

21st September 2022

Dear Parents, Staff and Members of the School Community,

Arbour Vale School – Change to Funding Agreement Consultation

I am writing to let you know that Arbour Vale School (AVS) is undertaking a consultation to request a change to the funding agreement arrangements that it holds with the Department for Education (DfE).

Over the last few years, AVS has met the demand of additional children across existing year groups. As a result of this incremental increase, AVS now offers places to an additional 31 children above its current funding agreement of 304 places. I am very proud of the fact that we are able to accommodate these additional young people at our school and grateful to all our families for entrusting us with their education.

However, as this admission number is over 20 places higher than our current funding agreement, we need to formally apply to the DfE to increase the planned number of places in the funding agreement.

Our funding agreement also currently includes a residential provision which is no longer offered and we need to formally apply to have this removed as well.

As part of the application process to change our funding agreement, the school needs to consult with the community and present the findings of the consultation to the DfE.

Therefore, Arbour Vale School will be holding a consultation on the proposal to make permanent the incremental increase within the school's funding agreement by amending the planned places from 304 to 335 and to remove the residential provision from the funding agreement.

The consultation on the proposal will run from:

Wednesday 21st September to Wednesday 19th October 2022.

I understand you may have questions about the proposal and there will be Public Meetings at the school on **Wednesday 5th October** at the following times:

10am to 11am

1.15pm to 2.15pm

I would also be very grateful if you could spend a few minutes filling in the questions overleaf and writing any other thoughts you might have in the comments box. Alternatively, you can respond online at <https://www.arbourvaleschool.org/consultation> or by emailing office@arbourvaleschool.org

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly if you wish to discuss further.

Yours faithfully



**Neil Sykes
Principal**

Please rate the questions below using this scale:

- 1 Strongly agree
- 2 Agree
- 3 Neither agree nor disagree
- 4 Disagree
- 5 Strongly disagree

1. More special school places are needed for children and young people in Slough

2. More local provision reduces the need for longer journeys and helps children and young people to play a more active role in their home community

3. I am in agreement with the proposal to increase the pupil number in AVS' Funding Agreement

4. I am in agreement with the proposal to remove the residential provision from AVS' Funding Agreement

Please tick one of the following I am a:

Parent of a pupil/student at Arbour Vale School

Parent of a child with SEN attending another school

Staff member at Arbour Vale School

Professional working in schools

Other _____

Do you have any other comments about this proposal? If so, please use the space below

(Continue on an additional sheet if necessary):

Comments:

Please return to the school office: **Arbour Vale School, Farnham Road, Slough SL2 3AE**. Alternatively you can complete the consultation on line at <https://www.arbourvaleschool.org/consultation>