

Consultation Document

Sufficiency of Specialist places for Children and Young People with SEND

The Local Authority has specific duties to ensure that there is sufficient specialist provision available for children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs), where their EHCPs determine that their needs should be met in specialist provision.

Bradford has experienced a significant increase in the number of children and young people with EHCP's requiring specialist provision. In order to ensure that they are able to have their complex needs fully met and receive the specialist support that is required for them to thrive, additional specialist places are required across the Bradford District. It is projected that demand for specialist places will continue to grow across all sectors.

Beckfoot Hazelbeck School

Beckfoot Hazelbeck is part of the Beckfoot Trust and is a school for students with special educational needs aged 11-19.

At Beckfoot Hazelbeck we are passionate about the fact that our learners are at the very heart of all that we do. We want them to achieve and exceed their potential and believe it is our responsibility to help them feel success. This is seen in our school values which are 'Enjoy - Learn - Succeed'.

Everything is set up to ensure that we support our students to be the very best they can be. We encourage them to be independent and active learners at every opportunity so that they are as ready as possible for the next stages of their life.

We know that every student is unique so we personalise learning to best meet each individual's needs so that they can become more confident young people who are able to manage themselves and their environment.

The Beckfoot Trust work closely with the Local Authority to support Children and Young People with an Education, Health and Care Plan in order to give them the best possible learning journey.

Why are we consulting?

If an Academy Trust wishes to make a significant change to one of its schools, they are required to make a Tier 1 significant change application to the Department for Education (DfE). Before such an application can be submitted a fair and open local consultation with all relevant stakeholders is required.

What are we consulting on?

The proposal is to increase the number of places at Hazelbeck School from 144 to 194, an increase of 50 places.

Evidence of demand

Despite the decrease that has been seen in the birth rate within the Bradford district, the number of children and young people with an EHCP continues to rise.

The total number of Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) for 0-25 year olds across the Bradford District was recorded as 8964 as of June 2026. This has increased from 5309 recorded on 22nd September 2022.

The number of requests for Education, Health and Care Assessments was recorded at 2167 between June 2025 and June 2026. This is an increase of 114 (or 5.4%) from 2053 requests for assessment received between June 2024 and June 2025

Of the 8964 children and young people with an EHCP 5959 or 68.3% are of statutory school age. Of which 2851 are 11-15 years old.

The Local Authorities 'Strategic Plan 2025- Sufficiency of Specialist Places for Children and Young People in Bradford' evidences the need for additional special school places across the district which is supported by the high occupancy level of the special schools within the Bradford District of 98.9%.

How will this be achieved?

If supported by the DfE, this proposal will be delivered by the Local Authority with additional accommodation being created by remodelling areas within the Beckfoot Hazelbeck school site to accommodate the further 50 students.

Who will fund and manage the project?

This project will be funded and managed by the Local Authority. This provision will be staffed and managed by Beckfoot Hazelbeck School.

How can I share my views?

The consultation will be open from **Monday 22nd June – Friday 10th July 2026** for you to share your views.

There will be a drop in at Beckfoot Hazelbeck on **Tuesday 23rd June at 5 - 6pm** for anyone who has any questions.

Please click on the link or QR Code below to open the survey and to share your views on the proposal:

<https://online1.snapsurveys.com/sk1yjr>



If you would prefer a paper copy of the consultation, please contact the school office or e-mail: admin@hazelbeck.org