**Proposal to establish Resource Bases at Broomhill Infant School, Broomhill Junior School and Sefton Park Infant and Junior School**

Background

Bristol City Council has proposed to establish three resource bases (Special Educational Needs and/or Disability (SEND) provisions) in the city. This proposal has been developed in response to the demand for special educational needs provision in Bristol.

In accordance with Section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (as amended by the Education Act 2011) and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013, **Bristol City Council are proposing changes to:**

* **Broomhill Infant School, to establish a 24-place resource base for children with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs and register it with the Department for Education (DfE).**
* **Broomhill Junior School, to establish a 16-place resource base for children with Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs (SEMH) and Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and register it with the Department for Education (DfE).**
* **Sefton Park Infant and Junior School, to establish a 12-place resource base for children with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) and register it with the Department for Education (DfE).**

The SEN designation of the provisions will be inclusive of children with Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Needs and Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) to support the needs of children who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). The resource bases will receive children with SEN from the local area, not limited to the school’s mainstream catchment.

The projects at Broomhill Infant School and Sefton Park Infant and Junior School are targeting a delivery of January 2024. Broomhill Junior School Resource Base is targeted to be open in September 2024. The provisions will increase capacity in the city by 52 places, with the expectation that the provisions will increase the number of places available as appropriate.

Representation

The relevant proposals were published on the Broomhill Infant School, Broomhill Junior School, Sefton Park Infant and Junior School and Bristol City Council website for 4 weeks from 9th October 2023 until 6th November 2023. A copy of the proposal was sent to the Governors of Broomhill Infant School, Broomhill Junior School, Sefton Park Infant and Junior School and the Head Teachers.

Each school ensured that the information was released through a circulated update (this may be a paper or electronic newsletter or update) and sent directly to all parents/carers of all registered pupils. Copies of the proposal was available via the school, by contacting Bristol City Council and on the websites. The proposals were also included in a local newspaper.

Comments were collected using an online survey, via E-mail and post.

Responses

Broomhill Infant School:

9 respondents completed the survey and were from a range of backgrounds. 57.14% of respondents strongly agreed with the proposal for a SEND resource base at Broomhill Infant School. 14.29% agreed, 14.29% disagreed and 14.29% strongly disagreed. Comments from respondents mentioned the high demand for specialist provision in the area and the fact that more SEND provision is positive for the city. Other comments raised concerns about the Resource Base being located on a different site and how this will be managed.

Bristol City Council understands these concerns but has confidence in the school’s ability to deliver a high-quality provision at a nearby site.

Broomhill Junior School:

3 respondents completed the survey and were from a range of backgrounds. 66.67% of respondents strongly agreed with the proposal for a SEND resource base at Broomhill Junior School. 33.33% strongly disagreed. Comments from respondents mentioned the need for more specialist provision in the city. The respondent who strongly disagreed did not leave a comment.

Sefton Park Infant and Junior School:

5 respondents answered the survey and were from a range of backgrounds. 80% of respondents strongly agreed with the proposal for a SEND resource base at Sefton Park Infant and Junior School. 20% strongly disagreed. Comments from respondents mentioned the fact that they believed it will enrich the lives of the children attending the school and mentioned personal experiences of their children requiring such support. The respondent who strongly disagreed did not leave a comment.

Summary

As these proposals do not require cabinet approval, approval is delegated to officer level and will be taken by the director of Education and Skills in consultation with the Executive Member for Children and Education. In order to comply with statutory guidance, a decision must be made within a period of two months of the end of the representation period.