

January 2025

Consultation: The City of Leicester College - SEN Unit

Dear Stakeholder,

The Aspire Learning Partnership is exploring the opening of a Special Education Needs unit at The City of Leicester College. We have been working in collaboration with representatives from the local authority to help meet the needs of students who need additional support to access mainstream education. There is a shortage of places for secondary school aged students who need this support in the East of the city and as you may have seen in the news recently, the team at The City of Leicester College have a successful track record of providing this support.

The unit would be what the Local Authority call a “Designated Specialist Provision” or DSP. The DSP at The City of Leicester College would be for twenty students in total and it would be housed in the main school building. The DSP would be catering for Communication and Interaction needs and students would attend mainstream lessons as and when appropriate, though a large amount of their schooling will take place within the DSP.

The DSP would be funded separately, so will not affect existing budgets and students would be allocated to The City of Leicester College in collaboration with school staff to ensure the students have an Education and Healthcare Plan and that the DSP is able to meet their individual needs. Before committing to a DSP however, we feel it is important to seek the feedback of those who may be affected by this change so we can understand the views of our school and local communities.

If you would like to contribute to the consultation, please complete this online form:

<https://forms.office.com/e/ZP1BButFUK> Alternatively, you can request a paper copy from Reception at The City of Leicester College. **The consultation will run from Monday 6th – Monday 27th January 2025.**

Responses will be considered and results published in advance of a final decision being made in February 2025. If the Trust decides to proceed with opening a DSP, we will publish final arrangements with a view to opening the DSP at the start of the 2025-2026 academic year.

Yours sincerely,



Julie Robinson

CEO, The Aspire Learning Partnership



Ken Vernon

Headteacher, The City of Leicester College