**TAMESIDE COUNCIL**

**Consultation on establishing a ten place resource base at Corrie Primary and Nursery School (September 2022)**

**Context**

This consultation relates to Tameside Council’s proposal to make a prescribed alteration at Corrie Primary and Nursery School. Corrie is currently piloting a resource base for up to 10 pupils. Following a report to Tameside MBC Executive Cabinet on 23rd June 2021

(https://tameside.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g5059/Public%20reports%20pack%2023rd-Jun-2021%2013.30%20Executive%20Cabinet.pdf?T=10) approval was received to formalise the provision of 10 places at the school and for capital funding to support the school to provide the appropriate accommodation.

It is proposed that, with effect from 1 September 2022, this provision is formalised with the designated resource base to enable up to 10 pupils with cognition and learning and/ or communication and interaction and / or social, emotional and mental health needs to be supported. This consultation will be open for comments until 11.59pm on Thursday 3 March 2022.

**Why do we want to add a resource base to the existing provision at Corrie Primary and Nursery School?**

A Specialist Resource Base provides places for children with special educational needs and disabilities who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) within a mainstream school. Children are taught in smaller groups with additional staff within the resource base, but also have access to mainstream classes and wider school life as their individual needs allow. The resource base at Corrie Primary and Nursery School, would be for children with cognition and learning and/ or communication and interaction and / or social, emotional and mental health needs and will offer up to 10 places for pupils aged 5 to 11.

This important new provision will both support Tameside Council to ensure that there are the necessary specialist places across the borough to meet need and demand, and also increase opportunities for younger children to gain early access to the specialist support and interventions they need.

The Executive Cabinet considered a report on 23 June 2021 which explained the need to increase the amount of resourced provision in the borough.

*The SEND Forward Plan identifies the need to develop additional resourced provision across the borough to meet the needs of pupils identified as requiring enhanced provision but not a special school place.*

*Targeted provision is provision that is more specialist than mainstream schools, providing a higher level of support for children and young people with SEND, but not a special school. This may be shorter term provision to support a child into the most appropriate provision, or a longer term placement attached to a mainstream school. Tameside resource bases do not all provide a longer term option for placement, which means that children and young people may move straight from mainstream to special school when their needs could be met in a longer term targeted mainstream placement. This is a gap in the borough’s provision.*

*The Forward Plan identifies that the Council will begin to commission new targeted mainstream provision model with a greater emphasis on highly supported resource based provision for a small number of children. This will:*

* *Be related to the level and type of need in different neighbourhoods across the Borough.*
* *Be small group focused provision, for both boys and girls, attached to mainstream schools.*
* *Be provided for primary and secondary pupils.*
* *Include a higher level of specialist staffing to meet need, linked with social care and health provision where appropriate.*
* *Prioritise the two greatest areas of need: Communication and Interaction (including autism) and SEMH, (however, consideration needs to be given to lower levels of need that are currently in Special Schools in order to free up places.).*

A number of schools came forward to be part of this exciting new provision and host resource bases and Corrie Primary and Nursery School was one of those schools. Corrie has dedicated space for the resource base and over the summer of 2021, internal and external works were carried out to make the space fit for purpose.

At Corrie Primary School, the school aims to provide a broad and stimulating learning experience which caters for the needs of all children through an exciting and balanced curriculum. The school know that it is important to provide all children with the necessary skills which will enable them to become lifelong learners. Corrie aims to create an ethos of high expectation, aspiration and team work. The school recognise that everyone learns best when they are valued and they strive to ensure that all children receive the care and guidance they need.

**What are specialist facilities?**

Specialist facilities are located within a mainstream school and provide specific support to a limited number of pupils with an education and health care plan (EHCP). Pupils within the resource base are on roll of the mainstream school and are in addition to the published admission number of the school. The Published Admission Number at Corrie Primary and Nursery School is currently 60.

The school receives additional funding to support pupils’ needs. Placements are commissioned by Council according to clear criteria. Pupils in the resource base will have their special educational needs reviewed regularly in discussion with parents/carers and professionals to ensure that the facility remains the most appropriate placement to meet these needs.

**What will be the impact of the changes to the resource base on other pupils in the school?**

We expect the establishment of a resource base at Corrie Primary and Nursery School will have a positive impact on provision at the school. Specialist staff would work with pupils in the resource base and also work with teaching staff across the school to develop skills and expertise in responding to SEND needs and creating an inclusive environment.

**Why we are consulting on the above proposal?**

We have a responsibility to consult with the wider community on any prescribed alteration or significant change to the organisation and structure of the school. The Department for Education set out how the consultation should run and we will be following those guidelines.

**How can you have your say?**

You can have your say by;

Completing the online form via the link here; <https://forms.office.com/r/PmiXKwTixg>

Completing a paper copy requested from the school office; or

Alternatively you can email your response to jacqueline.nurney@tameside.gov.uk

Officers from the Council are happy to meet with anyone who wishes to discuss these proposals further. Meetings will be held via Zoom or other online platform. Please email jacqueline.nurney@tameside.gov.uk to arrange a time and date.

**How long is the consultation period?**

The consultation period will begin on 27 January 2022 and it will run until 11.59pm on 3 March 2022.

If you have any further questions regarding the process or proposal, please do not hesitate to contact jacqueline.nurney@tameside.gov.uk