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Headteacher: Mr Mark Phillips

Barndale Governors' - Consultation Response

The Governors' of Barndale met to compile a joint response to the proposals as set out in the Coquet Partnership Consultation. We welcomed your visit to our school on Monday 6th June to ensure we had the opportunity to explore the consultation and clarify some thoughts before writing our response.

We welcome the Local Authority's enthusiasm, support and confidence in us as a school. Barndale has certainly raised the bar and profile in the Alwick partnership and it is incredibly humbling that the Coquet partnership would want to work collaboratively with our provision.

Reading the consultation document it clearly identifies the need for:

- All age provision
- Speech, language and communication specialist support
- ASC (Autism) specialist placements
- Needs to be met as close to home as possible (reducing out of partnership and county placements)
- A joint initiative to enhance support and services in the locality

As a governing body we recognise what our role could be within this and would hope that the consultation viewpoints would also reflect this.

Whilst this is just a consultation some of our thoughts do reflect on the finer details as well as the bigger picture.

Opportunities	Challenges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A SEND hub 'centre for excellence' that mainstream schools can use for CPD, intervention and outreach. • Bringing professional service together on a single site- social care, health and education • Children receiving support in their locality- stronger community links • Securing outcomes for SEND pupils through all schools in Coquet partnership, and the North • Improved SEND provision in the north of Northumberland • Specialist support base for those pupils needing early intervention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We would require a 'fit for purpose provision' on both sites to ensure parity and consistency of offer • Both sites would require appropriate facilities to develop the curriculum- PE, science & DT/Cookery • Clarity around remit/designation- ASC, Communication & Cognition? • Support for recruitment in the North and for special education • Current capacity for growth- leadership, transition, staffing • Capacity to develop the sites to extend the curriculum • Access to professional services to develop further provision appropriately- NHS and Social Care

With the balance of viewpoints we would want to ensure that:

- ✓ Barndale, as a trusted SEND provision, can provide an excellent quality of education over both sites in fit for purpose environments
- ✓ The transitional phase is transparent and allows growth at an appropriate rate, to ensure success
- ✓ Capacity is built to ensure effective strategic and operational leadership over both sites/locations
- ✓ Barndale can continue to make decisions regarding the admissions of places to ensure pupils needs can be appropriately met within the scope of the environment and the resources (inc staffing) to do this
- ✓ Our pupils and parents are clear that the extended provision would not result in a move of pupils from their current peer group
- ✓ There is sufficient capacity to build a specialist hub of services in both provisions to ensure that the locality can be supported wider- health, social care & family support.

Our governors are a strong body of people who have a genuine interest and personal investment in young people with SEND (school leaders, parents, health professionals, community providers and mainstream colleagues) and as such feel our viewpoints represent the wider school community and advocate for children and young people with SEND.

We will welcome any further discussions as part of the wider consultation and will positively engage with any organisations who require a greater understanding of Barndale House School.

Regards,

Sue Wildsmith- Chair of Governors

Dawn Robertson- Vice Chair

Mark Phillips- Headteacher

Katrina Green- Head of Care

Hannah Moeini- Community Governor

Dr Christopher Benjamin- Community Governor

Daley Barber-Allen- Residential Governor

Leslie Grieve- Community Governor

Emma Turnbull- Parent Governor

Tammy Glen- Staff Governor