



Establishment of Resourced Provision at Ramsden Infants School, Barrow. Consultation Proposal

What is the Consultation about?

Demand for specialist provision for children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) has increased substantially over recent years.

Westmorland and Furness Council has a strategy that aims to secure access to a high-quality continuum of provision for all children and young people, enabling the majority of children and young people with additional needs to access local provision, with appropriate capacity and resources to meet need. The continuum comprises a range of provision including Resourced Provision within mainstream schools.

Resourced Provision is a designated area or facility within a mainstream school that enables support to be provided to pupils with specific types of special educational needs. Such provisions allow pupils to access mainstream education whilst also having access to specialised support and resources tailored to their needs.

The Council has identified a number of schools that have the potential to host Resourced Provision and is now consulting on a proposal to establish such a provision at Ramsden Infant School with effect from 3 September 2025.

The Proposal

The Local Authority is consulting on a proposal to establish a Resourced Provision at Ramsden Infant School. It is proposed that the provision will have a designation of Autistic Spectrum Condition (ASC) and provide up to 6 places for pupils aged 4-7 years. The provision will be established with effect from 3 September 2025.

Places will be allocated at the provision by the Local Authority when the provision is named in a pupil's Education, Health and Care Plan.

The provision will be accommodated within the existing school building.

Who is this consultation for?

This consultation is aimed at parents, staff and governors of Ramsden Infant School and anyone else with an interest, or stake in education in the area.



Background

Nationally, demand for specialist provision for children and young people with SEND has increased substantially over recent years.

In Westmorland and Furness there has been a significant increase in the number of children and young people with special educational needs (SEND), including a 72% increase over the last 10 years in those children receiving an Education, Health and Care Plan. Whilst many of these children and young people will have their needs met in mainstream education provision, for some, additional specialist support is needed if they are to achieve their potential.

Following the publication of its Education Sufficiency Strategy in the summer of 2024, the Local Authority determined that it needed to increase its offer of specialist provision in response to this growing demand. Analysis was undertaken regarding the demand for provision by both type and location to inform the development of this offer.

The Local Authority's Education Sufficiency Strategy aims to ensure availability of a high-quality continuum of provision for all children and young people, enabling the majority of children and young people with additional needs to access local provision, with appropriate capacity and resources to meet need.

This proposal focuses on the establishment of new Resourced Provision and is one of a number of proposals that will be published for consultation during 2025.

Resourced Provision is a designated area or facility within a mainstream school that enables support to be provided to pupils with specific types of special educational need. Such provisions allow pupils to access mainstream classes whilst also having access to specialised support and resources tailored to their needs.

A specification for Resourced Provision was published by the Local Authority in the Autumn term 2024 and schools were invited to submit an expression of interest in establishing new provision within their area.

At the request of the Local Authority, Ramsden Infant School has in recent years increased the number of SEND children with EHCPs that are on roll at the school and has worked to ensure an inclusive and supportive educational environment for this cohort of children.

This consultation seeks to formalise the status of the existing provision at the school as designated resourced provision to ensure that the school can access relevant funding and support from the Local Authority.

Have your say

The consultation will run from Wednesday 28 May 2025 until Tuesday 17 June 2025.

Anyone interested in submitting their views can do so by completing the online questionnaire (or completing the attached form), or by emailing your comments to the School Organisation Team as below.

It is not possible to respond to individual correspondence, but all points raised during the consultation process will be taken into account before any decisions are taken.

There will also be an opportunity to attend a meeting to be held at Greengate Junior School to ask any questions.

There will be separate meetings for the staff/governors and parents/stakeholders as detailed below:

- Staff and Governors - 4pm to 5pm, Thursday 12 June 2025
- Parents and other stakeholders - 5.15pm to 6.15pm, Thursday 12 June 2025

What happens next?

At the end of the consultation, Westmorland and Furness Council's Cabinet will consider the response to the consultation and decide whether or not to publish formal notice of the proposal. If notice of the proposal is published, then this will trigger a further four-week representation period during which all stakeholders will have another opportunity to comment on the proposal.

At the end of the representation period the Director of Children's Services must decide on the proposal, taking into account the feedback received during the representation period.

If the proposal is approved, it is likely that the change would be implemented from the 3 September 2025, the beginning of Autumn term 2025.

Where can I find out more information about this proposal?

You can find out more information by following the attached link to the documents that are available on the Council's website. [School organisation | Westmorland and Furness Council](#)

Consultation on the proposal to develop Resourced Provision at Ramsden Infant School

1. Please indicate your relationship to the school (tick all boxes that apply)

I am a

Parent/carer of a child at Ramsden Infant School

☐

Member of staff at Ramsden Infant School

☐

Governor at Ramsden Infant School

☐

Other

☐

If other has been selected, please specify

2. Please use the space below to include your comments about the proposal.

Name (please print)

Address (incl. postcode)

Please return by email to: **School.Organisation.WAF@Cumbria.gov.uk** or by post to:
School Organisation, Westmorland and Furness Council, PO Box No. 304, Kendal. LA9 4GY