Telford & Wrekin Co-operative Council

Protect, care and invest to create a better borough

Thank you to all stakeholders who participated in the consultation regarding the proposals for the expansion of The Bridge School on the John Fletcher of Madeley site.

The consultation period has now closed and feedback received from schools, parents, staff, and partners has been carefully considered.

Outcome

Following a review of the responses and available evidence:

- There is strong support for strengthening SEND provision in the borough to better meet the needs of pupils requiring specialist support, with over **70%** of respondents agreeing there is a need for specialist provision.
- Over **70%** of respondents agreed with the proposal to establish specialist provision overseen by The Bridge School on the site of John Fletcher of Madeley.
- Key themes included the need for a focus on pupil safety, clear communication, and well-planned transitions.

Taking this into account, it has been agreed that:

- The proposal will be progressed, with delivery of the expanded provision of The Bridge School at John Fletcher of Madeley school site to be ready in **September 2026.**
- Further detailed planning will take place to ensure delivery aligns with identified need, following the consultation.
- Ongoing engagement with stakeholders will continue throughout implementation.

We recognise the importance of ensuring that any new provision supports the needs of all children and young people, particularly those requiring inclusive, specialist, or alternative arrangements.

The following table summarises the key themes raised during the consultation and how these have been addressed through the proposed plans. It reflects the feedback received from parents, staff, residents and stakeholders, and sets out the measures that have been taken as a result.

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You Said, We Did: Consultation Feedback Summary

School Site and Operation	
You said	**We did…**
You wanted to understand how learning environments will support pupils' needs.	*We have designed small class sizes alongside access to sensory, shared and outdoor spaces. This provides a calm, flexible environment where each child can receive personalised support.*
You were interested in how both schools will work together.	*Both schools will collaborate on activities where appropriate, supporting inclusion and shared experiences for pupils.*
You wanted reassurance that pupils will continue to benefit from outdoor spaces and facilities.	*We have ensured that pupils at both The Bridge School and John Fletcher of Madeley will have access to suitable outdoor areas. Pupils at John Fletcher of Madeley will continue to be able to access the forest school area.*
You wanted to ensure pupils can access the site safely.	*We have introduced a safer layout with a new pedestrian entrance, traffic calming measures, improved crossings and clear separation of vehicles and pedestrians.*
You wanted to know how the site will be safely and effectively managed for two schools.	*We have introduced site adaptations including a new entrance, so each school has a separate entrance, improved parking and internal fencing to clearly separate the schools and support safeguarding and efficient site management.*
You asked how drop-off and collection will be managed safely for both schools.	*We have designed separate entrances and drop-off arrangements, with dedicated staff managing transport, staggered timings, and*

	many pupils using local authority transport to reduce vehicle numbers and improve safety.
You wanted reassurance that traffic impacts will be carefully assessed.	*We will complete a detailed Traffic Statement through the planning process to ensure impacts are understood and safely managed.*
Staffing	
You said	**We did...**
You wanted assurance that pupils will be well supported by staff.	*We have established a dedicated staffing team for The Bridge site, including experienced staff, new recruits and leadership, ensuring consistent, high-quality support for pupils. Transition meetings will be held between staff from The Bridge School and parents prior to September to discuss the individual needs of each pupil.*
You asked how the proposal will affect staffing at John Fletcher of Madeley.	*We have ensured that John Fletcher will retain its staff and core resources, maintaining continuity and stability for pupils.*
You asked how staffing levels will meet individual pupil needs.	*We have designed a flexible staffing model with ratios that respond to pupils' needs, ensuring the right level of support is provided at all times. The ratio is generally 1:2 with some specific allocation of 1:1 where it is required for pupils.*

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SEND Sufficiency	
You said	**We did...**
You wanted to understand how further demand for SEND provision will be met.	*We are increasing local specialist provision through developments, such as The Bridge School expansion, while strengthening partnerships with schools to support more children locally and provide the right support in the right setting. Separate consultations will be held on any proposals to develop additional new provision.*

We would like to thank all those who contributed to the consultation. Your feedback has been instrumental in shaping the next steps.