5th November 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to share some exciting news about the next stage of our journey at Poplars Community Primary School.

From January 2027, we will be opening a new Specialist Resource Base (SRB) for children with Communication and Interaction needs. This is a fantastic development for our school and reflects our ongoing commitment to inclusion and ensuring that every child has the opportunity to thrive, achieve and feel a valued part of our school community.

Our new SRB will provide a specialist learning environment for children who require additional support with their communication, interaction and learning needs. Children will benefit from smaller teaching groups, carefully adapted learning experiences and a curriculum designed to help them develop their confidence, independence and skills.

The opening of our SRB will take place through a phased approach. Initially, from January 2027, the provision will be available for up to 12 children in Years 1 and 2. As the project develops, we hope to expand the provision further, increasing our capacity to support children across other year groups in the future.

It is important to explain that places within the SRB are allocated through the Local Authority's specialist placement process, rather than by the school itself. This means that Poplars cannot independently decide which children attend the provision or move children from their existing mainstream classes into the SRB. Decisions about placements will be made in conjunction with the Local Authority, taking into account children's individual needs and the suitability of the provision. Therefore, the opening of the SRB does not mean that children currently attending Poplars will automatically be eligible for a place or be transferred into the provision.

Importantly, the SRB will be very much part of Poplars. Children will continue to benefit from our school values, wider opportunities and inclusive school community, with opportunities to learn alongside their peers wherever appropriate.

I also want to reassure all parents and carers that the opening of our SRB will not negatively affect the education or opportunities currently provided to children across the school. All children will continue to receive the same high-quality teaching, care, support and access to our broad and ambitious curriculum that families have come to expect from Poplars. We remain fully committed to maintaining the high standards and positive learning experiences that we provide for every child, in every classroom. The SRB is an addition to our existing provision, allowing us to support even more children within our school community.

We are incredibly proud of the inclusive culture we have developed at Poplars, and the opening of this provision is another exciting step forward. We believe that every child deserves to feel safe, supported and successful, and our new SRB will help us continue to achieve this.

Over the coming weeks, we will be working hard to prepare the new learning environments and finalise arrangements ahead of the January opening. We will share further information with families as our plans develop. For now, I simply wanted to let you know about this exciting addition to our school.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are really looking forward to welcoming this new provision into our Poplars community.

Kind regards,

Regards,
Ashley Cunningham
Headteacher