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**This Statutory Notice is published by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Civic Centre, Port Talbot. SA13 1PJ**

**NOTICE** is given in accordance with Section 42 of the School Standards and Organisation Act (Wales) 2013 and the School Organisation Code that Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council having consulted such persons as required, propose to:

**Establish a new specialist provision for primary age pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at Blaenhonddan Primary School, Main Road, Bryncoch, SA10 7PE.**

The Learning Support Centre will provide for up to 16 boys and girls, age 3-11 years in receipt of a statement of special educational needs or a Local Authority Maintained IDP and who require support in a specialist setting. Admission will be via a special admission panel of Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. Pupils admitted to the Learning Support Centre will be in addition to the admission number for the relevant age group at the school. Blaenhonddan Primary is a community school for boys and girls, age 3-11 years, maintained by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. Currently, the school has the capacity to accommodate 226 full-time pupils and 40 nursery pupils per session.  As of PLASC 2023, there are 208 full time and 44 part time nursery pupils at the school. The school also hosts a specialist Key Stage 2 MLD provision for 9 pupils.

Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council undertook a period of consultation before deciding to publish this proposal. A consultation report containing a summary of the issues raised by consultees, the Council’s response to these queries and the views of Estyn are available at: <https://www.npt.gov.uk/1891#contents1>

It is proposed to implement the proposal on 9th January 2024.

Transport arrangements will be in line with Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council’s Home to School Travel Policy.

Within a period of 28 days after the date of publication of this proposal, that is to say by the **1st November 2023**, any person may object to the proposal. Objections should be sent to: Andrew Thomas, Director of Education Leisure and Lifelong Learning, (marked for the attention of the SSIP Team), Civic Centre, Port Talbot SA13 1PJor e-mail to:**SSIP@npt.gov.uk**.

Signed:

 

Andrew Thomas, Director of Education, Leisure & Lifelong Learning

**Dated: 4th October 2023**

**Explanatory Notes:**

(This note does not form part of the Notice but is intended to explain its general meaning)

1. It is intended to establish a Learning Support Centre (LSC) for primary aged pupils with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) at Blaenhonddan Primary school.
2. The facility will provide learning support for up to 16 pupils of primary school age pupils with ASD. Pupils at the proposed provision will benefit from being taught by specialist staff, experienced in working with pupils with ASD needs. This facility will be for pupils in receipt of a statement of SEN or a Local Authority Maintained IDP and who require longer-term provision.
3. The LSC will be in self-contained facility managed by Blaenhonddan Primary school and be under the school’s governance. However, it will be a provision recognised by the Council as reserved for pupils with a statement of special educational needs or a Local Authority Maintained IDP and although it is in a mainstream school the pupils who are admitted to the LSC will be in addition to the admission number of the school.
4. Admission to the provision would be via a special admission panel of the Council and specific entry and exit criteria would apply.
5. The facility will be housed in 2 new modular buildings within the school site. Pupils admitted to the Learning Support Centre will be in addition to the admission number for the relevant age group at the school. As such, accommodating the LSC will not adversely impact on school admissions.
6. It is intended that the LSC will open on 9thth January 2024.
7. The reasons for the proposal are set out in the consultation document which is available on the SSIP webpage on the Council’s website: [Consultation Documents – Neath Port Talbot Council (npt.gov.uk)](https://www.npt.gov.uk/schoolsconsultation#contents1)
8. The Authority’s School Transport policy is available from the Council’s website: [npt\_home\_to\_school\_travel\_policy\_2017.pdf](https://www.npt.gov.uk/media/4231/npt_home_to_school_travel_policy_2017.pdf?v=20170627002146)
9. Hard copies or alternative versions of all documentation may be obtained upon request from the Strategic School Improvement Team, Education Department, 2nd Floor, Port Talbot Civic Centre, Port Talbot.