

Record of operational decision

Decision title:	The Creation of a Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) Base at Trinity Primary School, from 1 September 2025
Date of decision:	12 May 2025
Decision maker:	Head of Educational Development
Authority for delegated decision:	The authority for the specified officer to take this decision as set out in the Children and Young Peoples scheme of delegation line 91. https://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/documents/s50126280/Children%20and%20Families%20Scheme%20of%20Delegation.pdf
Ward:	All
Consultation:	<p>Consultation Overview</p> <p>A public consultation ran from 17 January to 7 February 2025. A total of 30 responses were received:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22 respondents (73%) supported the proposal. • 8 respondents (27%) expressed concerns or objections. <p>Key themes from supportive comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recognition of a clear local need for SEMH support in primary settings. • Belief that the base will offer significant benefit to children currently struggling in mainstream education. • Reduction in reliance on out-of-county or unregistered placements. <p>Concerns raised included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential disruption to pupils currently attending Trinity. • Concerns about the school's capacity to deliver more specialist provision. • General uncertainty about readiness for implementation.
Decision made:	Following consultation and review, approval is given to establish a new SEMH Resourced Provision Base at Trinity Primary School , effective from 1 September 2025 .
Reasons for decision:	<p>The base will provide targeted, short-term support to primary-aged children with SEMH needs who have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP). These pupils will benefit from a structured environment and support from specialist staff, with the aim of reintegrating them into mainstream education when ready.</p> <p>The base will operate under local authority oversight, and all pupil placements will follow the statutory EHCP process, ensuring the right match of support and environment for each child.</p> <p>Experience with similar bases in other Herefordshire schools has been highly positive, improving inclusion and supporting better outcomes. Trinity Primary School will develop further expertise in SEMH, benefiting all pupils and staff.</p>

<p>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</p>	<p>Financial - The SEHM base will be funded in the same way as special schools and other specialist provision. The new base will be funded for up to 16 places plus individual pupil top-up funding in accordance with the level of need described in their EHC Plan.</p> <p>Legal: Aligned with the Children and Families Act 2014 and SEND Code of Practice (2015).</p> <p>Equality: Supports inclusion and better access for children with complex SEMH needs.</p> <p>Risk Management: Trinity’s space, training plans, and access to LA support mitigate implementation risk.</p>
<p>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</p>	<p>Other schools were reviewed through an expression of interest, but very few have sufficient space or appropriate infrastructure to host a base of this type.</p>
<p>Details of any declarations of interest made:</p>	<p>None</p>



Signed.....

Date: 12 May 2025

Head of Educational Development