

Proposed High Needs Place Changes 2019/20 Academic Year

Janine Walker & Kathryn Stevenson

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Objective

To share with Schools Forum draft proposals for planned high needs places for the 2019/20 academic year

Linked to:

- Requirement for the LA to consult with Schools Forum over arrangements for high needs pupils
- Requirement for the LA to submit place change notifications relating to academies/FE colleges to the EFA in **November**
- LA simultaneously working with maintained settings on place numbers, although no requirement to submit to EFA



Approach

1. Identify where a place number change may be required taking into account;
 - Current numbers
 - Known leavers July 2019
 - Anticipated/average new admissions
 - Limits to physical capacity
2. Agree proposed changes with setting involved.
Discussions are still ongoing.

Key proposed changes

Setting	Place change	Comments
Oakfield	+8	As advised last year, 8 extra ASD places were required. ASD class set up at Oakfield from September 2018.
Westbury Special School	+4	Still to be confirmed in discussion with the school
Bluecoat post-16	-1	Aligns place number to 10 foundation learning places
Bluecoat Primary SRU	+1	Increase from 3 to 4 primary places
Bilborough College	-1	Single high needs learner has left
TOTAL		



Financial Implications

- Further £0.215m impact in 2019/20 from full year effect of additional 23 pre-16 places commissioned from September 2018
- Full year cost of 4 extra places at Westbury at existing top-up is £0.099m. Intend to discuss phased reduction in top-up level to reflect economies of scale.

Longer term plans

- We are anticipating a doubling of secondary high needs ASD pupils by 2025, based on pupils currently in the primary phase
- Exploring feasibility of an additional 8 ASD places per year group at Nethergate, subject to capital funding
- Special Free School bid for 48 secondary MLD/ASD places on Bluecoat site in conjunction with Archway Trust