



Consultation on redesignation and expansion of Robert Le Kyng Primary School Special Resource Provision

1. Introduction

Robert Le Kyng Primary School is a two form entry Primary School which is part of the Blue Kite Academy Trust. It has a Good Ofsted Rating (February 2017). The Special Resource Provision (SRP), attached to the mainstream school, currently provides 10 places for children with Physical Impairment.

2. Background

Robert Le Kyng Primary School has a Special Resource Provision for children with Physical Impairment attached to the mainstream school. It is commissioned for 10 places, but currently has 6 children, who are all in Key Stage 2. There are no children currently identified in the area who are likely to need a provision such as our SRP and the LA have the ambition that children with physical impairment should be taught in

their local school where possible. Alongside this, there has been a growing number of children with complex needs coming into the school year on year and this is reflected in many Swindon schools. The school currently has an informal provision (The Huddle) and this will formalise the status of this provision.

3. The Proposal

The purpose of this proposal is to change the Special Resource Provision for children with Physical Impairments at Robert Le Kyng Primary School to a Special Educational Needs (SEN) Unit for children with Complex Needs and to increase the number of places to 24 by September 2026. The SRP will close to new entrants and the children currently in the SRP for children with physical impairment will continue to come to Robert Le Kyng and have their needs met in a very similar way to how they are now, with most of their education in the classroom, but with specific support for their physical needs (eg. physiotherapy). Their funding will come in through the mainstream route. No more children will enter the SRP for children with Physical Impairment.

The school already runs an informal provision, supported by the LA, to meet the needs of the children in the school and this provision will be included in these plans. The school will set up a Unit for 24 children with Complex Needs, starting with a Unit for 12 children in April 2025, gradually increasing this to 24 spaces once appropriate accommodation can be built.

4. Rationale

The change in designation is to meet the increased need of the children in Swindon and we have been requested to do this by the Local Authority. By definition, resourced provisions are *“where places are reserved at a mainstream school for pupils with a specific type of SEN, taught mainly in mainstream classes, but requiring a base and some specialist facilities around the school.”* Units are *“special provisions within a mainstream school where children are taught mainly in separate classes”* but have access to mainstream classes where appropriate.

Becoming a SEN Unit would allow Robert Le Kyng Primary School to increase the number of specialist places available from the current 10 to 12, from April 2025, and then to 24 by September 2026, depending on the addition of appropriate buildings to do so. This will provide additional, much needed, local places for children with Complex Needs within Swindon.

Swindon has a higher percentage of children with EHCPs attending mainstream schools than the national average. Swindon offers an inclusive education system, demonstrated in the higher-than-average number of pupils with EHCPs that attend mainstream schools and the increase in the number of SRP and SEN Unit places on offer to support students whilst in mainstream education. Additional places for pupils with SEND in primary are needed to meet demand that may not be able to currently be met in our Local Authority. Furthermore, this will also improve the expected outcomes for these pupils.

5. Financing and Resourcing

Swindon Borough Council will provide capital funding for an additional building to allow for the increased capacity. It will support Swindon’s need for additional places in the borough and any places can be filled by children with Complex Needs, who need a specialist educational provision, as soon as they are available.

A review of SRP and SEN Unit provision in Swindon identified that those with a capacity of 14 or more places provided better value and were more financially viable in the long term.

6. Consultation

The proposed changes require a period of consultation of at least 3 weeks with stakeholders. This will take place from Monday 25th November until Friday 20th December 2024.

During this period Robert Le Kyng Primary School will share its proposals with other schools and academies, including CEOs, head teachers and chairs of governors, with unions, parents, partner agencies, local residents and Local Authorities (within 3 miles of the school).

Have your say

Robert Le Kyng Primary School would like to know what people think about the proposal. The consultation will open on Monday 25th November.

You can respond by:

- a) Replying to the email via which you were sent this consultation with your comments
- b) By clicking on this link which will take you to a survey where you can add your comments

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=nNVAK_swWkOuvH_B1NgnbPW5dIYZqcJAtSizQVubNYJURjRBV05YWUJEVkg2M1c1U0ZQTEhCMUc5Si4u

- c) Completing the consultation response form on the next page and returning it by email to officerlk@robertlekyng.bluekitetrust.org by midday on Friday 20th December 2024.

- d) Printing the consultation response form, completing it and posting it back to the address below:

FAO – Susan Smith
Head teacher
Robert Le Kyng Primary School
Westcott Street
SWINDON
SN1 5HS

All responses must be received by midday on Friday 20th December 2024.

What happens next?

At the end of the consultation period, Robert Le Kyng Primary School will review all the responses received and share those with the Department of Education as part of the business case for making a significant change to the academy.

Consultation Response Form

Proposal for the redesignation of the Special Resource Provision (SRP) for children with Physical Impairment at Robert Le Kyng Primary School to a Special Educational Need (SEN) Unit for children with Complex Needs and to increase the number of places to 24 by September 2026.

Please give us your views. Please tick the box that best shows what you think about the proposed changes and also give us any comments you have.

1. Do you agree with the proposal to re-designate Robert Le Kyng SRP to a SEN Unit?

Agree

Don't know

Disagree

2. Your comments:

3. Please tick the boxes that apply to you.

A parent/carer of a child at Robert Le Kyng Primary School

A parent/carer of a child in an Early Years setting

A parent/carer of a child at another school

Someone who works at Robert le Kyng Primary School

Someone who works at another local school

Some other link to Robert Le Kyng Primary School

A local resident

Someone else with an interest – please give details: _____