



EXTENSION TO CONSULTATION TIME UNTIL TUESDAY 19TH SEPTEMBER 2023 12pm

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

Proposal to implement a SEND Integrated Resource Unit at
Richmond Academy, Winterbottom St, Oldham, OL9 6HY

Introduction

Richmond Academy is proposing to make an application to the Department for Education to make a change in the provision that the academy currently provides. The change is to implement a SEND Integrated Resource Unit from September 2023, this unit would provide places within the academy that will be fully funded by the Local Authority for SEND support within a mainstream school setting.

As part of the consultation process and as part of the legal requirements, we are writing to parents and the local community to seek feedback regarding the proposed changes. The consultation process will run from Monday 10th July 2023 to 12pm **Tuesday 19th September 2023**. Further details of the proposal is provided on the academy and the Harmony Trust website. The Harmony Trust will then consider comments received during the consultation period.

What is being proposed?

Richmond Academy currently has a pupil admission number of 60 children per year group. Under the proposals, this will remain unchanged. The change would be to offer additional SEND places in a mainstream school, which is known as additional resource provision. The 20 additional places created will be designated to the provision of SEND pupils with Educational Health Care Plans, these places will be for existing and additional pupils.

The Local Authority support Richmond Academy by providing funding to meet the place demand from the local community alongside supporting our future pupils and their families to access SEND provision in a mainstream school setting for 20 places.

Richmond provides support to our current SEND pupils using existing funding through the academy Inclusion Hub. The benefits of securing the funding and implementing the proposed change is that the academy will receive full funding for the places available to support the development of the service provided; creating further strong links between families, the community and the school; and improved continuity of SEND educational provision resulting in better outcomes for the children.

The Local Authority, through their projections have assured us that there would be no impact on the academy, the children the environment and the local community. It is also envisaged that there would be no impact to other similar local providers and the placement of children would remain a parental preference.

What do I need to do?

If you have any questions or would like to comment on the proposal, then please contact the Director of Education for the Harmony Trust Ltd using the following methods

- In writing to Miss J Hainsworth, Director of Education, The Harmony Trust Ltd, Richmond Academy, Winterbottom Street, OL9 6HY
- or by email to info@theharmonytrust.org

Chief Executive: Mr Antony Hughes

The Harmony Trust, Northmoor Academy, Alderson St, Oldham, OL9 6AQ
0161 260 0482 | info@theharmonytrust.org | www.theharmonytrust.org



THE HARMONY TRUST

BELIEVE • ACHIEVE • SUCCEED

Following the consultation period, the responses will be analysed carefully before any decisions are made by The Harmony Trust, regarding the proposals.

Yours Sincerely,

Jessica Hainsworth
Director of Education

Chief Executive: Mr Antony Hughes

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