

Consultation Document: Beckfoot Phoenix

Sufficiency of Specialist places for Children and Young People with SEND

Proposal for Beckfoot Phoenix to operate an additional site, facilitating an increase of 32 places for children and young people with an EHCP specific to the designated need of the school.

The Local Authority has specific duties to ensure that there is sufficient specialist provision available for children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), where their EHCPs determine that their needs should be met in specialist provision.

Bradford has experienced a significant increase in the number of children and young people with EHCP's requiring specialist provision, to ensure they are able to have their complex needs fully met and receive the specialist support that is required for them to thrive. It is projected that demand for specialist places will continue to grow across all sectors.

Beckfoot Phoenix School

Beckfoot Phoenix is part of the Beckfoot Trust and is a school for pupils with special educational needs. We work closely with the Local Authority to support Children and Young People with an Education, Health and Care Plans in order to give them the best possible learning journey.

The Beckfoot Trust is a medium-sized family of 10 Bradford District schools, secondary, primary and special. Our mission is to 'create remarkable schools where no child is left behind'. We are determined to be remarkable because the communities that we serve deserve it and our students deserve nothing less.

Beckfoot Phoenix is a primary school (age 2 – 11) all of whom have difficulty with their learning. Some of our children have severe learning difficulties and others have profound and complex learning and medical needs. As well as a learning difficulty, children may also have autism, communication difficulties, physical disabilities, and visual or hearing impairments.

At Beckfoot Phoenix, we see every child as unique. We are proud of our school specific curriculum and personalised approach that ensures that every child leaves our school with the skills that will help them with their life. For some, this means learning to read and write, for others, it is about learning to be more independent, and for others, it is being able to accept help and support so that they can happily access the world around them. For all - it is about 'Learning lots, making memories and being brilliant'.

At our school, we keep our children at the absolute heart of everything we do. It is all about:

- Keeping them safe;
- Valuing them and giving them a voice and;
- Enabling them all to 'Enjoy, Learn and Succeed'.

Our highly motivated team work hard to enable all pupils to achieve beyond what could ever be imagined.

The Local Authorities 2024-25 Strategic Plan shows evidence that there is demand for primary special school places across the Bradford District

Why are we consulting?

If a school wishes to make significant changes, such as changing the number and/or type of school places and/or where they are offered, they need to have a fair and open local consultation with relevant stakeholders.

After views have been sought and assessed the Academy school must then submit a Tier 1 Application to the Department for Education (DfE) which will then go to approval at the Regional Schools Group.

What are we consulting on?

This proposal is to increase the number of pupils on the roll at Beckfoot Phoenix by 32 through the use of an additional site. This additional site will be created by the renovation of existing surplus space at Beckfoot Nessfield.

Evidence of demand:

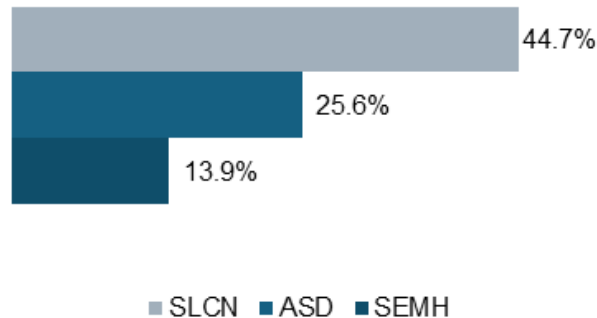
Bradford District has experienced a significant increase in demand for Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) provision over the past decade. It is projected that demand will continue to grow across all sectors, despite the decrease that we have seen in the birth rate within the Bradford district, regionally and nationally, the number of children and young people with an EHCP continues to rise.

The total number of children and young people aged 0-25 with an EHCP was 7309 in September 2024. This is up from 6259 the previous year in November 2023.

We have seen the number of EHCPs for school-aged children and young people doubled from 2579 in January 2019 to 5223 in September 2024

Amongst primary-aged children with an EHCP, evidence shows communication and interaction needs are most prominent which the primary needs Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Speech Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) fall broadly under. See the graph below

Primary-aged EHCP Primary Need



Three most- prevalent needs on primary-aged children's EHCPs, September 2024.

How will this be achieved?

If approved, the plan is for the Local Authority to work closely with the Trust and Schools to renovate and repurpose surplus classrooms and facilities in Beckfoot Nessfield. Following which Beckfoot Nessfield and Phoenix will share the same site but still operate as separate schools. This new site for Beckfoot Phoenix will facilitate the increase of 32 places.

Who will fund and ensure the project is delivered?

The Local Authority are supporting this and will project manage and fund this development from the High Needs Capital Funding.

This provision will be staffed and managed by Beckfoot Phoenix and the Beckfoot Trust.

How can I share my views?

The consultation will be open from **24th March 2025 to the 14th April 2025** for you to share your views.

Please click on the link or QR Code below to open the survey and to share your views on the proposal:

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/BeckfootPhoenixCons>

Or you scan the QR code below.



If you would prefer a paper copy of the consultation, please contact the school office or e-mail: office@beckfootphoenix.org