


### **Statutory Proposal to close Torbay's Pupil Referral Unit**

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act that Torbay Council intends to discontinue Torbay's Pupils Referral Unit, a maintained pupil referral unit, 25 Higher Polsham Road, Paignton TQ3 2SZ from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

The Council will be simultaneously reinstating provision for pupils with emotional and behavioural difficulties by increasing the capacity at Torbay Behavioural Emotional and Social Difficulties (BESD) School to include this provision. The expansion of Torbay BESD School is being published in a separate statutory notice and also has an implementation date of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015.

This notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from: Samantha Poston, Schools Capital & Planning Officer, Schools Capital & Planning Team, TDA, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor South Tor Hill House, Union Street, Torquay TQ2 5QW or viewed online at [www.torbay.gov.uk/statutorynotices](http://www.torbay.gov.uk/statutorynotices).

Signed:  Richard Williams, Director of Children Services

Publication Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2014

#### Explanatory note:

This proposal is directly linked to the statutory proposal to expand Torbay School also being published by Torbay Council today. Both of these proposals have an implementation date of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2015 to ensure that there is no break in provision.

In 2012 the PRU was aligned more closely with Torbay School to support the development of high quality alternative provision for children aged 11-16 with emotional and behavioural difficulties. This led to the appointment of the Headteacher of the Torbay School as the Executive Head of the PRU. By July all provision for excluded pupils, that the Council has responsibility for, will be accessed via the PRU under the management of the Torbay School. The Council believes, therefore, it would be beneficial both financially and strategically to have both these services delivered by a single provider with a single management structure. These two linked proposals will result in the amalgamation of the provision for children and young people aged 11-16 with emotional and behavioural difficulties under one provider.

The new provision will be delivered from the sites currently being used by the PRU so Torbay BESD School will become a split school site.