Consultation to open an Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Key Stage 1 Satellite Provision of Brimble Hill School at Walsingham Road, Swindon.

Introduction

Many thanks to those parents, carers and members of the community who took the time to complete the Satellite Provision Survey.

The survey was carried out to gather your views on the proposal to open a satellite provision from September 2023 for Brimble Hill School, to be based at a former Nursery building in Walsingham Road. The opening of the satellite provision will provide much needed additional places for children with Special Educational Needs.

Results

Out of the responses received, 84% were in support of the opening of the Brimble Hill School Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and Key Stage 1 Satellite Provision. 16% of the responses we received were against opening a Satellite Provision.

Designation – who took part in the survey?

The designation of responses came from parents, Headteachers, Primary School staff, school staff, SENDco, Head of Service – SEND, and the Local Authority.

Questions raised from the survey:

There were no questions raised.

Concerns from survey:

Concerns that the site (Walsingham Road) is not suitable.

We are planning to create two classrooms for up to 20 pupils. This new site will contain purpose-built spaces for our pupils which will be equal to our Tadpole site.

Breakout spaces will have decking added. Each class will have their own outside space with a direct exit from the classroom. Breakout spaces will interconnect for increased social interaction.

There is ample local parking with no restrictions and there will be a parking area for the site dedicated school minibus.

Brimble Hill School

We will install the same Maglock system which is in use at our Tadpole site and the site will have the same security fencing as the main site and a double entrance gate.

Brimble Hill School branding will be added to brighten up the exterior along with appropriate signage.

Swindon Borough Council has provided significant capital funding to ensure that internal and external spaces at Walsingham Road are refurbished to mirror the standard of the facilities at the main school site.

Concerns about the EYFS and Key Stage 1 children being away from the other Brimble Hill pupils.

Children attending the satellite site will receive the same Brimble Hill experience as if they were attending the main school site. The number of children attending the satellite provision is large enough to provide a 'small school' feel.

Concerns about children attending multiple sites throughout their primary education rather than one school.

As Walsingham Road will be set up to mirror that of the main school site, transition should be seamless between the satellite and main school.

Positive Comments about the new Satellite Provision of Brimble Hill School at Walsingham Road, Swindon

"Given the significant pressure on special school places, finding creative solutions to physical space is essential. The proposed solution helps address these current challenges."

"This is much needed in Swindon."

"This proposal is supported by Swindon Borough Council."

"There is a desperate need for additional specialist places across Swindon."

"very good idea to give other children who would be stuck on the waiting list a chance to learn and grow in a great school with a great support team."

"This will help to Increase capacity for the number of children able to access specialist provision to meet their needs."

"This would be a very positive response to the current lack of specialist places and is very much needed. Brimble Hill have the trained and supportive staff to support parents and children in facilitating greater capacity for children with SEND who deserve specialist provision."

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Conclusion

In conclusion, we feel the survey was positive with 84% of respondents supporting the opening of the satellite provision.

The next steps

Following the closure of our consultation, we will be moving forward with the submission of our significant change business case to open a satellite provision of Brimble Hill School at Walsingham Road. We are expecting a response to our submission by the end of June 2023.