



CARLETON
HIGH SCHOOL



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Carleton High School

Integrated Resource Consultation



Carleton High School is committed to its core values of respect, responsibility, determination, and excellence, ensuring that students develop into well-rounded, kind individuals ready for the next steps in life. We emphasise the importance of extracurricular activities and encourage all students to fully participate in the vibrant life of the school. With opportunities for leadership, character development, educational trips, and a variety of clubs, we provide a nurturing environment for growth and success.

We are proud of the strong relationships we build through initiatives like Wakefield Families Together, which reflects our commitment to offering a more integrated and streamlined approach to supporting students and families. This ensures that every student at Carleton High School receives the guidance and care they need to succeed.

Background Information

Carleton High School is a secondary school that is part of Pontefract Academies Trust, currently admitting pupils aged 11 to 16.

From January 2026, an integrated resource provision will be established to offer up to 20 places for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs.

The number of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) continues to rise both locally in Wakefield and nationally. In 2024, the demand for Education, Health, and Care Plans (EHCPs) in Wakefield was higher than the national average of 5.3%.

It is crucial that the needs of Wakefield's most vulnerable children and young people are met locally, allowing them to remain part of their local community. This proposal will offer families more choice regarding the type of provision they wish for their child.

The Proposal

Pontefract Academies Trust, with the support of the Trust Board, is proposing to establish a new Integrated Resource Provision at Carleton High School on a permanent basis from January 2026.

The proposal to establish a new Integrated Resource Provision at Carleton High School is part of the Wakefield SEND Sufficiency Project and aligns with the Wakefield SEND Provision Strategy outlined in the Specialist Provision Priorities Action Plan. The SEND Sufficiency Programme was presented to the Council's Cabinet on 16 July 2024.

The creation of this new Integrated Resource Provision at Carleton High School aims to enhance the provision of education and improve services for children with SEND.



A breakdown of the proposed changes is outlined below:

- **Creation of a New Integrated Resource Provision:** The current bungalow, located to the right of the main school building and adjacent to the car park, was previously used by the site team and will be repurposed. This will establish a new Integrated Resource Provision specifically for students with an Education, Health, and Care Plan (EHCP) who have a primary need for communication and interaction support. The new Integrated Resource Provision will offer 20 places exclusively for children with Speech, Language and Communication Needs, all of whom will have an EHCP. These places will become available over a graduated period of four years.
- **Impact on Current Students:** The establishment of the new Integrated Resource Provision will not impact the education or resource provision currently provided for children already attending the school.
- **Integration and Flexibility:** While children in the Integrated Resource Provision will primarily spend time within the unit, some students may attend mainstream provision where appropriate. This may include lunchtimes and physical education sessions initially, as an example, with the goal of building towards 70% integration into mainstream classes over time.
- **Potential Transfers:** Some children with an EHCP may transfer from other schools or academies to attend the new Integrated Resource Provision. The allocation of places will be determined through the EHCP Multi-Agency Panel, ensuring that the children's individual needs are met.

This proposal will support Wakefield Council in fulfilling its statutory duty under The Education Act 1996, Section 14 (1), which mandates Local Authorities to plan for and secure sufficient school places for their area, as well as under The SEND Code of Practice 2015, which requires Local Authorities to provide high-quality provision that meets the needs of children and young people with SEND.

The Process

Multi Academy Trusts are required to follow the DFE's Guidance 'Making significant changes to an Academy'. The statutory stages are as follows:

- **Step 1** - Application
- **Step 2** - Assessment
- **Step 3** - Decision / Conditional Approval
- **Step 4** - Implementation

Consultation

The consultation is the first stage of the process and seeks to explain how the proposal to establish a new Integrated Resource Provision at Carleton High School will progress, answer any questions stakeholders may have about the proposal, and gather stakeholder comments and views on the proposal.



