

CARDIFF COUNCIL

SCHOOL STANDARDS AND ORGANISATION (WALES) ACT 2013

ADDITIONAL LEARNING NEEDS PROVISION

FITZALAN HIGH SCHOOL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN in accordance with Section 42 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the School Organisation Code, that Cardiff Council (herein after “the Authority”), having consulted such persons as appeared to them to be appropriate, propose to alter Fitzalan High School, Leckwith Road, Canton, CF11 8XB as follows:

- establish a 42-place Specialist Resource Base for Autism/Social Communication Needs at Fitzalan High School, within the existing buildings.

It is proposed to implement the proposal from January 2027.

The school is currently maintained by Cardiff Council.

The Authority undertook a period of consultation before deciding to publish this proposal. A consultation report containing a summary of the issues raised by consultees and the Authority’s responses and the views of Estyn on the proposed change is available to view at:

[Agenda for Cabinet on Thursday, 28th May, 2026, 2.00 pm : Cardiff Council \(modern.gov.co.uk\)](http://modern.gov.co.uk)

The current school capacity is 1,500 places for children aged 11-16. There are 350 sixth form places. The current number of pupils at the school is 1473 (11 – 16) and 360 (sixth form).

There are no plans to change the Council’s policy on the admission of children to schools as a result of these proposals.

Admissions to the specialist resource base would be managed by the local authority and be subject to an Individual Development Plan (IDP).

Admissions to the specialist resource base would be separate to admission to the main school and would be in addition to the Published Admission Number (PAN).

Any arrangements for the transport of pupils will be made in accordance with the Authority’s existing policies on school transport.

Within a period of 28 days of the date of publication of these proposals, that is to say by 13 July 2026, any person may object to these proposals.

Objections should be sent to the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, Cardiff Council, County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff CF10 4UW.

Objections may also be sent to the Director of Education and Lifelong Learning, Cardiff Council using the following e-mail address: SchoolResponses@cardiff.gov.uk

Please note that any such objection must contain the full name and postal address of the objector.

The Authority will publish a summary of any such objections made (and not withdrawn in writing) within the objection period, together with their observations thereon, before the end of 7 days beginning with the day the proposal is determined.

Dated 16 June 2026

Signed: Debbie Marles
Director of Governance and Legal Services

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This does not form part of the Notice but is intended to explain its general meanings)

Cardiff Council is committed to the principles of inclusion. The majority of learners with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) attend a local mainstream school, and benefit from effective Additional Learning Provision (ALP). These learners do not need to attend a special school or specialist resource base.

However, it is recognised that in order to thrive and fulfil their potential, children and young people with the most complex additional learning needs require access to the specialist environments and expertise of a special school or specialist resource base. The number of pupils with severe and complex needs, who need a place in a special school or specialist resource base has continued to grow.

The Council is committed to further developing and increasing provision for secondary age learners with autism/social communication needs. This could be in temporary wellbeing provision supporting learners to continue in mainstream schools, and in specialist provision where permanent placements are appropriate.

In addition to the proposal for Fitzalan High School, a proposal to establish Autism/Social Communication Needs Welsh-medium specialist resource base provision for secondary age pupils at Ysgol Gyfun Gymraeg Bro Edern is being progressed. For primary age pupils, proposals to establish specialist resource base provision at Hywel Dda Primary School and Radnor Primary School and Welsh-medium specialist resource base provision at Ysgol Glan Morfa are being progressed.

In relation to Complex Learning Needs, proposals to establish specialist resource bases at Adamsdown Primary School, Pencaerau Primary School and Peter Lea Primary School are being progressed. The proposed expansions of Meadowbank Special School, which provides Complex Learning Needs places for primary aged pupils, Tŷ Gwyn Special School which provides Complex Learning Needs places for primary and secondary aged pupils and Woodlands High School which provides Complex Learning Needs places for secondary aged pupils are also being progressed.

In relation to Emotional Health and Wellbeing Needs, proposals to establish a Welsh-medium specialist resource base at Ysgol Gymraeg Coed-Y-Gof and to increase the designated number of places at specialist resource base provision for primary age pupils at Baden Powell Primary School and Fairwater Primary School are being progressed. The proposed expansion of Greenhill Special School, which provides Emotional Health and Wellbeing places for secondary aged pupils is also being progressed.

Details of these proposals and copies of the statutory notices can be found at:

[Proposals and Consultations \(cardiff.gov.uk\)](http://www.cardiff.gov.uk)