

**Record of
Executive
Decisions
published
21/Mar/2024**

**Sunderland
City Council**

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City Hall
Sunderland

21 March 2024

Record of Executive Decisions Published: 21 March 2024

Decision Taker: School Organisation Committee of Cabinet
Appropriate Scrutiny Committee: Children, Education and Skills Scrutiny Committee

Date decision in force: 2 April 2024

Date of decision: 21 March 2024

Title and author(s) of written report:

Establishment of a Resourced Autism Spectrum Unit at Mill Hill Primary School – Director of Children’s Services.

Full description of decision:

To note the responses to the statutory and pre-publication consultations and consider the statutory proposal which is to:

Develop a 16 place Special Educational Needs (SEN) unit at Mill Hill Primary School for primary aged pupils with Autism Spectrum Disorder needs with effect from 1 September 2024.

Under the provisions of the relevant Regulations, the Authority may approve published proposals with or without modification or may reject them.

The Committee approved the proposal as detailed above.

Suggested reason(s) for Decision:

The proposal will contribute to the sufficiency of SEN school places across the city. This will increase the number of high quality, local SEN places, reduce waiting times for special schools, allow Sunderland based children to access appropriate provision within their localities and create efficiencies in the wider cost of delivering a SEN infrastructure in Sunderland.

Alternative options considered and rejected:

Retain the existing number of SEN places. A deficit in local, specialist places will remain resulting in children either not being expediently placed in an appropriate school setting or being placed in a setting that requires travel outside their locality and will result in greater cost pressure on the Council.

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Is this a key decision:

Yes

Does the Decision contain Confidential/Exempt Information:

No

Declarations of Interest and Dispensations:

None