specialist Key Stage 2 Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) provision for 9 pupils and therefore is fully committed to inclusion and providing a caring and supportive environment for pupils.

Blaenhonddan Primary School is conveniently located within Neath Port Talbot, near to the centre of Neath, ensuring travelling distances are reasonable for the majority of pupils who are likely to attend.

Other locations considered across Neath Port Talbot did not meet the requirements as well as the proposed location at Blaenhonddan Primary School.

This option is not preferred by officers.

***Option 3*** – **establish a provision for primary aged pupils with ASD at Blaenhondda Primary School**

As stated previously, the establishment of a LSC has been identified as an essential provision to enable the local authority to better support and assess the needs of pupils with ASD. Without such a provision it will prove difficult for the Council to meet the aims of its inclusion strategy and to appropriately provide for pupils with more complex needs.

Blaenhonddan Primary School has been identified as having a nurturing, supportive environment with a commitment to providing an inclusive education for all its pupils and is the proposed location for the LSC. The provision will be resourced with specialist staff who will identify barriers to learning, provide in depth assessments of pupils’ needs and develop links with partners to ensure pupils are supported while at the LSC and also when transitioning into their long term provision.

This option is preferred by officers.

***Preferred Option - Option 3***

Having considered information gathered to date, it is the view of officers that Option 3 outweighs the alternatives considered as it is this option that best fits the host school assessment criteria for this specialist provision. It is, therefore, preferred as the basis of consultation.

**Details of the school affected by this proposal**

***Blaenhonddan Primary School***

Blaenhonddan Primary School, Main Road, Bryncoch, SA10 7PE is a 3-11 Primary School for boys and girls, situated on the outskirts of Neath.

Currently, the school has the capacity to accommodate 226 full-time pupils and 40 nursery pupils per session.  As of PLASC 2023, there are 208 full time and 44 part time nursery pupils at the school. The school also hosts a specialist Key Stage 2 MLD provision for 9 pupils.

Full-time pupil numbers at the school are predicted to decrease slightly over the next five years as shown in table 1.

Historical full-time pupil numbers are shown in table 2.

Table 1

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | ActualNORat Jan 2023 | Projected NOR atJan 2024 | ProjectedNOR atJan 2025 | Projected NOR atJan 2026 | Projected NOR atJan 2027 | Projected NOR atJan 2028 |
| F/T | 208 | 211 | 202 | 191 | 186 | 180 |

Table 2

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| F/T | 2018/2019 | 2019/ 2020 | 2020/2021 | 2021/2022 | 2022/2023 |
|  | 211 | 221 | 223 | 216 | 208 |

Making provision for a specialist learning support centre in two new modular buildings at the school will have no effect on the schools full time capacity.

**The quality and standards of education**

The school was last inspected by Estyn in 2017 and current performance was judged to be good. It is reported that ‘Most pupils at Blaenhonddan Primary School make good progress from their starting points and develop their literacy, numeracy, information and communication technology (ICT) and Welsh language skills well.’

(Estyn 2017)

***Wellbeing and attitudes towards learning***

Estyn note that, ‘A major strength throughout the school is the positive attitude and enthusiasm that most pupils have for learning. In classes, almost all pupils are attentive to their teachers and are eager to do well.’

***Teaching and Learning***

Estyn reported that across the school, ‘Working relationships between staff and pupils are supportive and productive and place pupils’ wellbeing at the heart of classroom activities. Teachers deploy assistants effectively and they work in purposeful partnership with teachers to enhance provision.’

***Care, Support and Guidance***

Estyn also reported, ‘The school provides a good range of different programmes and beneficial intervention groups to support pupils with additional learning needs in literacy and numeracy… This is a caring community that develops pupils’ personal and social skills well.’

The report also notes that: ‘Most pupils with additional learning needs make good progress from their starting points. Pupils in the learning support centre make appropriate progress in line with their abilities.’

***Leadership and Management***

The Estyn report notes that, ‘The headteacher has a strong and purposeful vision and sets a clear strategic direction for the school. She communicates high expectations, and senior teachers, staff and governors support her effectively. The headteacher leads strongly by example. As a result, throughout the school there is a purposeful and supportive atmosphere that benefits all pupils and staff.’

***Standards***

Since 2020, Welsh Government do not expect returns for all statutory data collections that would have been due to take place before the school summer holidays as a result of the Covid pandemic. This includes National Data Collection (NDC) 2020 data collection and Welsh National Tests (WNT) 2020 data collection.

The most recent Estyn inspection report can be viewed at:

[Inspection Report Template (gov.wales)](https://www.estyn.gov.wales/system/files/2020-08/Blaenhonddan%2520Primary%2520School.pdf)

**The quality of the school building and accommodation**

Overall the school is graded category C for condition and B for accessibility. Backlog maintenance for this site is estimated at £820,465.

