

**A formal consultation about our proposal to increase
the number of special school places at Brookfield
School, Fouldrey Avenue, Poulton-le-Fylde,
Lancashire, FY6 7HE through the expansion of the
school site**

Nov 2024

This is a formal consultation about making a prescribed alteration to a school in accordance with The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

We are seeking your views about our proposal to expand Brookfield School and whether you think this is a good idea. We are proposing to increase the number of special school places by 45, by creating additional classroom space on the school site.

We want to assure you that we will give careful consideration to all your comments and opinions.

We have used the feedback that was given during the informal consultation, conducted between 4 November and 22 November 2024, to develop our plans about increasing the number of school places at Brookfield School. This formal consultation is a legal requirement that we need to do in order to make a change like this to the school.

What are we planning to do?

Brookfield School is a special school for pupils aged 11-16 with social, emotional and mental health needs. The proposal is to expand the school, increasing the number of places by 45.

Why are we doing this?

All special schools in Lancashire are over-subscribed and there continues to be an increase in the need for special school places throughout the County.

Brookfield School is a 'Good' school (Ofsted).

How will we do this?

By creating additional places on the Brookfield School site. Children and young people already on the roll will still be able to attend the school and should not experience any change in class size because of the increase to approved numbers.

The school will receive additional funding from the Special Educational Needs high needs block to provide support for any additional pupils that join the school, in line with the funding for places at specialist schools. This means the school should not be financially disadvantaged by the proposed expansion.



What have we done so far?

We have considered the options for increasing the number of special school places in the North of the county with the headteachers of the special schools in that area.

We have discussed this proposal with the headteacher and governors of Brookfield School.

An informal consultation took place between 4 November and 22 November 2024 when we asked for the views of families of children and young people attending the school, children and young people who may attend the school in the future, school staff and governors and other members of the local community. A public meeting was also held on 14 November 2024, where a representative from Lancashire County Council attended.

The written responses to the informal consultation were considered by the Executive Director for Education and Children's Services, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Education and Skills after the end of the consultation period.

Of the eight responses received to the informal consultation, all 8 respondents strongly agreed with the proposal; comments included the demand for special school places in Lancashire is not being met, the dedication of staff and leadership at the school, the excellent provision, and the need for the appropriate level of funding should the expansion go ahead. Space has been identified for the additional classroom and the headteacher will ensure additional resources needed are available.

What will happen next?

Careful consideration will be given to all responses that are received on or before 20 December 2024.

These responses will be used to provide information to Lancashire County Council's Cabinet to help councillors decide whether to agree to the increase in school numbers.

Have your say

We would like your views on this proposed expansion of Brookfield School. An event will be held at the school so that you can get more information and ask any questions you may have. Details about this will be available on the school website and through the usual channels of communication used by the school.

For your information and in accordance with the Department for Communities and Local Government regulations, all written responses may be disclosed to the public and could also be published on our website as background papers to any reports.

We are sorry that, due to the volume of responses we receive when consulting on proposals for schools, we will not be able to acknowledge written responses nor enter into correspondence with interested parties during or after the consultation period. It is



important to attend the relevant consultation event if you require clarification or more information on the proposal.

If you have any queries or require further information please contact the Inclusion Service by phone: 01772 531597 or email Inclusion.South@Lancashire.gov.uk.

This information can be found on this website www.lancashire.gov.uk/consultations where you will find a link to the [online questionnaire](#). Alternatively, you can fill it in below.



QUESTIONNAIRE

We are proposing to expand Brookfield School, which will provide 45 more special school places.

How strongly do you agree or disagree with this proposal?

Please tick one option only

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Neither agree nor disagree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree

Why do you say this?

Please write in the box below

About you

This final section is about you. It is a little more personal but is really useful to us. By answering these questions, you will help us to understand the views of different groups of people. If there are any questions that you would rather not answer, please tick 'prefer not to say,' or leave it blank and go on to the next question.

Are you responding to this proposal as...?

Please select one option only

- Parent/carer of a pupil currently at Brookfield School
- Parent/carer of a future pupil at Brookfield School
- Member of staff at Brookfield School
- School governor at Brookfield School



Member of the local community

Other

If other, please write in the box below

Are you...?

Please select one option only

Male

Female

Other

Prefer not to say

What was your age on your last birthday?

Please select one option only

Under 16

16-19

20-34

35-49

50-64

65+

Prefer not to say

Which of the following best describes your ethnic background?

Please select one option only

White

Black or Black British

Asian or Asian British

Mixed ethnic background

Any other ethnic background

Prefer not to say

Are you a deaf person or do you have a disability?

The Equality Act 2010 defines a disabled person as someone who has



a physical or mental impairment, which has a substantial and long term adverse effect on his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.

Please select as many as apply

- Yes, learning disability
- Yes, physical disability
- Yes, sensory disability
- Yes, mental health disability
- Yes, other disability
- No
- Prefer not to say

Are there any children or young people in your household with special educational needs?

Please select as many as apply

- No
- Yes, aged under 5
- Yes, aged 5-11
- Yes, aged 12-15
- Yes, aged 16-17
- Prefer not to say

What is your home postcode?

Please send your completed questionnaire to:
Business Intelligence,
Lancashire County Council,
PO Box 100,
County Hall,
Preston PR1 0LD

Thank you for completing the questionnaire

