

Learning Today Leading Tomorrow

Rugby Free Secondary School Proposal

Proposal for a new Specialist Resourced Provision for children and young people with communication and interaction needs at Rugby Free Secondary School

Summary of the findings from the consultation started on the 1 April 2022, ended on 26 May 2022.

Over the course of the consultation, we have listened to a wide range of people from across our community including young people and their families, local primary and secondary schools and colleges; local authorities; health and care providers; and voluntary organisations.

All responses received regarding the consultation are being fully considered by the Trustees of Learning Today Leading Tomorrow and full consideration will be given to the suggestions and concerns raised. A full consultation response will be published in due course.

Please see a brief summary below of the response data from the consultation, which is published, on our school and Trust websites.

www.rugbyfreesecondary.co.uk

www.learningleading.org

Responses to questions asked

We received a total of 106 responses. The largest group of respondents was from parents (30%) followed by staff members at RFSS (29%). Other responses were received from trustees and other members of staff from Learning Today Leading Tomorrow including Rugby Free Primary School, other schools in Rugby and representatives from local and national government.

Question: - Do you understand what RFSS is proposing to do and the reasons why?

- 100% of respondents stated they understood the proposal as described in the consultation document.

● Yes	106
● No	0



Question: - Do you support the proposal to establish a Specialist Resourced Provision at RFSS for 20 children with communication and interaction needs?

- 92% of respondents supported the proposal to establish a Specialist Resourced Provision at RFSS for 20 children with communication and interaction needs



Question: - Do you agree that the proposed SRP will support the Local Authority to provide local placements for children in mainstream secondary schools that are currently not available?

- 96% agreed that the proposed SRP will support the Local Authority to provide local placements for children in mainstream secondary schools that are currently not available



A total of 24 respondents added positive comments including:

- As Chair I'm fully supportive as this is very much in line with our inclusive ethos. (Trustee)
- Warwickshire County Council (WCC) supports development of an SRP at RFSS, which is in line with the local programme and strategy in developing pathways for secondary resourced provision to compliment primary provision. The SRP also compliments existing local specialist provision and will create additional options for local young people. WCC has worked with RFSS to produce a suitable model with funding elements included to support the provision set up. The SRP is also factored into the local capital programme to create additional SEND places in line with local sufficiency plans. WCC will work in partnership with RFSS and provide ongoing support. (Local Authority)
- Fully agree with the provision and knowing the children we have with significant communication and Interaction needs at Primary, this provision would be very much needed in Secondary level. It would potentially save at least one pupil from having to access Specialist Provision.

- To provide a specialist resource centre to EHCP students with communication and interaction including staffing with professionals and will not affect/ impact the learning of RFSS students. If anything will benefit our SEN students and provision in the whole schools.
- It is clear that this provision is needed for the local authority as well as to increase capability within school.
- Definitely support this idea and think more schools, particularly Secondary need this type of provision
- I have a child that has a special educational need, he is challenged by the resources he needs to learn and lack of knowledge about his unique condition. He is academically bright but without understanding and support would have easily slipped under the radar as being not very bright as an assumption. The more resources available to support not only local communities' education but also allows the school to provide more resources and support as a whole is a huge positive. It is very refreshing for a school to realise different learning styles and are able to offer a variety of qualifications.
- I support this proposal. All schools should have some specialist provision for SEND pupils. There is too little provision at present. In addition, some SEND children do not need the level of support provided by 'special schools'.
- There is clearly a need for the SRP, the provision within Warwickshire needs to be increased/improved. The team at RFSS are committed to improving opportunities for young people and I support this proposal. (Another Rugby Secondary School)

Concerns and questions

Concerns/questions were raised by 12 respondents (four of whom supported the application) relating to:

- Potential for a negative impact of the SRP on other students at RFSS (six parent respondents)
- The relative needs of current students following the pandemic (three parent respondents)
- Provision of appropriate space for the SRP (three respondents)
- The policy of placing children with SEND within mainstream schools rather than special schools and the potential impact on local special schools (another school)
- The sustainability of the funding beyond the set-up phase (parent)
- Request for a better understanding of how students are to be placed in the SRP (parent)
- The potential creation of jobs within the community (parent)

All concerns/questions raised will be fully considered by trustees and a full response will be published shortly.