

Consultation Information Document

Proposed Establishment of an ASC (Autism Spectrum Condition) Resource Base at Bournville School

Why Are We Consulting?

- Bournville School is proposing to redesignate our specialist resource base from Hearing Impairment (HI) to Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC).
- This proposal reflects both current pupil need within our school and significant demand for ASC provision across the local area.
- We are seeking your views before any final decision is made.

The Current Position

- Since 2023, there have been no pupils on roll with Hearing Impairment as their primary need named in an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).
- The HI resource base has therefore not been accessed by its intended cohort during this period.
- Approximately 25% of pupils on our SEND register have Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) as their primary or significant need.
- Local authority data indicates over 400 children are currently awaiting or requiring specialist placements, with a significant proportion relating to ASC need.
- National SEND reform (including the 2023 SEND and Alternative Provision Improvement Plan) highlights the importance of ensuring specialist provision aligns with clearly identified local need.

What Is Being Proposed?

- Redesignate the resource base from Hearing Impairment (HI) to Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC).
- Provide specialist provision for pupils with ASC named in their EHCP.
- Strengthen inclusive practice and targeted support within mainstream classrooms.
- Develop staff expertise in ASC-informed teaching, communication strategies, and sensory regulation approaches.
- Adapt learning spaces to better meet ASC needs (e.g., structured environments, low-arousal areas, sensory support spaces).

What Will Not Change?

- Our mainstream admissions arrangements.
- Our commitment to inclusive practice for all pupils.
- Support for pupils with additional needs who do not attend the resource base.
- Our statutory responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010 and SEND Code of Practice.

What About Hearing Impairment Support?

Although no pupil currently has HI as their primary EHCP need:

- We will continue to make reasonable adjustments for pupils with hearing needs in mainstream.
- We will continue to work with specialist services where required.
- Pupils with identified hearing needs will continue to receive appropriate support through the graduated approach.

Why This Change Is Being Considered

School Need

- ASC represents a significant proportion of identified SEND need within our academy (25% of SEND cohort).

Local Authority Need

- Over 400 children are currently reported as requiring specialist placements.
- There is clear pressure for additional ASC provision locally.

Strategic Alignment

- National SEND reforms emphasise early intervention, strengthened mainstream inclusion, and better sufficiency planning across local areas.

This proposal seeks to align our specialist provision with:

- Current pupil profile
- Local sufficiency needs
- Long-term sustainability

What Would the ASC Resource Base Offer?

- A specialist teaching environment alongside mainstream inclusion.
- Highly trained staff in autism-informed approaches.
- Structured routines and personalised support.
- Support for communication, sensory regulation, and social development.
- A clear pathway between specialist and mainstream learning.
- Preparation for adulthood provision and travel training accessible to local schools

How Would the Decision Be Made?

1. Consultation period 3 weeks.
2. All responses reviewed and analysed.
3. Consultation report published
4. Required statutory approvals sought if the proposal proceeds.

Click on the below link to share views

[Consultation on Proposed ASC Resource Base – Fill in form](#)