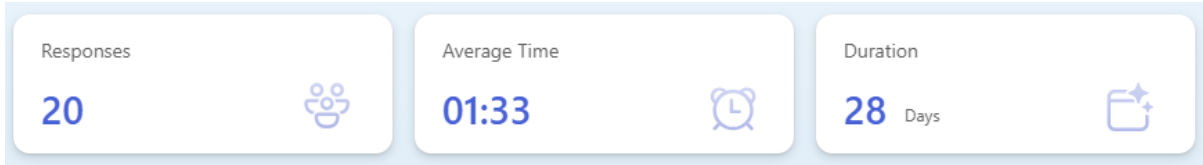


Consultation for the addition of a specialist resourced provision (SRP)

On Thursday 21st November we launched a 4-week consultation process in relation to the addition of an SRP to Higham Lane North Academy for its opening in September 2025.



The consultation was promoted in the following ways:

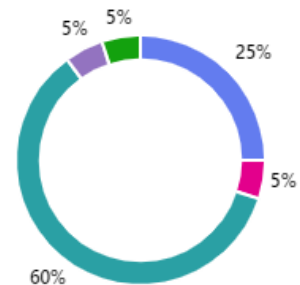
- on Central England Academy Trust’s website
- on Higham Lane North Academy’s website and November newsletter to all subscribers
- sent electronically by Warwickshire County Council to: schools in North Warwickshire, Nuneaton and Bedworth and Rugby; Coventry Diocese; Catholic Diocese; Coventry and Leicestershire Las; Nuneaton councillors and Warwickshire county portfolio holders for education
- sent internally to all governors and staff in our Trust

Responses:

We received a total of 20 anonymous responses to the consultation as outlined below:

1. I am a

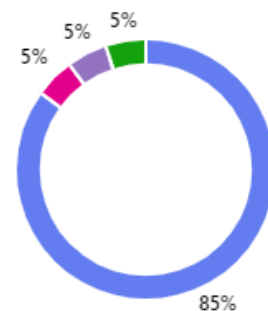
Parent/Carer	5
Local resident	1
Education professional	12
Stakeholder at a local school	1
Other	1



Responses were overwhelmingly supportive and in agreement with us establishing an SRP at Higham Lane North Academy:

2. To what extent do you agree for a new Specialist Resourced Provision at Higham Lane North Academy

Strongly agree	17
Agree	1
Neutral	0
Disagree	1
Strongly disagree	1



Feedback received:

Parental feedback received	Central England Academy Trust response
It will be good for the children to get the support they need - <i>Strongly agree</i>	We agree. Having a specialist resourced provision will enhance the support that our pupils will receive.
It needs to provide more than 20 spaces, I would suggest that it should be 20 spaces per year group. I would hope that it won't be accessible only for children with EHCPs as there are a huge amount of children who are struggling without support simply because they do not have an EHCP, despite asking for support from the school to apply for one - <i>Strongly agree</i>	We will be working in partnership with Warwickshire County Council to deliver specialist places as part of a wider strategy to ensure that young people with SEND are receiving specialist support. 20 places across the school is what we have been asked to provide and is a manageable and appropriate number for a mainstream secondary school.
I think this is a good idea, but that it should only be a few children to start with and not be 20 children all coming at the same time in year 7 - <i>Agree</i>	Admissions to the SRP for 2025/26 will cater for a small number of Year 7 students. Student numbers will then gradually increase year on year as the cohorts expand to the SRP capacity of 20 pupils in total across all year groups.
Great for the school to have this. Hopefully will help all children, not just the ones in the resourced provision - <i>Strongly agree</i>	HLNA will have a strong ethos of belonging and inclusivity where every child will be supported to fulfil, and exceed, their potential. Having a specialist resourced provision provides us with a strong expertise of both staff and resources to ensure that every child across the school can achieve well.
Whilst there are positives for having such a provision, if anywhere it should be built at the old Higham Lane school where it would support a lot more people who are not always currently included - <i>Disagree</i>	We agree there are a number of significant positives to having an SRP. Warwickshire County Council approached Central England Academy Trust to establish this Specialist Resource Provision at HLNA. Warwickshire's strategy involves the opening of further SRPs at secondary schools in Nuneaton and the surrounding area in the future.

Local resident feedback received	Central England Academy Trust response
One thing at a time; this will dilute - <i>Strongly disagree</i>	Whilst we appreciate that this is another aspect of the school to get in place, we see it as a priority that will enhance provision for all pupils as part of the inclusive nature of our Trust and schools. The SRP will add specialist expertise to the benefit of all staff and pupils and will not be at the expense of anything already planned for.

Education professional feedback received	Central England Academy Trust response
All schools should be looking for ways to support children with SEND in our communities - <i>Strongly agree</i>	We agree, and are proud to support children with SEND in our community.
This provision will be very welcome, however it will be vital that students remain effectively integrated into the wider school community	This is an important point, and we are in agreement that pupils in the SRP are integrated into the wider school community and that only

and not isolated. Additionally it is essential that teachers take on board advice and guidance within the main stream setting to improve the educational outcomes for all - <i>Strongly agree</i>	a necessary proportion of their time is spent in the SRP receiving specialist input and support. All staff will work together to share best practice, working in full collaboration to ensure all pupils receive the highest quality of education.
We really need this for pupils who struggle to transfer to secondary - <i>Strongly agree</i>	Transition is an important consideration for all pupils, and HLNA has a planned strategy for transition for all pupils, with an enhanced offer for those with additional needs and anxieties.
Great to have more SRP in the county - <i>Strongly agree</i>	We agree.
As a new school I think Higham Lane North should lead the way in providing support for our children, a leading example of inclusion - <i>Strongly agree</i>	Thank you.
Dedicated extra space for pupils that need this support can only be a good thing - <i>Strongly agree</i>	The SRP will have dedicated spaces and areas where specialist input and interventions can be delivered alongside mainstream education. This will enhance the school's offer adding an additional layer of expertise and support.

Stakeholder at a local school feedback received	Central England Academy Trust response
Strongly agree - <i>Strongly agree</i>	Thank you for your response.

Other feedback received	Central England Academy Trust response
I think it is a great idea. I believe all children should be given the opportunity to learn in an environment where they will thrive and be comfortable and have their individual needs met. - <i>Strongly agree</i>	We agree. The SRP will be an important part of HLNA's provision in meeting the SEND needs of the school community, enabling all pupils to thrive and achieve.

Summary

90% of all responses received were supportive of an SRP being established at Higham Lane North Academy, with most 'strongly agreeing.' There were responses from a range of different stakeholders.

Concerns raised were in relation to how the SRP would be implemented, and our responses above will provide significant reassurance about the measured and incremental way in which this will be done.

Recommendations

It is recommended that Central England Academy Trust proceeds with the establishment of a specialist resourced provision at Higham Lane North Academy for September 2025 as no significant opposition or objections have been received.

A copy of this report will be published on Higham Lane North Academy's website as record for undertaking this consultation.