Submitting Comments on the Proposal

Pontefract Academies Trust, with the support of the full Trust Board and Wakefield Council, would like your views on the proposal. The consultation period will run from **June 20th to July 11th 2025**, which will be your opportunity to submit any comments you may have via the online questionnaire which can be found here:



[Scan or
Click Here](#)

The feedback that is received will be considered by **July 11th 2025**. It is important that we receive as much feedback as possible. If you require a paper copy of the questionnaire or any further information, please contact Pontefract Academies Trust on:

Telephone: 01977 232146

Email: adminsupport@patrust.org.uk



Next Steps

Subject to decisions made by the DFE, Trustee's and Local Authority, the estimated timeline for the next stages of the process are set out in the below table:

| Dates | Stages |
|---|---|
| Public Consultation Period: 3 weeks June 20th 2025 to July 11th 2025 | The public consultation period will last three weeks and provides stakeholders the opportunity to submit their views and comments on the proposal. |
| July 11th 2025 | A report will be considered which outlines the feedback received from stakeholders during the consultation period and whether the Trust will proceed to the next stage. |
| Summer 2025 | A decision will be made by Regions Group on whether there is authority to implement the proposal. |
| Autumn 2025 | If the report is approved, then the proposal will be implemented. |

To keep up to date with the next stages of the process, please refer to the Pontefract Academies Trust website:

www.pontefractacademiestrust.org.uk



| Key Phrases & Terms Used | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Academy | “Academy” includes academy schools (as defined in the Academies Act 2010), free schools, 16-19 academies (excluding Secure Schools1), special academies, AP academies, studio schools and university technical colleges (UTCs). |
| Specialist Provision | “Specialist provision” refers to SEN units and resourced provision attached to mainstream schools; special schools (maintained, academies and non-maintained special schools); and alternative provision (both Pupil Referral Units and AP Academies). |
| Trustee | Although the term “trustee” is usually used in the department’s documents to refer to those who sit on the board of directors of an academy trust, trustees in this guidance means any person (other than the governing body) holding property on trust for the purpose of the school. In the case of schools designated as having a religious character, this could be the Church of England, the Catholic Church or any other religious body. |
| Regions Group | “Regions Group” refers to the Department for Education’s local delivery teams. Each region is led by a ‘Regional Director’ (Director of each region within Regions Group). |
| EHCP | An Education and Health Care Plan (EHCP) is a legal document which outlines any special educational needs that a child has. It covers the support a local authority must put in place to help the child. |
| Resourced Provision | Resourced provision are places that are reserved at a mainstream school for pupils with a specific type of SEND, taught for at least half of their time within mainstream classes, but requiring a base and some specialist facilities around the school. |
| SLCN | Speech, Language and Communication Needs (SLCN) are a type of special educational need in which a child or young person has difficulties in communication from understanding others to forming sounds, words and sentences to expressing ideas and emotions and using language socially. |
| Special School Provision | A number of primary and secondary schools across the district which provide school places for pupils with special educational needs and / or a disability. |



Next Steps

- **Why does the school need to establish a new SEN Unit?**

The number of children and young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) continues to increase in Wakefield as well as nationally. In 2024, the demand for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCP) in Wakefield was above the national average of 5.3%.

The proposal to establish a new Integrated Resource Provision at Carleton High School is in response to the Wakefield SEND Sufficiency Project and Wakefield SEND Provision Strategy in the Specialist Provision Priorities Action Plan.

- **How many additional places would be created?**

The proposal will provide 20 places for children with Speech, Language and Communication needs.

- **Will the increase in the number of pupils affect pupils currently attending the school?**

The proposal to establish a new Integrated Resource Provision will not affect the education or resource provision provided for children currently attending the school.

- **Will more staff be required for the additional pupils?**

Class sizes will not increase and staff to pupil ratios will be in accordance with legislation.

- **Will any building works be required?**

The existing on-site previous site team bungalow is currently empty and will need a small amount of work completed. This has been funded as part of the sufficiency project with Wakefield LA and the Department for Education.

- **Will the internal refurbishment works disrupt the pupils?**

As it is separate on-site premises, disruption will be kept to a minimum and there will be regular communication between the contractor and Headteacher to ensure this. This refurbishment will not impact any students currently attending Carleton High School. The Resource base will not open until this is completed.

- **When will the proposed changes be implemented?**

The proposal to establish a new Integrated Resource Provision at Carleton High School on a permanent basis will be implemented from January 2026.



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