

1. This section must be completed.
2. If you are submitting more than one bid, you must complete this section for each bid.
3. Please refer to the 'guidance and criteria for local authorities seeking to establish new special or alternative provision free schools' for information about what to include in this section.
4. Please complete the form as provided, do not create any new fields. The text boxes can be made bigger by increasing the row height. To insert a new line in a text box, press **alt + enter**.

Section D – the proposed location and site

Finding a suitable site is an essential part of opening a free school. As part of preparing your bid you should investigate potential sites for the school and tell us about them in your bid. In this wave we will undertake a desktop assessment of site and consider the value for money, timescale and delivery risks in securing a site for the proposed school in the proposed area.

We will give preference to those projects where our site assessments shows that we are likely to secure a value for money site in a timely manner with an acceptable level of risk, in particular, those bids that include an available site on a peppercorn basis. Making a site available on a peppercorn lease gives the greatest chance of the school opening successfully, and on time.

Please complete table D to tell us about where the school would be located and the preferred site.

Please also provide the name and contact details for the main local authority lead for sites. The ESFA may contact this person to ask questions about the site. **If you know any of these site details before submitting your bid, please let DfE know (by emailing PSC.EOI@education.gov.uk) so we can start conversations with you.**

Please tick the box below to confirm that the relevant Lead Member for Corporate Property has seen this bid and is content with the information provided about site (if provided).

I confirm that the Lead Member of Corporate Property at Northumberland County Council has seen this expression of interest and supports it.

Please tick to confirm

Table D - the proposed location and site	
Please describe the location in which you propose to set up your school being as specific as possible. This could include the name of the area in which you would like to put the school, the part of a city, town or suburb. Please also consider how flexible you are - how far from your preferred location are you willing to go? Please include an annotated map as an additional file and send it to APspecial.freeshool@education.gov.uk , if possible. If applicable, please also describe the potential impact of any specialism that you plan for your school to have on the site requirement.	The proposed site is in Blyth in the south east of Northumberland, which is one of the most populated areas of the county and is the locality with the greatest demand for special school places. The site itself has been chosen due to deliverability of the project as it has been previously used for a 120 place school until its closure in 2008. The site itself is compact and provides 4753sqm of developable area. Whilst there would be plenty of space to provide outdoor hardstanding play areas, as well as soft landscaping, there would be limitations in relation to grass sport pitches. However, we do not envisage that this will be an issue as it would be in line with some of our other special schools in Northumberland. The site is also directly opposite the Blyth Leisure centre, where there would be an opportunity to enhance the sports offer through the use of these facilities. We are already in contact with Active Northumberland, our holding company, to discuss this. The site is a clear site with all the previous buildings being demolished in 2017.
Please tell us the postcode of a central location in your preferred area. You need to provide this even if you have already identified a preferred site. It must be a full postcode e.g. SW1P 3BT, not SW1.	NE24 2TS
Your calculated building space using the ESFA formula (see section D in the guidance) and any comments on this.	1450m ²
If you have identified a preferred site, please complete the rest of the table:	
Full address and postcode of preferred site. It must be a full postcode e.g. SW1P 3BT, not SW1.	Princess Louise Road, Blyth, Northumberland, NE24 2TS
In which local authority is your preferred site?	Northumberland
Please tell us how you found the site.	The site had been previously used for a first school up until 2008 when the school closed. The site was then used for council offices and to provide adult education for the Blyth community. Following the relocation of the services to better quality accommodation in the town, the buildings were demolished and the site was offered up for sale. The site therefore has full vacant possession and is in the ownership of the local authority.
Please confirm the tenure.	Freehold purchase
Please include information on purchase or lease price if known.	Not known
Who owns the site?	Local authority building
Is the site available/on the market? (Please attach agents' particulars as an additional file and send it to APspecial.freeshool@education.gov.uk if available)	Yes
Name and contact details of owner and/or the agent or local authority representative	Mrs Sue Aviston, Head of School Organisation and Resources, Northumberland County Council, Telephone 0167062281, Mobile 07770934182
If the site is local authority owned, which local authority owns it?	Northumberland
If the site is local authority owned, please state if the local authority have confirmed that, if successful, the site may be used by the free school. Please include terms (e.g. 125 year peppercorn lease). Please also provide details of any other local authority contribution towards the capital costs of the project (e.g. developer contributions).	The local authority have confirmed that the site could be used for a free school, with a lease for 125 year on a peppercorn rent. The local authority is currently in negotiations with developers to secure section 106 funding specifically for SEND places. If or when these contributions have been agreed, the local authority would make these contributions (currently £240k) to the scheme.
What kind of site is it?	Cleared site requiring new build
What is the current use?	School/education building
Why have you chosen this site? What makes it suitable?	Location and previous education use make this site ideal for redevelopment for SEND provision.
If known, how big is the building and the site? Please attach any site and building plans as an additional file and send it to APspecial.freeshool@education.gov.uk	4753m ²
Please comment on the condition of the building. Please attach photos if available as an additional file and send it to APspecial.freeshool@education.gov.uk	The site is a clear site.

If the named site is part of a housing development or the school is attracting Section 106 contributions, please give as much detail as possible, including: the development and developer, timing and programme of build, number of housing units, status of planning application and any links to planning applications/decision notices, extent of funding coming from the developer plus confirmation of the local authority's position in relation to your free school using this site.

There are currently two applications for developer contributions to SEND in the area. Negotiations are still on going with the developers for two separate applications for 72 and 171 houses respectively. The planning application determinations are likely to be complete in the next three months. The local authority are currently seeking £171k worth of contributions and would contribute the full amount to this scheme if negotiations and planning applications are successful.

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