

Schools Forum

23 January 2007

Further Delegation to Schools: Additionally Resourced Unit for pupils with Sensory Impairments

This paper is presented to members of the Forum for information at this stage

1. Purpose of the Report

The purpose of the report is to inform members of the Forum of progress with regard to developments in provision for children with sensory impairments, particularly hearing impairments.

2. Background

Education Walsall carried out a full review of specialist provision. This resulted in a change to the number and type of special schools maintained in Walsall. Consideration was also given to the preferred method of including children with particular needs.

Some Additionally Resourced Units (ARUs) were set up in primary and secondary schools, to meet the needs of pupils with mild learning difficulties, dyslexia and sensory impairments. In 2008, the first pupils to receive their education in the primary ARUs for sensory impairment will be approaching the secondary transfer age.

3. Proposal for a Secondary Based ARU

In order to continue with the inclusion of children with sensory impairments into mainstream schools, it is proposed that a additional ARU be set up at Joseph Leckie Community Technology College.

If the unit were to be operational on a part year basis, from september 2008, any additional funding from Headroom might be put towards the project. This would be consistent with previous decisions of the Schools Forum to advance the SEN agenda within Walsall.

4. Recommendation

Members of the Forum are asked, at this stage, to note the report for information

