HEAD TEACHER: MARAIS LEENDERS | 5 BOSTON MANOR ROAD, BRENTFORD, TW8 0PG | TEL: 020 8847 4281 | EMAIL: GENERAL@BRENTFORD.HOUNSLOW.SCH.UK | WEB: WWW.BRENTFORD.HOUNSLOW.SCH.UK

13 November 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Brentford School for Girls – Consultation on the Proposed (SEMH) Provision

In September, we wrote to you about the school's ambition to support the local authority in setting up a SEMH unit on site. This specialist provision would support girls and young women with social, emotional and mental health needs who have an EHCP.

Children and young people presenting with SEMH may experience difficulties regulating their emotions, maintaining positive relationships and moderating their behaviour, they may also experience anxiety, stress or depression, these challenges can affect academic progress, independence and engagement with the curriculum. The provision would be fully funded by the local authority and we would be able to use the facilities to support other girls within the school who may be affected by some of these conditions.

The consultation ran from Monday 14th September until Friday 9th October, the feedback was overwhelmingly positive, with many of you seeing the huge benefits that this could bring to the school, to pupils within the unit and the wider school as a whole. There were a number of questions raised within the consultation which we have tried to answer below.

How would the facility operate?

We are an inclusive school. Parents who choose this facility for their daughters, who have an EHCP, would be choosing a mainstream school. The SEMH unit would support pupils in accessing mainstream provision, but would be used flexibly for pupils who were not able to do so. We anticipate that most pupils would spend a significant amount of time in mainstream lessons, using the facility periodically for support or small group interventions focused on developing strategies to access education. This would depend on each pupil's individual needs. The additional 12 pupils would not affect class sizes, as the provision would fall within our pupil admission quota**.**

Building work, staffing and admissions

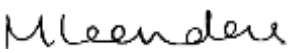
Disruption during the building work would be very limited. The building identified for the unit is separate from the other school building and would be accessed through a separate gate. The area would be cordoned off from the students whilst the work is taking place. The local authority would provide funding to build the provision. The school would appoint fully qualified staff with a specialism in this area. Pupils would be selected by the local authority if their parents chose this provision. All selected pupils would have an EHCP and the school would decide whether they were suitable for the provision available.

The school would initially welcome Year 7 pupils, building towards 12 pupils in total over 5 years. Mainstream pupils experiencing anxiety, stress or emotional difficulties would also be able to access the provision and facilities/ this would be managed by the school and our in-school inclusion team, who would consider referrals from the main school.

Your consultation feedback will now be discussed at our Governing Body meeting in December and fed into meetings with the local authority. We are excited about the prospect of a provision on our school site to support the well-being of our girls. We believe that having specialist resources and practice on our site will enhance support and opportunities for all girls within our school community. When resources within mental health for young people are so limited, this really is a great opportunity for us as a school.

Thank you for your input into this consultation, we will continue to keep you updated about developments in this area.

Yours sincerely,



Ms Marais Leenders
Executive Headteacher
Brentford School for Girls