



## Resource Base for Pupils with Autism attached to Nailsea School

### Consultation document regarding Nailsea's Resource Base planned for September 2020

Nailsea School prides itself on having an inclusive approach and strives to ensure that all students 'Aspire, Believe and Succeed'. Since September 2017 the school has operated an in-house provision that has enabled a more tailored transition for students who would have found the move to secondary school and a full mainstream curriculum challenging. This model has proven to be very popular with families and students, and there is an increasing interest in this provision. As well as providing a smaller, nurturing environment for these pupils they also work for some of the time in mainstream classes, with support, and the ultimate aim of fully integrating them into classes has already been achieved for some students.

In addition to the above, the Local Authority is seeking to create new Resources Centres for pupils with autism who are able to access mainstream education. Building on the success of the Nailsea Hub, one of three additional facilities could be created at Nailsea School to enable up to 10 pupils to benefit from specialist support with access to mainstream provision.

Nailsea School has both the physical and organisational capacity to create a permanent Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Resource Base on the school site, building on the current good practice and reputation it has grown in this area, whilst not compromising the main school planned admission number (PAN). This provision is in addition to the current mainstream school's facilities. It may also release spaces at other Special Schools in North Somerset who will be able to focus on the needs of the children that would not be suitable for a place in mainstream classes. This proposal fully supports the school's wish to support its local North Somerset population and the authority's principal of 'local schools for local children.

This provision will enable up to 10 identified students with Education Health Care Plans to be taught in a small group setting with access to tailored support. Current students accessing the Hub provision will continue to do so throughout their time at Nailsea School. Initially the Resource Base will be open to new pupils aged 11 – 14.

To accommodate this, a separate and bespoke facility is being reconfigured in a central location within the school. This will be created during a phased build period over a year, with phase one being planned to take place over the break in summer 2019, and the second phase in the summer break of 2020. This remodelling of spaces will not only provide appropriate and specialised classrooms for Resource Base students, but also ensure that the main school students continue to have access to suitable facilities.

It is planned that, subject to consultation and Regional Schools' Commissioner approval, the new provision will be open to new students from September 2020.

If you would like to make a comment during the consultation period or ask a question about the consultation, please contact the school on 01275 852251 or email [Nailsea.school@nailseaschool.com](mailto:Nailsea.school@nailseaschool.com) stating 'Hub Consultation' as the subject.