**Consultation on the Refurbishment of School Premises to accommodate the current increased number of pupils at Woodlands School, Coleshill, a special school which is part of Unity Multi Academy Trust**

**Friday 24th June to Friday 22nd July 2022**

## Foreword

The Trust Board of Unity Multi Academy Trust would like to hear your views on a proposal to refurbish space within the school currently not used by pupils, to enable additional teaching space to accommodate our 6th form centre. This accommodates the growth in the number of pupils we have on roll which have increased steadily over the last 3 years.

We are currently progressing from in principle approval given by the Department for Education for our Condition Improvement Fund application which has gone through the first stage approval process. We would therefore like to consult with parents, staff, the local community and other stakeholders about this proposal and report back to the Department as part of the approval process.

## About Woodlands School

Woodlands School was the merger of 2 previous special school settings in Coleshill, North Warwickshire. It accommodates children aged 4-19, with a range of moderate, severe and/or complex physical and learning disabilities. Our pupils travel from various geographical areas within Warwickshire to attend our school.

## Why refurbish on our current site?

Admissions to our school are made by Warwickshire County Council (notwithstanding a small number of admissions from neighbouring Local Authorities) where our school is identified to meet the educational need of children with Education and Health Care Plans (EHCPs) in place.

In the last 3 years, Woodlands has admitted 22 pupils over our pupil number at the point of becoming an Academy in December 2017. This steady increase has meant that we need to make use of all available space within our site to continue to deliver the educational and other needs of our students.

## How will the decision be reached?

A business case and funding application has been submitted to the DfE, via the Condition Improvement Fund to request approval to make additional space available. Although in principle agreement has been sought, a summary of this public consultation and the views and comments received will be added to the application. The DfE will then make a final decision accordingly.

Trustees will consider the views of a wide range of stakeholders. If the capital funding application is given final approval by the DfE, it is expected that the refurbishment work will be concluded by January 2023.

## How can you respond to this consultation?

The consultation will be between **Friday 24th June 2022 to Friday 2nd July 2022**.

You can respond via email using the following link:

<https://unitymat.co.uk/contact>

This email address is monitored and generates an email direct to our Chief Executive - Tracy Pearce.

Please respond by **3.30pm on Friday 22nd July 2022.**

N.B. We will note all your comments but will not be able to respond individually to all response forms, letters or emails.