



“Everyone has the right to achieve their full potential in a caring and safe environment”

Manor Farm Way, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough, TS8 0RJ

Telephone: 01642 596422

Email: ssoffice@sunnyside.adastraschools.org.uk

Web: www.sunnyside.adastra.org

Head Teacher: Mrs J Sutton NPQH BA Hons

Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs C A Hall B.Ed Hons

Academy Business Manager: Miss S Powell BA Hons

16th June 2022

Dear Stakeholder,

Consultation regarding Sunnyside Academy de-delegation of SEND Resource Base Provision

The priority of Sunnyside Academy Governing Body is to ensure an inclusive excellent education for all its pupils. We are wholly committed to improving standards and to ensure that every individual is well cared for, supported and challenged to maximise their potential and to be well prepared and well-rounded individuals.

As a mainstream school we have specialist resource base provision within our setting. The current arrangements and funding agreements are for 71 pupils:

- 30 places N- Y6 for Teesside pupils with hearing impairment/loss
- 16 places N – Y6 for Teesside pupils with vision impairment/loss
- 25 places Y3 – Y6 for Middlesbrough pupils with moderate learning difficulties (Higher Needs Base)

Technical innovations have meant that we have less pupils requiring a sensory base place (HI) and parental choice is often for admission to their child’s own local school with additional support. Consequently, over time we have seen these pupil numbers decrease. However, the local demand for specialist provision offering support for social and emotional needs has increased. There has also been an increase in the demand for an early years base that will support developmental delay. Sunnyside Academy responded with interest to a SEND town wide consultation for developing these additional resource bases in 22/23 and 23/24 and this is more reflective of our cohort needs.

The future proposal would be to de-delegate our current base structures to include two additional provisions to accommodate 74 pupils:

- 40 places N – Y6 for Teesside pupils with vision or hearing impairment/loss (sensory bases)
- 20 places Y3 – Y6 for Middlesbrough pupils with moderate and severe learning difficulties (Higher Needs Base)
- 6 place Rec – Y2 for Middlesbrough pupils with developmental delay
- 8 place Y3 – Y6 for Middlesbrough pupils with Social, emotional and mental health needs (SEMH)

In making this decision to consult, we have taken into consideration the following:

- Our commitment to ensure excellent outcomes for all our pupils
- The ability to recruit new staff to support the bases
- Continuing to safeguard the academy’s long-term financial future
- Sharing our expertise with other settings
- Ensuring that it does not have a detrimental impact upon the wider running of the school
- Effective leadership and quality assurance of all base provisions





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De-delegation of our resource bases will:

- Create opportunities to share skills and expertise
- Support the town in providing specialist places for vulnerable pupils who currently don't have the right provision
- Bring additional secured funding from Middlesbrough Local Authority for at least 5 years to fund staffing and resources
- Enable us to effectively meet the needs of our current and future cohorts

Under these proposals:

- The resource bases will be closely scrutinised by the DFE, Middlesbrough LA SEND team and Ad Astra Trust Board
- There will be an annual review with Middlesbrough Local Authority to ensure the bases are fit for purpose and can inform future plans

As part of our consultation, we are keen to hear your views. The period of consultation will open on:

Thursday 16th June and closes at noon on Thursday 14th July 2022

We encourage you to present your support, views, questions and concerns. All submissions received by **Thursday 14th July** will be considered at a meeting of the Regional Directors Board on 15th July 2022

Please submit your views either:

- **By email**
Julie.sutton@sunnyside.adastraschools.org
- **In writing to**
'SEND base Consultation'
Sunnyside Academy, Manor Farm Way, Coulby Newham, Middlesbrough, TS8 0RJ

What happens next?

From Thursday 3rd, there will be more information available on the school website including a comprehensive list of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) and you are encouraged to send your questions, concerns and opinions via methods detailed above i.e. by email, or in writing.

Yours sincerely

J.P. Sutton

Mrs Julie Sutton
Headteacher
Sunnyside Academy

Mr Andy Brown OBE
CEO
Ad Astra Multi Academy Trust