It is intended that the provision will be housed in 2 new modular buildings within the school site. There will be a one-off capital cost for the 2 modular buildings and associated work for which £745k has been secured from the capital programme.

There is no transfer or disposal of land or buildings that arise as a result of the proposal and there are no capital receipts or recurrent costs savings directly related to this proposal other than savings from potential home education/out-of-county placement costs.

**What is the impact on pupils and parents of the proposal?**

The proposed new provision will increase the opportunity for primary pupils to access support in a specialist setting, based within the environment of a mainstream primary school. The provision will enable pupils to acquire the skills and understanding to manage their individual behaviours and learning requirements.

It should also provide greater opportunities for working with and providing support for parents and carers.

The proposed specialist provision will be accessible to primary age pupils from across the County Borough.

***What is the impact on the workforce?***

The position of staff currently employed at Blaenhonddan Primary School will not be adversely affected by this proposal. In fact, the increased number of pupils secures staff employment by creating additional employment opportunities by way of an increased staffing complement.

Additional staff posts have been identified and these will comprise specialist teachers and teaching assistants or key workers. The skills and expertise that these additional staff members will possess will be available to be utilised for the benefit of the wider, mainstream school communities.

***Governance arrangements – what is the impact on governors?***

The governing body and the school leadership team at Blaenhonddan Primary School will be responsible for the day to day management of the provision, including the specialist staff that will become part of the school’s staffing complement. The school budget will be funded accordingly.

***What is the impact on travel arrangements?***

Pupils’ travel needs will be assessed in line with the Council’s Home to School Transport policy. Primary age pupils living 2 miles or more from the provision will be considered for assistance with travel costs.

Under the School Travel Plan requirements, all schools, together with the Council’s Road Safety Team, are committed to:

* improving road safety within the local community
* raising awareness about travel issues
* encouraging walking, cycling and public transport for the school journey where applicable
* encouraging independent travel where applicable

The school is relatively centrally located within the County Borough and readily accessible by vehicle.

Blaenhonddan Primary School is a well-established school with established walking routes for children.

***Impact on additional learning needs provision***

As a self-contained provision, the facility will not have a direct impact on the additional learning needs (ALN) provision at Blaenhonddan Primary School where pupils with additional learning needs, including children with statements of special educational needs and Local Authority Maintained IDPs, are supported in a mainstream setting with appropriate funding for this purpose.

However, the specialist knowledge and skills-set of the staff employed to work at the provision will be available to share with mainstream staff and, as such, will indirectly benefit ALN provision at the school.

It is also envisaged that the provision will be able to provide support and training for other mainstream primary schools across Neath Port Talbot, building skills, competencies, expertise and capacity of all staff working with children with ASD.

***What is the impact on Welsh medium education?***

All local authorities in Wales now have to produce a Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP). This document indicates how the local authority intends to promote the teaching of the Welsh Language, how it intends working towards increasing the number of children taught through the medium of Welsh and how it can assist achieving the Welsh Government’s target of having one million people in Wales speaking Welsh by 2050.

The proposed establishment of an ASD provision at Blaenhonddan Primary School is not expected to have any negative impact on Welsh medium school provision within NPT. Provision in the LSC will mainly reflect the provision on offer to mainstream pupils. Blaenhonddan Primary School is categorised as English-medium schools where Welsh is taught as a second language as appropriate in accordance with the Curriculum for Wales. The Council is satisfied that the provision for Welsh language education at the provision will be sufficient to meet the language requirements of the pupils admitted. The LSC will provide for those pupils who speak Welsh as their first language or whose base school is a Welsh-medium school by ensuring pupils have access to staff that can support them through the medium of Welsh.

***What is the financial impact?***

Blaenhonddan Primary School will receive additional funding to manage the provision for up to 16 pupils. The provision will be funded from the delegated schools budget and the school will receive funding for additional places at Band F which equates to approximately £242k per annum.

Meeting the special needs education of pupils in local settings, i.e. within the County Borough, avoids having to secure expensive out-of-county provision. The cost of providing education outside the County Borough for pupils with specialist needs in the 2022/ 2023 financial year is as follows:

Table 3

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Special Educational Needs - Out of County | £169,689 |
| Special Educational Needs Post 16 - Out of County | £18,336 |

This annually presents a significant demand on the Council’s education budget.

Provision has been made within the Department of Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning (DELLLs) revenue budget to fund the establishment of the provision.

The provision will be resourced by specialist teachers and teaching assistants or key workers with the appropriate skills set.

The self-contained accommodation will be developed in new modular accommodation at the school. There will be a one-off capital cost for the 2 modular buildings and associated work for which £745k has been secured from the capital programme.

