 We are seeking your views about a proposal to create a special educational needs (SEN) unit at Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School, Chaucer Road, Fleetwood, Lancs. FY7 6QN. We want to assure you that we will give careful consideration to all your comments and opinions.

Formal consultation on a proposal to develop a special educational needs unit within Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School

**March 2022**  
  
  
This is the statutory proposal to make a prescribed alteration to a school in accordance with The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

We have used the feedback that was given during the informal consultation, carried out between October 2021 and November 2021, to develop our plans about the SEN unit at Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary 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?**

The proposal is to create an SEN unit for between eight and sixteen children with social communication and interaction needs in Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School.

All of these children will have education, health and care plans. Some of these children will transfer from another school to Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School so that they can attend the SEN unit.

Children attending the SEN unit will be taught in the unit for some of the time and at other times they will be taught with other children and young people in existing classes.

All children already on roll at Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School will still be able to attend the school and this change should not affect current admission criteria.

**Why are we doing this?**

To make sure we have enough special school places for all young people with special educational needs.

All special schools in Lancashire are over-subscribed and over 200 more places in special schools will be needed over the next 4 years. There are not enough places in maintained special schools for all of the children starting school this year.

There are currently over 400 pupils with special educational needs attending private or independent schools. These school places usually cost more than places in Lancashire schools.

Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School is a 'Requires Improvement' school (Ofsted, 2019). The Local Authority's Monitoring and Intervention Team (MIT) is working with the school to support their school improvement journey. The MIT and LA school adviser and teaching and learning consultants have been working with the school on a range of issues including curriculum, subject leadership, phonics, early years, governance.

The school is making good progress against their targets and are engaging well in their journey towards being a 'Good' school. The advisers were pleased with their progress at the end of the academic year and are confident that the school's leadership team will continue to engage well and lead further improvement.

The LA is also conducting a SEND Review with school; this is a school led approach to improving provision for all.

Children already on the roll at Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School will still be able to attend the school and should not experience any change in class size as a result of the increase to approved numbers.

There is evidence to show the specialist knowledge of staff working with children and young people in an SEN unit leads to better quality of teaching for all pupils throughout the school.

There is a particular need for SEN units in the Fleetwood / Lytham St Annes area.

**How will we do this?**

* By making sure the needs of every child and young person in the school are met, whether or not they have special educational needs.
* By making sure that all staff have the training they need to support the children and young people whether they are in the SEN unit or attending mainstream lessons
* By providing funding for any adaptations to the school building through the basic needs grant provided by the local authority.
* The school will receive additional funding from the high needs block to provide support for all pupils attending the unit, in line with the funding for places at specialist schools. This means the school should not be financially disadvantaged by the creation of the unit.

**What have we done so far?**

An informal consultation took place between October 2021 and November 2021 when we asked for the views of families of children attending the school, school staff and governors and other members of the local community.

The written responses to the informal consultation were considered by the Executive Director for Education and Children's Services In March 2022.

There was one respondent to the informal consultation who strongly agreed to the proposal, who saw this as having a positive impact on the whole school as well as individual children.

**What will happen next?**

Careful consideration will be given to all responses that are received on or before Tuesday 10 May 2022.

These responses will be used to provide information to Lancashire County Council's Cabinet to allow councillors to make a decision about whether to agree the opening of an SEN unit at Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School. The date of the cabinet meeting for this decision is Thursday 9 June 2022.

If Cabinet agreement is given the SEN unit will open in January 2023.

**Have your say**

We would like your views on this proposal to create an SEN unit at Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary 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.

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](mailto:Inclusion.South@Lancashire.gov.uk),

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| We are proposing to create an SEN unit which will be part of Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School to support eight to sixteen children and young people with social communication interaction needs.  **QUESTIONNAIRE please cut pleasplease**  **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’s 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’d 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 Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School | |  | Parent/carer of a future pupil at Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School | |  | Member of staff at Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School | |  | School governor at Fleetwood Chaucer Community Primary School | |  | Member of the local community | |  | Other |   If other please write in the box below | |

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| **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?** |

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| 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** |