

16 May 2018

Dear Parents/Carers, Staff and Other Interested Parties,

Proposed changes to Stationers' Crown Woods Academy Designated Specialist Provision for MLD

Our provision for students with Moderate Learning Difficulties (MLD) is currently open to year 7 -11 students with a diagnosis of this special educational need. The provision was founded in September 2002 in order to assist the students with MLD to access mainstream education. Although we have capacity for 24 places, we in fact only have 7 students diagnosed with MLD in the DSP and 5 of these students will have left the provision by July 2018.

With the support of Leigh Academies Trust, our Governors and Royal Borough of Greenwich, we are proposing to redesignate our existing MLD specialist provision into a Designated Specialist Provision (DSP) for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The intention is that the DSP will change from September 2018 and support up to 16 students with a diagnosis of ASD at our Academy. We will continue to support current students with MLD within the new provision. Admissions to the newly designated DSP will be via the Greenwich admissions panel. There will be no impact on admission arrangements for other students.

Figures provided by Royal Borough of Greenwich show that the general population (0-25 years) in Greenwich is growing year by year. Within this growing population, there is a projected increase of students with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, particularly those with a diagnosis of ASD. The number of children Greenwich schools with an EHCP is rising, and the current statistics show that approximately 40% of children with an EHCP have a diagnosis of an ASD. Within our academy SEND context, students with a diagnosis of ASD are amongst the highest group already receiving SEND interventions.

In bringing forward this proposal, we believe that a redesignated DSP:

- Will support the local authority aims of increasing access to specialist provisions for the growing number of students with ASD;
- Will provide access to highly personalised support for children with ASD;
- Will further develop staff expertise in effective teaching and learning practices for children with ASD, including those in the mainstream. Students with ASD will be integrated into

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mainstream activities and the curriculum where possible and will benefit from accessing lessons taught by experienced, subject specialists.

- Will develop integrated working practices, as we enhance our existing partnerships with local education, health and social care providers;
- Will support local students with ASD to access appropriate education within their community.

Taking this step is consistent with the Academy's drive to provide an inclusive model of education, and our aims to meet the needs of learners in our local community.

How can you share your views?

You are invited to respond to the consultation by contacting the Academy via email on info@scwa.org.uk

The consultation will close on **29 June 2018**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Millar', with a stylized flourish at the end.

David Millar
Executive Principal