Primary age pupils living 2 miles or more from the identified provision will be considered for assistance with travel costs and as such there is likely to be an increase on transport costs as a result of this proposal. Annual transport costs are difficult to predict as this will depend on the number of children needing to be transported and on the distance they will need to travel to the provision from their home.

There are no capital receipts or recurrent costs savings directly related to this proposal other than savings from potential home education/out-of-county placement costs.

***Integrated Impact Assessment***

An Integrated Impact Assessment has been undertaken to assist the Council in discharging its legislative duties under the Equality Act 2010, the Welsh Language Standards (No.1) Regulations 2015, the well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Environment (Wales) Act 2016.

The assessment has indicated that there is no adverse effect on any particular group and the process has checks and monitoring in place to ensure that any unmet need is identified and any potential adverse effect is fully evaluated and impact mitigated.

Establishing the ASD specialist provision~~s~~ within a mainstream primary school~~s~~ breaks down barriers and aids the elimination of discrimination, harassment and victimisation. Both the primary school and the ALN provision are inclusive for pupils of all backgrounds. The proposal will promote the understanding of the needs of different groups.

Having the ASD provisions attached to mainstream school in Blaenhonddan allows the pupils attending them to have the same opportunities as their mainstream peers as all pupils will be able to access the same curriculum and facilities.

Blaenhonddan Primary School is categorised as an English-medium school where Welsh is taught as a second language as appropriate in accordance with the Curriculum for Wales. The Council is satisfied that the provision for Welsh language education at the provision will be sufficient to meet the language requirements of the pupils admitted.

The proposal will have a positive effect on the staffing compliment of the school as an increase in pupil numbers by the establishment of the provision in Blaenhonddan will require additional members of staff with specialist skills to support pupils.

***What are the legal impacts?***

The proposal will establish ALN provision in a mainstream school (Blaenhonddan Primary) where the pupils admitted are in addition to the admission number for the school and where the provision is recognised by the Council as reserved for pupils with ALN. As such, this constitutes a regulated alteration requiring the statutory publication of the proposal. The School Standards & Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 (the Act) provides the legislative framework by which the Council may implement a proposal. The Welsh Government’s School Organisation Code, November 2018, made under Sections 38 and 39 of the Act, imposes on the Council requirements and guidelines on matters relating to school organisation. The Council’s procedures are in line with legislative requirements.

Pupil travel arrangements will be in line with the requirements of the Learner Travel (Wales) Measure 2008; the Learner Travel Statutory Provision and Operational Guidance 2014; and the Council’s Home to School Travel Policy, 2017.

Revenue funding will be in line with the requirements of the School Standards and Framework Act 1998; the School Funding (Wales) Regulations 2010; and the Council’s approved formula for funding schools.

The management of staff affected by the proposal will follow the relevant school policy and procedure requirements.

***Impact on community usage***

The proposal should have no adverse impact on community usage at the school as there is no closure or reduction in community facilities involved with this proposal. The provisions will be a self-contained provision within the school and therefore will have no impact on the school’s operation regarding community usage.

***Valleys Communities Impacts***

The impact on Neath Port Talbot’s valley communities will be the same as all other areas of the County Borough as the provision will admit pupils from across the whole of the county borough.

***Risk Management***

A risk assessment has been carried out under the Council’s Risk Management Policy 2015.

Potential risk areas in implementing the proposal include:

* educational outcomes for pupils are not improved
* integration at a provision is unsuccessful
* negative response from parents of host schools
* negative response from parents of pupils to be accommodated at the provision
* discrimination against protected characteristics resulting in a negative impact on one or more protected groups
* staff with appropriate skills and expertise not available
* increased home to school travel time for some pupils leading to poor attendance.
* Welsh language development not supported

Failing to implement the proposal will result in a range of teaching/learning and financial benefits not being fully realised, particularly in relation to:

* opportunities for a pupils to access specialist staff and support
* early intervention for younger pupils, reducing the risk of more costly support at a later stage
* host school indirectly benefit from specialist staff on site
* mainstream school benefits from increased support and training in order to improve skills and build capacity

Given that the proposal builds on the experience, skills and expertise that currently exist at the schools, the potential effects of identified risks will be mitigated by implementation of the proposal.

**Legal process and consultation**

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council is the proposer and the Council wishes to hear the views of all interested parties before deciding whether to progress its proposal. All responses to this consultation will be considered when making its decision and a consultation report will be published following the end of the consultation period. The consultation report will summarise the issues raised by consultees and include a response from the Council. The consultation report will also set out Estyn’s view on the proposal.

