

# Statutory proposals for Prescribed Alterations – Mainstream Schools

## PROPOSALS TO ADD PROVISION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS: SOCIAL, EMOTIONAL AND MENTAL HEALTH IN THE FORM OF TARGETED PROVISION AT MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS

### Contact Details for Proposer

Proposal published by North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, to make prescribed alterations to the following schools:

1. The Wensleydale School, Richmond Road, Leyburn DL8 5HY
2. Selby High School, Leeds Road, Selby YO8 4HT.
3. Hambleton and Richmondshire Pupil Referral Unit East Road, Northallerton DL6 1SZ.
4. Scarborough Pupil Referral Unit Valley Bridge Parade, Scarborough YO11 2PG.

These four proposals form part of the same strategy but are not technically related proposals. This means that the decision makers could choose to approve one or more proposals without affecting their decisions on the other proposals.

## PROPOSALS TO ADD PROVISION FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS: COMMUNICATION AND INTERACTION IN THE FORM OF TARGETED PROVISION AT MAINSTREAM SCHOOLS

Schools affected by proposals:

1. Grove Road Community Primary School, Grove Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG1 5EP.
2. Alverton Primary School, Mount Road, Northallerton DL6 1RB.

These two proposals form part of the same strategy but are not technically related proposals. This means that the decision makers could choose to approve one or more proposals without affecting their decisions on the other proposals.

### Implementation

It is proposed to formally establish the special provisions on 1 September 2020 however, the provisions will seek to take pupils on their roll from January 2021.

## Description of alterations and evidence of demand

### Background to Proposals

We have a duty to keep our special education provision under review and ensure there is the right type of provision and enough places to meet the needs of children and young people with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND).

We want all children and young people with SEND in North Yorkshire to:

- have the best educational opportunities so that they achieve the best outcomes;
- be able to attend a school or provision locally, where they can make friends and be part of their local community; and
- make progress with learning, have good social and emotional health and be prepared for a fulfilling adult life.

We know that there are more children and young people being identified as having special educational needs in North Yorkshire and we expect this increase to continue. We need to make sure that we have the right type of education provision in the right place to meet their needs. We know that a number of our children and young people have to go to school outside North Yorkshire, and we want to avoid this wherever possible.

We have developed a strategic plan for educating children with SEND which aims to create a better offer of provision for children and young people, improved communication, enable more local decision making, and reduce costly out of county placements. This plan was approved in September 2018 and we are now implementing the actions within it.

### Targeted Mainstreams Schools

As part of the SEND plan the Targeted mainstream schools will provide enhanced levels of specialist support over and above that usually available in mainstream schools. They will provide an appropriate environment and personalised support for children and young people with SEND, who are able to access mainstream learning.

The staff within the school will be highly trained in SEND and will have access to SEND professionals such as educational psychologists, speech and language and occupational therapists.

### What will the provision look like?

Schools have the flexibility to refine their model of delivery but in general the new

provision will:

- Provide a minimum of 8 full time places for 6 children and young people with an Education, Health and Care Plan and 2 'flexible' places for children needing to access the provision for short term assessment and support.
- Specialise in meeting the needs of children and young people with Social, Emotional and Mental Health or Communication and Interaction needs at primary and secondary level
- Have access to a range of therapies and training opportunities to ensure children are fully supported
- Increase the opportunities for children and young people with SEND to access mainstream education together with more specialised small group interventions and support
- Be funded on a 'place' basis similar to special schools and in line with national guidance. They will receive £10,000 per place and top up funding in accordance with our Banding system. We expect the top up funding to be between £4,780 to £7,570 per place (banding levels as of 2019/2020 financial year)

And:

- Children who access the flexible placements will remain on the roll of their own school
- Each targeted provision will receive direct funding of approximately £120-130,000 per year

### **Objectives**

The main objective of these proposals and other similar proposals being published simultaneously is ensure that the appropriate provisions are in place to implement the policy of Targeted Mainstream provision which has been agreed by Local Authority, following public consultation, as a key part of the SEN Strategic Plan. The underlying objective of the whole strategy is to ensure that there are sufficient places at which Pupils with SEN can get the education they deserve within the most appropriate setting.

