Watercliffe Meadow

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Friday 6th November 2026

RE: New SEND Provision at Watercliffe Meadow

Dear Families

You will have noticed a new building emerging on our bottom MUGA for the past 6 months or so. Building work will be completed this week and our intention is to open it as a new SEND provision from January 2027.

This has been a long time in planning and development as our governors made a request for the building back in March 2024. Since then, our brief has evolved and what was originally intended to be a Watercliffe only SEND provision, will now become a 'local area SEND assessment centre', with 5 of the 15 places being retained for Watercliffe pupils.

Such a provision does not currently exist in Sheffield and we are excited to be developing it with a range of partners in order to make a real difference for pupils who need it both at Watercliffe and in the local area.

The provision will offer part time short and slightly longer-term placements (from 6 weeks to up to a year) with the intention of undertaking a 'whole family needs led assessment' while working with the child, family and mainstream school to improve provision in the child's main setting and really getting to the heart of what the child and family needs.

In the first instance, from January to September 2027, we will be running the provision just for pupils at Watercliffe Meadow, while the team establishes itself and we test some of the key innovations that we will be using. From September 2027, we will gradually start to open to other schools.

We intend to make the most of this opportunity for Watercliffe pupils and will be in touch with parents individually as and when we are at the stage of allocating places and programmes of support. We are currently in a recruitment process but hope to have established the core team before the end of this term and want to get up and running as soon as possible in January.

A lot of work has gone into getting to this stage and there is still much to finalise but after lots of meetings and discussions we are excited to be actually making it happen and we are very pleased to be adding what we hope will be something of significance in the SEND landscape for both children at Watercliffe and the surrounding area.

Yours sincerely,

C. L. Bradley

Ian Read	Claire Bradley	Lee Hilton-Brammer
(Headteacher)	(Head of School)	(Chair of Governors)

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