



<p><b>Improved Access to Education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment, with reference to the LA's accessibility Strategy</b></p>	<p>The proposals for designated resourced provision and outreach support for pupils in mainstream secondary schools in both Runcorn and Widnes will allow more local access to mainstream resourced provision for secondary aged pupils with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder and pupils with difficulties in the areas of speech and language and communication needs. This will include access to speech and language therapy services. The facilities will be improved in line with NAS accreditation and as outlined in the Accessibility Strategy.</p>
<p><b>Improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including external support and outreach services</b></p>	<p>There has been capacity building and upskilling of staff, which is ongoing, to meet the requirements and NAS standards, in order to deliver the provision. The proposals will lead to staff development with accredited training to deliver external support through the outreach service, which has not previously been available in secondary mainstream schools.</p>
<p><b>Improved access to suitable accommodation</b></p>	<p>Accommodation will be more fit for purpose with therapy and withdrawal rooms for use as and when appropriate. Through the BSF Programme it is aimed to further improve accessibility. The proposals will lead to an improved supply of suitable places as there has not previously been any designated resourced provision in secondary mainstream schools for pupils with a diagnosis of autistic spectrum disorder, speech language and communication needs. There will also be provision for pupils with hearing impairment and specific learning difficulties.</p>
<p><b>Improved supply of suitable places</b></p>	<p>The proposals will provide a continuum of provision from mainstream through to special school provision for pupils with these needs, The availability of resources provision would also increase choice for parents and pupils, with mainstream resourced provision able to meet the needs of those pupils who require this type of provision.</p>
<p><b>Opportunity for all providers of existing and proposed provision</b></p>	<p>The views of providers of all existing and proposed provision have been sought through the consultation.</p>

<b>Arrangements for Alternative Provision</b>	There are no pupils in the existing Halton High EBD Unit. The pupils at the Grange Comprehensive EBD Unit will remain in the school and the pupils will continue to receive the same level of support as they do currently in the unit within the school.
<b>Transport Arrangements</b>	There would be a positive impact on travel as a result of the proposals as the authority will be offering more locally based provision. Transport support will continue to be available to parents/carers in line with the authority's Transport Policy .
<b>Funding and Staffing for the Proposals</b>	The revenue costs of the provision will be through the Dedicated Schools Budget – the school formula will be revised to reflect the changed provision and the staffing levels required. Additional costs for remodelling the current provision will be met from the Local Authority Capital Budget, LCVAP and BSF Programme.