

12th April 2021

**CONSULTATION - DISCOVERY SPECIAL ACADEMY  
PROPOSAL TO OPEN ASSESSMENT NURSERY PROVISION AT A TEMPORARY LOCATION  
(PENNYMAN PRIMARY ACADEMY) FOR ONE YEAR (SEPTEMBER 2021 to JULY 2022) THEN  
TRANSFER TO PERMANENT SITE SEPTEMBER 2022**

Tees Valley Education Multi Academy Trust operates 5 academies in the Tees Valley area. The Trust is in the final stages of building a Special Free School (Discovery Special Academy) funded by the Department for Education. Currently operating from a temporary building, Discovery Special Academy will move into a purpose-built school for September 2022 on the Sandy Flatts Lane site.

Whilst the original designation for Discovery Special Academy was to provide outstanding education and therapies to children with complex special educational needs, Reception to Year 6, it has become more evident from our partnership with both Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland Local Authorities, of the growing need to extend this specialist provision to include Nursery aged children.

As part of an ongoing EYFS provision review in Middlesbrough, Discovery Special Academy, working with other specialist providers, the Local Authority and Health, are re-shaping how specialist assessment provision for complex children is delivered. Several 'hubs' will be created and distributed across the borough, all within existing specialist settings. Ideally, this will also include Discovery Special Academy offering up to 7 assessment places.

Therefore, in order to meet existing demand for specialist nursery places, Discovery Special Academy propose to utilise the temporary mobile classroom provided by Middlesbrough LA located at Penny man Primary Academy for one year only. This classroom, along with some shared specialist therapeutic areas within the existing Academy, will accommodate up to 7 nursery aged children for 15 hours per week. This will be for one full academic year, with Discovery Assessment Nursery transferring to the newly built academy at an appropriate time after September 2022. Further details on the operational running of the Discovery assessment nursery can be found in the attached leaflet and on the websites listed on the next page.

As part of this consultation, Tees Valley Education Trust would like to seek the views of both Pennyman Primary Academy and Discovery Special Academy parents, and other interested stakeholders, on the proposals. The Trust would particularly like to receive responses to the following questions, **no later than 5pm on Friday 7th May 2021**, which is 4 weeks from the start of the consultation.

Question 1 Do you support the proposal for Discovery Special Academy to open a specialist assessment Nursery for up to 7 children from September 2021?

Comments:

Question 2 Do you support the proposal for Discovery Special Academy to open a specialist assessment Nursery in temporary accommodation at Pennyman Primary Academy for one year (from September 2021 to July 2022)?

Comments:

Question 3 Do you have any further questions you wish to ask Tees Valley Education Trust about the proposals?

Comments:

I would like someone from Tees Valley Education Trust to contact me and my details are:

Consultation responses can be submitted in the following ways:

- Return this completed form to: F.A.O TVE Clerk, Tees Valley Education Multi Academy Trust, Central Offices, c/o Pennyman Primary Academy, Fulbeck Road, Middlesbrough, TS3 0QS.
- Email responses to [clerk@tved.org.uk](mailto:clerk@tved.org.uk)

Further details on the consultation and Nursery offer can be found at [www.discoveryspecialacademy.org.uk](http://www.discoveryspecialacademy.org.uk) Responses to the consultation should be received no later than 5pm on Friday 7th May 2021.

Yours sincerely,



Miss K Morley  
CEO and Executive Head Teacher

Copies to: Parents of children attending Pennyman and Discovery Academy, Trust Board, Parents 4 Change, Middlesbrough LA, Redcar LA, TVED Trust and academy websites.