



Consultation on Proposal to add a Social, Emotional and Mental Health Specialist Resource Base at Reffley Academy, King's Lynn Norfolk from 1 February 2024

Our Proposal

Ad Meliora Academy Trust would like to hear your views on our proposal to add a 16 place Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Specialist Resource Base from 1 February 2024, at Reffley Academy, Reffley Lane, King's Lynn PE30 3SF.

We appreciate that children and young people with SEMH needs can struggle to engage with learning and cope in a classroom without additional strategies and interventions. A Resource Base can support children to overcome their barriers to learning, to be better able to cope and to be re-integrated into a mainstream setting, in which they can achieve their potential.

We are very keen to provide this support in our schools. Our SEMH base will be part of the Specialist Resource Base network and is a key part of Norfolk's Local Offer for children with special educational needs and their families. This has been identified in Norfolk's Local First Inclusion Programme as a priority for development.

The SRB places will be allocated through Norfolk County Admissions processes and may not be full from 1 February 2024, but will grow up to full capacity through this admissions process.

Our SEMH Specialist Resource Base

We are looking to undertake a small refurbishment programme to re-use the old nursery block and an unused classroom space at Reffley Academy. All capital costs for the refurbished accommodation will be funded from Norfolk County Council's SEND and Alternative Provision Transformation Programme, to ensure there is the appropriate accommodation. Our Specialist Resource Base will be managed by the Headteacher and Board of Directors at Reffley Academy.

What is a Specialist Resource Base (SRB)?

Social, Emotional and Mental Health bases form part of the Specialist Resource Base programme in Norfolk and are a key component of Norfolk's SEND Local Offer, and of mainstream inclusion support to children, families and the school system.

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Bases provide a learning area which is calm and adapted to meet the needs of children and young people. This will be a primary phase base, offering up to 16 places for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children.

What are the benefits of this proposal?

The main driver for Ad Meliora Academy Trust and the senior leaders of Reffley Academy, is to meet the increased demand for specialist educational provision within our area, to best meet the needs of our most vulnerable learners. We feel our proposal would benefit children and young people because it will:

- support more pupils with special education needs and disabilities to be educated and thrive in their local school and community;
- enhance pupils progress by effectively meeting their individual social, emotional and mental health needs;
- help facilitate better access to the curriculum and support pupils to achieve their potential;
- ensure that needs can be met locally avoiding the need for pupils to spend unnecessary time travelling to an appropriate school further away. This is better for young people and saves the taxpayer money in transport costs;
- increase the availability of places to meet the needs of pupils with SEND;
- address identified geographical, and age and phase gaps in SRB provision as identified in Norfolk's SEND Strategy;
- support the sharing of SEMH expertise and good practice as part our school and Trust.

Capital costs

All capital costs for the refurbished accommodation will be funded from Norfolk County Council's SEND and Alternative Provision Transformation Programme, to ensure there is the appropriate accommodation.

How can you have your say?

Ad Meliora Academy Trust will be holding a drop in event on Wednesday 7 June, from 2 – 3pm at Reffley Academy, where you can come and find out more about this proposal.

If you unable to attend this event but would like to comment on our proposal, you can have your say by:

- Accessing our online survey; <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/reffleysrb>
- Returning the completed form to the school office at Reffley Academy.

We need all responses by 16 June 2023.

What happens next?

Ad Meliora Academy Trust will consider all the responses received during this consultation and decide whether to complete a business case and send it to the Regional Director, for a decision.



Consultation on proposed changes to Reffley Academy, King's Lynn

Let us know what you think of our proposal.

How far do you agree or disagree with our proposal to establish a permanent 16 place Social, Emotional and Mental Health Specialist Resource Base at Reffley Academy?

Please tick a box.

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree or disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Why do you say this? Please write in the box below.

Are there any other comments or suggestions you would like to make to help us with this decision and in planning for the future provision for children? Please write in the box below.

We would like to hear from many different people as your views help us to decide whether we make these changes. We will also use any personal information to understand how different groups of people feel about our proposal to establish the Specialist Resource Base at Reffley Academy.

We will process any personal information we receive from you in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679), the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Academy Trust's data protection policy and guidelines. This means that Ad Meliora Academy Trust will hold your personal data and only use it for the purpose for which it was collected, being this consultation.

We won't identify individuals when reporting back our findings and, under our record management policy, we will keep this information for five years. We will also, under normal circumstances, not pass your personal data on to anyone else. However, we may be asked under access to information laws to publish or disclose some, or all, of the information you provide in response to this consultation, including any personal information. We will only do this where such disclosure will comply with such relevant information laws which include the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Please tell us who you are (tick all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pupil | <input type="checkbox"/> School governor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent / Carer | <input type="checkbox"/> Local resident |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member of the Parent Teacher Association | <input type="checkbox"/> Local business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member of staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Local sports group |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Local community group |

Other (please specify): _____

Which school are you linked to: _____

What is your postcode? _____

Your views will help us decide if this proposal goes ahead. You can tell us your views by;

- Completing the online survey; <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/reffleystsb>
- Returning this completed form to the School Office at Reffley Academy

This consultation ends on 16 June 2023