Proposal to Expand Resource Base Provision at Manorside Academy

What is proposed?

Manorside Academy are working with BCP Council to help meet the growing need for specialist education places as part of the SEND Sufficiency Project. We are proposing to expand our Resource Base provision from 10 places to 20 places.

The proposal will provide more specialist places for primary aged pupils who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) with primary needs of SEMH/ASD. It would add 10 additional places at Manorside Academy, based in the converted caretaker's bungalow which is on school grounds.

Manorside Academy

Manorside Academy is a larger than average primary school which serve pupils in the Poole area of BCP. The school ranges from Nursery to Year 6 and has an expanding Inclusion Team due to the increasing number of pupils on roll with SEND.

Manorside Academy's Outcomes across all national assessments have improved for the past two years, since the new leadership team has been in place, and these improvements look to be maintained for a third year.

Attendance at Manorside Academy is above national average for those who attend school and is below national average for persistently and severely absent pupils.

Admissions

The places in the new Resource Base are limited to 10 and are for children with an Education Health & Care Plan (EHCP). The primary needs must be SEMH/ASD and the children must be able to manage at least 50% of their timetable integrated into their mainstream class.

Why is this change needed?

- **Increasing Demand**
  There is a sustained rise in the number of children and young people with Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) who require specialist provision. Local figures show this number is growing by around 11% every year, so more specialist places are needed. A detailed analysis of demand trends and planned sufficiency responses is set out within the SEND Sufficiency Strategy.

- **Parental Preference**
  Expanding our resource base will offer more places to pupils who can cope in mainstream classes for some of their educational journey but need more enhanced, specialist support for part of their time in school. Resource Bases give parents the option of accessing specialist support for some of their child's timetable whilst keeping them integrated into mainstream school.

- **Supporting inclusive education**

This proposal supports national SEND guidance (SEND Code of Practice and the Children and Families Act 2014) by promoting inclusion and helps ensure children and young people with SEND can access appropriate education within their local area.

- **Local Offer commitment**
  The Council has a legal duty to make sure there are enough suitable school places for children with SEND (under section 14 of the Education Act 1996) and to maintain and publish a clear and comprehensive Local Offer (explaining what support is available locally under section 30 of the Children and Families Act). This proposal helps meet those responsibilities. Manorside are closely collaborating with BCP Council to support demand in places for children with an EHCP.

- **Costs**
  The renovation for the caretaker's bungalow and the required resources is fully funded by BCP as part of their SEND Sufficiency project.
  The ongoing costs of the building and any resources after initial set up will be covered by Manorside Academy.

How will it work?

- The 10 additional places for primary aged pupils with an EHC Plan will be provided using the caretaker's bungalow on site at Manorside Academy. If approved, the places will be introduced as part of Manorside Academy from October 2026, therefore increasing the overall size of our Resource Base to 20 places.

- Young people that are allocated a place at the Resource Base will be on Manorside Academy's roll. They are expected to attend their mainstream class for at least 50% of their time in school.

- Students in the Resource Base will follow a programme that helps them grow and prepare for the next stage of their education including:
  - Adapted curriculum
  - Wellbeing curriculum
  - Life skills curriculum linking to the 'Preparing for Adulthood' Guidance
  - Personalised educational trips and visits

- **Building and facilities**
  The current Resource Base is located within the mainstream school. To be able to expand and offer an additional 10 places, we will be opening an additional classroom in the old caretaker's bungalow. This is still on site at Manorside Academy, but it is a separate building.

- **Accommodation**
  The Resource Base classroom will be in the old caretaker's bungalow which is on the Manorside Academy site. Extra fencing and security measures will be put in place to ensure the site is secure for the children when moving between the bungalow and the main school building. BCP Council are funding the renovation of the bungalow to make it an effective learning space.

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- **School ethos and values**

  Manorside Academy's Inclusion Intent is:

  At Manorside Academy, inclusion is at the heart of everything we do. We are committed to providing a safe, nurturing and ambitious learning environment where every child—regardless of their background, need or starting point—feels valued, supported and empowered to succeed. From the moment children join our school community, we recognise that every child is **unique**, and we celebrate this individuality as a strength throughout school life.

  Our approach to inclusion is guided by our core values of **kindness, respect, resilience and uniqueness**:

  - **Kindness** underpins how we build relationships. We foster a culture where children care for one another, show empathy, and support peers to feel a sense of belonging.
  - **Respect** shapes our interactions. We promote understanding and acceptance of differences, encouraging pupils to value diversity and treat everyone with dignity.
  - **Resilience** is developed through inclusive practices that encourage children to persevere, embrace challenges and learn from setbacks in a supportive environment.
  - **Uniqueness** reminds us that each child has individual strengths, needs, and aspirations. We aim to recognise and nurture these so that all pupils can thrive academically, socially and emotionally.

  We are committed to removing barriers to learning and participation by:

  - Delivering high-quality teaching that is carefully adapted to meet a wide range of needs
  - Providing targeted support and interventions where required
  - Working in close partnership with families, external professionals and the wider community
  - Promoting positive wellbeing and a strong sense of belonging for every pupil

  Our inclusive curriculum is broad, balanced and accessible to all, ensuring that every child has the opportunity to achieve their full potential and develop the skills, confidence and character needed for the next stage of their education and beyond.

  Educational experiences are meticulously planned to ensure that all children, regardless of vulnerabilities or barriers can engage successfully to maximise life experiences and learning opportunities.

  By embedding inclusion in our daily practice, we strive to create a school community where every child feels seen, heard and valued—and where all can flourish together.

- **Staffing**

  Manorside Academy has a highly experienced SENCO and staff who have experience working in specialist schools. They have a wealth of experience of supporting young people with SEN, particularly SEMH alongside other complex needs. Our Resource Base will also benefit from ongoing links with local specialist schools who will support through outreach work to ensure the provision is as effective as it can be.

- **Funding**

The renovations to the bungalow are being funded by BCP Council as part of their SEND Sufficiency Project. The school will receive additional funding per pupil to support with the high levels of staffing and additional resources required to support the pupils that will be placed in there.

Formal Process

Under the DfE guidance (2025), the process for making changes includes the following stages:

- **Stage 1: Representation (Formal Consultation):** This will run for a minimum 3 weeks for stakeholders to submit comments or objections as necessary. Stakeholders include parents, staff, governing body, local community, and other schools.
- **Stage 2: Decision:** The School will consider all responses and then seek formal agreement from the DfE to make these changes.
- **Stage 3: Implementation:** If approved, the additional places will be available from October 2026.

Timeline

Stage		Requirement	Date
1	Representation period (3 weeks minimum)	All interested parties may comment on the proposal	15th June – 6th July 2026
2	Decision	The school considers all responses and seeks approval from DfE	Dependent on DfE schedule
3	Implementation	Provision expands	October 2026 onwards

How to Respond to the Proposal

Comments can be submitted by visiting; Your views on the Manorside Academy Proposal – Fill in form

Or can be sent by email to: manorside@ma.weareauthentic.education

Or by post to:

Manorside Academy
Evering Avenue
Poole
BH124JG

Equality Impact and SEND Compliance

- Equality Act 2010: This proposal promotes equality of opportunity and fosters inclusion.
- SEND Code of Practice: Provision will follow statutory guidance, ensuring early identification, tailored support, and parental involvement.