

Consultation on expanding Blofield Primary School

Our proposal

It is proposed to increase the number of pupils at Blofield Primary School, from 210 pupils to 420 pupils and move into a new school building (see image below), Plantation Road, Blofield, NR13 4PL. These changes would come into effect from 1 September 2024.



Why do we need to expand Blofield Primary School

Our proposal is in response to the new homes being built in the area. The County Council has a statutory duty (Section 14, Education Act 1996) to plan and secure sufficient school places for their area to meet the needs of its children and families and therefore it is obliged to plan for the expansion of its school capacity.

In the Blofield/Brundall area, it is expected there will be 531 new homes, of which 400 are still to be built. This increase in new homes and new families, means we are expecting more primary school aged children. The current schools in Blofield and Brundall cannot accommodate these extra children.

The new school will ensure the school serves its current catchment and supports with the growth across Blofield and Brundall. Brundall school does not have any capacity to expand further due to its shape and site size. It is proposed to build a new primary school in Blofield which will provide 60 pupil places per year group, with an overall capacity of 420 places on a single site to the eastern side of Plantation Road.

Norfolk County Council considered the option of expanding the current Blofield Primary School, but this is not possible due to the shape, site size and layout.

Why we feel these changes are important

The County Council and Governors believe that these changes would benefit all children and young people in Blofield because:

They will provide sufficient places for the emerging pressure on primary places in the.

- It will enable the school to plan more effectively to meet future demand and will help parents to get a place at their preferred school.
- There will be improved learning facilities for pupils now and in the future.

Capital Programme

The new primary school will be funded by Norfolk County Council and will include;

- A new 2-storey building, with 14 classrooms.
- Reception classrooms have their own en-suite toilet provision along with dedicated secure outside areas.
- KS1 classrooms are located on the ground floor, all with direct outside access.
- KS2 classrooms are located on the first floor.
- A food tech/science/DT classroom will be located on the first floor and fitted out to meet the school's curriculum need.
- A main hall with adjoining studio space including store will be provided.
- Administration offices are provided along with a secure entrance lobby.
- The library/heart space is provided on the ground floor.
- A new kitchen will also be provided
- New access road (off Plantation Road) with no secondary pedestrian or vehicular access from Wyngates.

How can you have your say?

Norfolk County Council will be holding a drop-in event on Tuesday 17 January, 2.15 – 3.15pm, at Blofield Primary School, where you can come and find out more about this proposal.

If you unable to attend this event but would like to comment on our proposal, you can have your say by:

- Accessing our online survey; <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/blofieldexpansion>
- Completing the attached questionnaire and returning it to the School Office, Blofield Primary School

We need all responses by 12 noon, Friday 24 February 2023.

What happens next?

As the local decision maker for school organisation, the Director for Children's Services will review all the comments made during this consultation and decide whether to proceed to the statutory public notice stage for this proposal.

Date: 9/1/2023

Consultation on proposed expansion of pupil places at Blofield Primary School

Let us know what you think of our proposal.

How far do you agree or disagree with our proposal to expand Blofield Primary School by adding 210 pupils places from 1 September 2024?

Please tick a box.

Strongly agree

Agree

Neither agree or disagree

Disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Why do you say this? Please write in the box below.

Are there any other comments or suggestions you would like to make to help us with this decision and in planning for the future provision for children? Please write in the box below.

We would like to hear from many different people as your views help us to decide whether we make these changes. We will also use any personal information to understand how different groups of people feel about our proposal to expand Blofield Primary School.

We will process any personal information we receive from you in line with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) (Regulation (EU) 2016/679), the Data Protection Act 2018 and the County Council's data protection policy and guidelines. This means that Norfolk County Council will hold your personal data and only use it for the purpose for which it was collected, being this consultation.

We won't identify individuals when reporting back our findings and, under our record management policy, we will keep this information for five years. We will also, under normal circumstances, not pass your personal data on to anyone else. However, we may be asked under access to information laws to publish or disclose some, or all, of the information you provide in response to this consultation, including any personal information. We will only do this where such disclosure will comply with such relevant information laws which include the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the Data Protection Act 2018 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

Please tell us who you are (tick all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pupil | <input type="checkbox"/> School governor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent / Carer | <input type="checkbox"/> Local resident |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member of the Parent Teacher Association | <input type="checkbox"/> Local business |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Member of staff | <input type="checkbox"/> Local sports group |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Local community group |

Other (please specify): _____

At which school? _____

What is your postcode? _____

Your views will help us decide if this proposal goes ahead. You can tell us your views by;

- Completing the online survey; <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/blofieldexpansion>
- returning this completed form to the School Office, Blofield Primary School

This consultation ends at 12 noon on Friday 24 February 2023