Having considered the views expressed by interested parties, if the Council decides to proceed with its plan it will publish a statutory proposal. Once the statutory proposal is published there will be a 28 day period to respond in writing, known as the ‘objection period’. Only objections submitted during this period will be considered. If objections are received an objection report will be published following the end of the objection period. The report will summarise each objection raised and provide the Council’s response.

***Please note:*** *only written objections submitted during the statutory notice period will be considered. Any comment submitted as part of the consultation process will need to be re-submitted in writing during the statutory notice period if it is to be considered as an objection.*

Following the conclusion of the objection period the Council is required to determine the proposal and the matter will go before the Council’s Education, Skills and Wellbeing Cabinet Board for decision. In its decision making the Cabinet Board will give due consideration to any objections raised alongside the case for the proposal. The proposal will be determined in line with the requirements of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and associated School Organisation Code 2018.

**Consultation with children and young people**

It is important that when bringing forward proposals, suitable arrangements are made to consult with pupils. The Council will consult with pupils in Blaenhonddan Primary School and the information gathered in these sessions will be included in the final consultation report.

***Process timetable***

The consultation process must follow the Welsh Government guidelines as set out in the School Organisation Code 2018.

The Education, Skills and Wellbeing Cabinet Board agreed to consult on the proposal on May 25th 2023. Formal consultation will take place during the period from 6th June 2023 to 18th July 2023.

The implementation date for the proposal will be January 9th 2024.

Meetings with the governors and staff will be arranged as needed in order to receive comments and suggestions during the period of the consultation. These meetings will also provide an opportunity for questions to be asked about the proposal.

Pupils will be consulted during the course of the school day at a time which causes least disruption.

***Making comment on the proposal***

The purpose of this consultation document is to provide information and to invite views on the Council’s proposal to establish a LSC at Blaenhonddan Primary School. If you have questions regarding this consultation document then please contact the Council at the address below.

A full list of those being consulted can be seen below:

|  |
| --- |
| **List of Consultees** |
| Blaenhonddan Primary Pupils Parents / carers Staff Governing Body Wider School Community | NAASH (Secondary Schools Forum |
| LLAN (Primary Schools Forum) |
| Bordering authorities – Swansea/ Bridgend/ Carmarthenshire/ Powys/ RCT |
| All other NPT schools | Neath Town CouncilBlaenhonddan Community CouncilCilybebyll Community Council |
| NPT Elected Members | WG Schools Management Division |
| Diocesan Directors of Education* Diocese of Menevia, Swansa
* Diocese of Llandaff, Vale of Glamorgan
 | MP and MS For Neath |
| Trade Unions | Regional Members of the Senedd |
| Estyn | ALN Partners- SNAP, Action for Children, Child and Adult Mental Health Services (CAMHS), Consultant Community Paediatrician, The Children’s Centre NPT Hospital (Therapeutic Services), National Autistic Society, NPT Special Needs Support Group |
| Regional Education Consortium (ERW) | Children and Young Person Partnership (inc.Early Years Development and Childcare) |
| NPTCBC Integrated Transport Unit | Police and Crime Commissioner |
| Communities First Partnership | NPTC Officers |

**Nsultation**

Formal consultation will take place during the period: **6th June 2023 to 18th July 2023.** Comments on the proposal must be submitted in writing by letter, e-mail or on the comment form attached to this document.

**The closing date for responses to this consultation is Tuesday 18th July 2023.** Unfortunately we will not be able consider any consultation responses received after this date.

Responses should be sent to the following address: **Andrew Thomas, Director of Education Leisure and Lifelong Learning, (marked for the attention of the SSIP Team), Civic Centre, Port Talbot SA13 1PJ** or e-mail to:**SSIP@npt.gov.uk**

**Appendix A**

***Comment Form***

Please provide your comment including suggestions for alternatives on the proposal to establish a Learning Support Centre (LSC) for primary age pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD) at Blaenhonddan Primary School, Main Road, Bryncoch, SA10 7PE.

Your comments /suggestions (*additional space overleaf*)

Alternatively you may wish to indicate which of the following reflects your views:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Please tick |
| I support the proposal |  |
| I do not feel strongly one way or the other |  |
| I do not support the proposal |  |

**Please circle if you are:**

**Blaenhonddan Primary School:** Teacher / Non-Teaching School Staff / Governor / Parent / Pupil /Local Resident / Other (please state)

**……………………………………………………………………………..**

Please tick if you wish to be informed that the consultation report is available and provide your contact details:

**……………………………………………………………………………………….**

**……………………………………………………………………………………….**

Please detach this form and return to:

***Director of Education Leisure and Lifelong Learning, Civic Centre, Port Talbot***

***SA13 1PJ***

***or e-mail your comments to:*** ***SSIP@npt.gov.uk***

All comments must be received by **no later than 18th July 2023**

Additional comments/suggestions