



15 May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Hope you are well.

Over the last couple of months, we've been working hard in partnership with Devon County Council to explore the possibility of establishing a Specialist Base at Exmouth Community College to support children with special educational needs.

We are now in a position to share a bit about our proposals with you and how you can share your thoughts through our consultation, which will run until **5 June 2026**.

We are committed to supporting children with SEND to access a broad and balanced curriculum, enabling them to thrive both academically and personally. This proposal builds on this commitment and is an exciting opportunity to work with families to better support students with SEND in our local community.

About the proposals

We know that for some children, especially those with Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) needs or Autism, accessing school can be very challenging. A Specialist Base supports learners whose needs can be met in a mainstream setting, but who require a specialist environment and support within the school.

The Specialist Base will support students from Year 7 to Year 11 with communication and interaction needs (including autistic spectrum condition (ASC)) and/or social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs. All pupils attending the base would have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP).

The base will provide a structured, nurturing environment that is small, welcoming and inclusive. The programme has been designed specifically to support these pupils in a way that is personalised, well-planned and sensitive to their individual needs and to ensure that as many pupils as possible can have their needs met within, or as close as possible to, their local community.

The proposal is for the base to open in September 2026 with a small number of students, growing over the following 18 months up to a maximum capacity of 20 places.

We are continuing to work through the details with our partners and we'll be happy to share more information with you following the consultation next half-term.

Details of the consultation

You can find the full details of the consultation [here](#) and attached.

We welcome your feedback on the proposals and comments can be made to Ted Wragg Trust by midnight on 5 June 2026. You can email exmouthconsultation@tedwraggtrust.co.uk or send them by post to: *Specialist Base Consultation, Exmouth Community College, Gipsy Lane, Exmouth, Devon, EX8 3AF.*



Following the consultation, we'll be considering all feedback in partnership with our Board of Trustees. If we decide to proceed, we will make an application to the Department for Education's (DfE) who will consider the application and responses received.

If you have any questions, please do get in touch via the email above.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tom Inman".

Tom Inman
Headteacher
Exmouth Community College

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tamsin Frances".

Tamsin Frances
Executive Director of People, Infrastructure and Innovation
Ted Wragg Trust