

# MARISH ACADEMY TRUST

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs H G Denham B.A., M.Ed. Headteacher: Miss A Court B.A., NPQH  
Deputy Headteachers: Mrs L Howe, Mr D Sinclair, Mrs N Gentles, Miss E Dowe, Mrs S Quadir



Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> June 2022

To whom it may concern,

**Consultation on a change to the name of the Resource Base currently housed within Marish Primary School from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022. This facility is currently known simply as 'the resource base' and our proposal is that from the above date it is known as 'Marish Primary School SEN Unit'**

This is a **minor change of name only**. From September 2022, the SEN Unit will operate as it currently does and there are no extra places, extra children or staff; nor any changes to the curriculum or provision planned as a result of this change. In fact, you might well ask why are we bothering to change its title at all.

The reason for the name change is to acknowledge that what was a resource base at its inception in 2012/3 is now actually a SEN unit already. The nature of the children we have on the roll of the resource base has changed over time, so that now all children currently being educated within it have an EHCP or an EHCP in process. To provide clarification I have copied below the definitions of a Resource Base and a SEN unit:

**A resource base** provides children and young people with the extra support they need within a mainstream school. Children and young people do not need to have an education, health and care (EHC) plan to attend a base. Generally, the majority of children within a resource base will spend the majority of their time in school in a mainstream classroom setting, just withdrawing to the base for short periods, specific lessons or specialist interventions.

**A SEN unit** is a special provision within a mainstream school where the children are taught mainly within separate classes from their mainstream peers, because this is the best way to meet their needs. SEN units receive additional funding from the local authority specifically for the purpose of the provision and usually cater for a specific type or types of SEN (e.g. autistic spectrum disorders).

Those of you who are familiar with our current resource base children either as parents and carers or as professionals who visit them will recognise immediately that the Marish resource base as it is today meets all the criteria of a SEN unit listed above and none of those of the resource base definition. Currently, all our children on the roll of the resource base have an EHCP or one in process. All of them spend the vast majority of their time being educated within the William Wing where the resource base is housed; so in reality, the Marish resource base is already a SEN unit.

Therefore the leadership of Marish Academy Trust, including governors and trustees, in partnership with Slough Local Authority have decided that the name of this facility must reflect the nature and needs of the children within it, rather than having a historical title that relates to a physical space within the school and which is no longer accurate.

Should you wish to make a response to or comment on this consultation, you will have four weeks from today (14<sup>th</sup> June to 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022) to do so. Anyone who would like to can respond to this consultation. Responses to the consultation should be sent or emailed to Marish Primary School, entitled, 'Consultation on name change for the resource base June 2022' and marked for the attention of Mrs H G Denham before the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs H G Denham, Executive Headteacher, Marish Academy Trust

