Statutory Proposal for Prescribed Alterations to Provide Special Educational Needs Provision in a Mainstream School

1. Proposal relating to:

Thomas Gray Primary School, Chestnut Grove, Bootle, Merseyside, L20 4LX

Proposer: Sefton Metropolitan Borough Council, Magdalen House, 30 Trinity Road, Bootle, Liverpool, L20 3NJ

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013/3110 that Sefton Council intend to make a prescribed alteration to Thomas Gray Primary School from 1st September 2023.

2. Description of Proposed Significant Change

The proposed significant change at Thomas Gray Primary School will be the establishment of a SEN unit for children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) with a primary SEN need of communication and interaction and/or social communication with 1 class of 10 places across Key stage 1. Also, a unit for children with an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) with a primary SEN need of cognition and learning and/or social, emotional and mental health needs with 2 class of 8 places for Key Stage 2. Finally, a unit for children within Early Years for Reception (4 places), Nursery (8 part time places) and Two Year Olds (8 part time places) with a primary need of social communication and interaction difficulties including Autism.

3.Evidence of Demand for Places

The number of children and young people with an EHCP in Sefton has increased significantly. The most common category of need within this group of pupils are those with social communication and interaction difficulties including Autism as well as cognition and learning/social emotional and mental health.

The SEN Unit will offer the increasing number of pupils displaying social communication and interaction difficulties the benefit from attending a mainstream school, whilst also receiving specialist input for social communication and interaction difficulties relevant to the child's SEN needs.

4. Objectives of the Proposal and Educational Standards, and Impact on Parental Choice

The additional places will be in addition to and not part of the schools existing Pupil Admission Numbers (PAN).

Admission to the SEN Unit will be made via Sefton Councils SEN and Inclusion Service. Sefton Council proposes to carry out internal alterations to existing classrooms to enable the appropriate delivery of the Key Stage 1 and 2 groups. A mobile unit will also be installed to create additional space to provide for the Early Years provision.

The proposed provision will be appropriately resourced to ensure that the children placed will be supported in achieving their educational outcomes.

The proposed Resource Bases will allow the Council and parents/carers the option to place children within local provision, rather than in independent provision.

5. Effect on other Education Establishments in the Area

There will not be any effect on other educational establishments in the Area

6.Project Costs

If the proposal for this provision is agreed, funding for the additional accommodation will be provided directly through Department for Education High Needs Provision Capital Allocation.

7. Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

It is intended that any new provision will be implemented during the 2023/24 Academic Year.

8. Procedure for Responding to this Proposal

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: School.Organisation@sefton.gov.uk

Any person wishing to raise objections, or make comments on the proposal should do so by emailing School Organisation at: School.Organisation@sefton.gov.uk within four weeks from the date of publication, i.e. no later than 4pm on 15th June 2023

Applicable legislation:

Making significant changes ('prescribed alterations') to maintained school (publishing.service.gov.uk)

Signed: Tricia Davies, Assistant Director Education

Publication Date: 18th May 2023