



# OLDFIELD SCHOOL

Our ref: Headteacher

7<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Dear Stakeholder,

I am writing to you to inform you of a proposal to establish a Specialist Resource Base (SRB) at the school, to be in place for September 2020.

Oldfield School has an increasingly strong reputation for SEND provision and in particular supporting students with ASD needs. The school has identified the need to improve the physical resources and facilities available to support our students with additional needs, in particular those with ASD.

Our aim is to establish a centre of excellence for ASD students which will reduce the number of students who have to be placed in specialist provision in BANES. This will provide the support that they need in a school environment that allows them to access the curriculum and to succeed.

This Specialist Resource Base will provide between 8 and 10 places for students aged 11-18 with high functioning ASD. These are young people who are able to access mainstream education for the great majority of the time but who require additional specialist support to be able to thrive and achieve in a mainstream setting.

We would anticipate that Oldfield would become the ASD specialist provider in the Bath area and be a positive progression route from primary schools for ASD children who are able to access the mainstream with additional specialist support. In particular, we wish to provide provision for those children with Autism who wish to undertake 6<sup>th</sup> form academic study within a supported environment.

This proposal will be to develop a purpose built SEND base on the site of the caretaker's bungalow, which is not used and derelict. This building will be situated at the periphery of the main school site and has been identified by the school's SENCO as being well situated to provide specialist provision. Currently our ASD provision is located within the SEND base and this room is also used to support all other students receiving support for additional needs; this affects the quality of provision both for ASD and for other SEND students.

Improved facilities and resources will make a significant difference to the quality of the support that we are able to provide for students currently at the school with ASD needs, in addition to improving provision in the Bath area. It will also transform the facilities and effectiveness of provision for other students with additional needs in the school.



MR STEVEN MACKAY  
HEADTEACHER

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The local authority (BANES) is supportive of the school's application to improve provision and to establish a SRB on the school site.

The proposed operating model is outlined below:

- Children placed in the SRB join the school roll (8 to 10 places).
- Admissions to the SRB are managed in consultation with the school.
- Funding will be based on the number of places available and this will provide a guaranteed level of funding to support staffing and there will not be a requirement to provide any additional funding from the school's funding allocation.
- The SRB will support students who are able to access the mainstream curriculum.
- The SRB will have access to specialist support from BANES.

There will be a meeting at Oldfield School on at 6.30pm on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 to which all stakeholders are invited, where you will have the opportunity to ask any questions that you may have regarding the proposal. If you are attending then please report to Reception.

The consultation period will run until Monday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2019. If you wish to respond to this proposal please email the school at [enquiries@oldfieldschool.com](mailto:enquiries@oldfieldschool.com) or alternatively write to the school, for the attention of the Headteacher. Please ensure that your email or letter makes reference to being a response to the Specialist Resource Base consultation.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Mackay  
**Headteacher**