

Revoe Learning Academy



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Blackpool
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www.revoelearningacademy.co.uk

Consultation Notice for the Development of a 12 Place Special Educational Resource Facility (SERF) at Revoe Learning Academy with effect from April 2021.

The proposed RLA SERF will welcome children, who have complex and Moderate Learning Difficulties and Additional Needs, from across Blackpool and will be located on site following building work.

The proposed SERF will have its allocation of places commissioned by the Local Authority in partnership with RLA's Local Governing Body and Chief Executive Officer of the Sea View Trust.

Dear Parents, Carers and Community Partners,

Revoe Learning Academy (RLA), as part of the Sea View Trust, is totally committed to high quality, inclusive education for all pupils, regardless of their additional needs. We are writing to provide information about a proposed change at Revoe Learning Academy (RLA).

The proposal is for the development of an inclusive SEND classroom provision, referred to as a Special Educational Resource Facility (SERF).

We are inviting you to submit any questions or comments to us, about this proposal, by **Monday 30th November, 9am.**

Normally, RLA would hold face to face meetings to ensure that we give as many opportunities as possible to gather our community's views. However, current COVID-19 conditions make this impracticable.

If you have any concerns, comments or questions, please email ictrevoe@revoe.blackpool.sch.uk ; telephone (01253 763414) write to us at the address above; or, if you wish, email: ictrevoe@revoe.blackpool.sch.uk with your email address and I will hold a virtual meeting with you and other interested parents, community members and community partners.

If you wish to take part in a virtual meeting, we will need your email address by **Friday, 27th November, 2020, 9am** so that we can arrange the meeting within the consultation period. You can contact us to receive joining details for this drop-in by emailing your email address to: ictrevoe@revoe.blackpool.sch.uk.



'RLA: A place where we all ... **Respect. Learn. Achieve.**'
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The Proposal

- Blackpool is under growing pressure to accommodate the rising numbers of children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). Currently, a number of children with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) are placed in out of Blackpool specialist provision at a significant cost to Blackpool Council's High Needs Budget.
- At Revoe Learning Academy (RLA), we are very proud of our inclusive ethos. Staff and children alike are totally committed to embracing inclusion and diversity. As such, we are well placed to respond to the increasing demand for high quality provision for children with and without additional needs.
- In creating an expert SERF provision, as described above, to provide for pupils with additional needs, places will become available in Blackpool's Special Schools. This will enable the Special Schools to then accommodate children and young people with the most significant needs, reducing the requirement to place Blackpool children and young people in out of Blackpool provisions.
- RLA's staff have expertise and are very effective in supporting pupils with SEND. For example, Leaders and Staff have completed the Nurture UK and Reach programme training in the past academic year. Our Learning Garden provision is having a fantastic impact on a number of RLA children, who just happen to have additional needs and will continue to do so going forwards. Recent Ofsted reports have also noted that our staff are skilled in identifying and supporting the needs of pupils with SEND, which has enabled these learners to make at least good progress.
- We are looking to accommodate 12 pupils with additional needs in our proposed SERF in the 2020/21 academic year and anticipate that this demand will be sustained in future years.

Impact of this Proposal

- Our vision is to create a bespoke, high quality provision for pupils experiencing a range of additional needs within our locality reducing the need for pupils to be transported and educated in out of Blackpool settings.
- The provision will enable some of the most vulnerable pupils to establish strong community links and social relationships, contributing positively as valued Blackpool citizens. The inclusive nature of this provision will be mutually beneficial to all children within RLA and to the wider Revoe and Blackpool communities, breaking down barriers around disability on all sides. The development of this additional facility will further strengthen our whole-child Curriculum Offer for all RLA children.
- Pupils within the SERF provision will be active and valued members of the RLA family, and will be encouraged to integrate fully with their peers, both socially and academically as much as possible. They will be given equal opportunities to access an enriched, flexible curriculum that effectively meets individual specific needs and to take full advantage of the wider opportunities that RLA can offer.
- We envisage full reciprocity in the development of this provision so that staff, pupils, parents and carers benefit collaboratively from close and integrated working between the special and the mainstream provision, taking the best from both approaches to create a rich, diverse and aspirational Academy.
- Adhering fully to guidelines regarding provision for pupils with SEND, RLA will need to increase the physical capacity within the existing building with suitable adaptation and expansion.

Who is being consulted?

- Each LA which maintains an EHCP or statement of SEND in respect of a child attending RLA
- Parents and carers of children who attend RLA and other schools in our locality
- Primary, Secondary, AP and Special Schools, and Sixth Form and FE colleges in the area that will be asked to further share this with their parents and carers and other interested partners in the area
- The Staff, Trustees and Governors of our Trust and Academy
- Other members and partners of our community

This information has been presented in line with the UK Government Cabinet Office consultation principles. We look forward to hearing from you.

GDPR statement

RLA will protect personal data provided and ensure that it is not passed to anyone who is not authorised to see it. This data will be processed in accordance with the regulations outlined in the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Trust's Data Protection Policy, available for you to read on our website – www.revoelearningacademy.co.uk.

By responding to this letter, you agree that RLA may process your information in accordance with these terms.