

## CONSULTATION SURVEY

### Background...

Bexley Local Authority (BLA) has a shared vision with all stakeholders that Bexley children should be educated locally wherever practicable to keep children in the community. BLA has identified a gap in local provision for children with complex needs (high functioning ASD and SEMH) which is resulting in children being placed out of borough. As a result, in March 2019, the authority was successful in its bid to the Department for Education to open a new Special Free School. Following a tender process, Trinitas Academy Trust is delighted to have been appointed to open and run the School.

### Cornerstone School

Cornerstone School is currently in the pre-opening phase, and will open in September 2021. The School will cater for pupils aged 11 - 19 who have a primary diagnosis of autism, and associated Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs. For a child to be admitted, they must have a diagnosis of ASD & SEMH need, and the School must be named, by the local authority, in the child's EHCP. When full, the School will cater for 90 pupils.

The School is committed to making a difference, and in line with the vision of Trinitas Academy Trust, believes that all children deserve the best education. At Cornerstone, our vision is to ensure that every young person we work with is **'happy, confident and ready to contribute'**. The School will ensure pupils have access to a personalised curriculum in which they can work towards, and achieve, individual goals. Central to this personalised curriculum is recognising and developing individual interests and skills, promoting inquisitive learning. Pupils

will also be supported to develop critical life skills, ensuring they are empowered to make informed choices beyond the classroom. Cornerstone School says to its pupils **'we will provide a foundation of learning, tailored to you'**. The School will promote a nurturing and compassionate approach. Specialist teachers and staff will ensure that the barriers each individual pupil faces are identified, and that they are supported to overcome them. This will be achieved not only as a result of the personalised curriculum, but also as a therapeutic approach is integrated into all aspects of the School day.

Cornerstone School will be located on Halt Robin Road, Belvedere, and will include a newly renovated and refurbished building, and a brand new extension to this building. The building is being designed to meet the needs of our pupils, and as a result will ensure a low arousal, sensory environment that supports pupils to manage their day and develop their independence. Cornerstone School will provide a happy, safe and calm environment in which pupils can feel secure.

As part of pre-opening, Trinitas Academy Trust are completing a formal consultation exercise. To complete the consultation survey online, please visit [www.trinitasacademytrust.org/cornerstone-school](http://www.trinitasacademytrust.org/cornerstone-school) or use the form on the reverse of this page.

You are also invited to join us at one of two live online events on Thursday 25th February at 7.00pm or Saturday 13th March at 10.00am. Please use the website above to register your interest for either of these events.

The closing date for this consultation is Thursday 25th March 2021.



## CONSULTATION SURVEY

This survey may either be completed by using the digital link on the reverse of this form or by completing the form and returning by post to:  
**Cornerstone School Consultation, Trinitas Academy Trust,  
Trinity School, Erith Road, Belvedere, Kent, DA17 6HT.**

For more information about Cornerstone School please visit the website:

**[www.trinitasacademytrust.org/cornerstone-school](http://www.trinitasacademytrust.org/cornerstone-school)**

The closing date is 25th March 2021

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Which group do you represent?  
If you fall into more than one category, please use the group that is most reflective of your views.

- ☐ Prospective parent
- ☐ Neighbour to the school site
- ☐ Local resident
- ☐ Councillor
- ☐ Local governor
- ☐ Local organisation
- ☐ Other

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Do you support the proposal to open Cornerstone School?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

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Do you support the vision and ethos of Cornerstone school?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

Cornerstone School will continue to improve the Local Authority's ability to deliver services to pupils with Special Educational Needs

- ☐ Strongly Agree
- ☐ Agree
- ☐ Neutral
- ☐ Disagree
- ☐ Strongly Disagree

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Do you think Trinitas Academy Trust should enter into a funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education to open Cornerstone School?

(A model funding agreement can be found at:

**<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/academy-and-free-school-funding-agreements>**)

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

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Do you have any further comments?