Targeted Mainstream Provision is intended to address a gap in the continuum of provision that currently exists due to there being insufficient full time places for children and young people whose needs dictate that they need significant additional support as well as access to a mainstream school curriculum.

To address this gap the local authority developed a proposal for a new model of targeted provision which was approved as part of the strategic plan in September 2018.

The development of targeted provision is in line with the principles described in the Strategic Plan which promotes an inclusive culture and ethos, joint accountability for children and young people and right support, right place, right time.

## **Effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions**

The proposed Targeted Mainstream provisions will form part of the range of educational opportunities within North Yorkshire and will support pupils who require additional SEN support but for whom a special school placement is not appropriate. Therefore this will have a positive impact on other schools and academies. Where pupils in other schools and academies are identified as having a level of need where further support is needed than a standard mainstream school is able to provide the possibility and suitability of a placement at a Targeted Mainstream provision will be considered as an option for that pupil. Clearly this will support Mainstream Schools but will also support Special Schools by ensuring that places in Special Schools are available for pupils for whom that is the best option.

## **Project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved.**

The financial model for this service has been based on the following assumptions:

- The new service will operate with 8 place provisions with each provision attracting planned place funding of £6,000 plus per pupil funding allocations where pupils are on roll in the unit, or £4,000 where places are empty at the point of the October census. This guarantees resources of circa £10,000 per place – in line with Special school funding arrangements
- Schools will receive “top-up funding” allocations in line with the assessment of need defined in the individual pupils EHCP using the banded funding methodology, introduced in April 2019.
- It is assumed that the “top-up funding” allocations are expenditure that the

authority would have incurred regardless of this development because the EHCPs are already in place

- Start-up costs up to a maximum of £10,000 earmarked for each new provision to cover learning resources, IT Revenue costs and a provision for staff learning and development

Further information regarding the detailed budget modelling is available on the NYCC website as part of the report to the Executive 9<sup>th</sup> June.

## **Capital Costs**

Capital investment will be required to ensure that the spaces identified for the targeted provisions are fit for purpose. The initial nine schools have identified some of their needs within their bids to host the new targeted provision.

It is anticipated, from the information provided by schools applying, that costs of works at those schools needing to adapt or create additional space would be between £20,000 and £40,000. Further work is now being conducted to verify these costs with each school subject to approval from Executive.

The local authority has £232,558 of Special Provision Capital Funding (SPCF) which was approved by members to contribute to the delivery of this aspect of the Strategic Plan. This resource can be used for both academies and maintained schools. However, there is a risk that works required to establish all nine provisions exceeds the SPCF amount.

In order to mitigate this risk, consideration is being given to utilising some School Conditions Grant funding to provide a contingency should the SPCF not be entirely sufficient. School Condition Grant will not be used for Academies and therefore alternative sources of funding for this will need to be explored.

## **Admission and curriculum arrangements**

Places at Targeted Mainstream provisions will be offered to pupils where the Local Authority has identified through an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) that the pupil's needs are best met at this kind of provision. The Local Authority will offer that place following consultation with the Headteacher of the Targeted Mainstream Provision.

## **Governance and administration**

The provisions will be governed by the Governing Board and led by the Headteacher of their respective schools. The staff within the provisions will work closely with colleagues in the Locality Hubs and in the SEN teams at NYCC.

## **Consultation**

The decision to consult upon the establishment of provisions for Special Educational Needs in the form of Targeted Provisions at Mainstream Schools was taken by the Chief Executive Officer in consultation with the Executive Member for Education and Skills on 31 March 2020. A consultation paper setting out the proposal was sent to school head teachers for circulation to staff, parents and governors. The LA also shared the proposal more widely with all NYCC schools, Parent Carer Forum, Unions and Professional associations and County Council Members. The consultation period ran from 23 April to 22 May. There have been 59 consultation responses received (Appendix 4).

## **Procedure for making representations (objections and comments)**

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Strategic Planning, Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm 17 July 2020.