

Report to the Executive Director of Children’s Services for permission to publish a statutory public notice

The proposal;

- To increase the number of pupils at Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School, from 210 pupils to 420 pupils and move into a new school building – full address yet to be confirmed, but will be located on Chaplin Road.
- Change the age range from 3 – 11 to 4 – 11.

These changes would come into effect from 1 September 2026.

<p>Reason for the proposed changes</p>	<p>Proposal to increase the number of pupils and relocate to a new school site.</p> <p>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 Bradwell area, there are 1000 new homes approved, of which 360 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 Bradwell cannot accommodate these extra children. Norfolk County Council considered the option of expanding the current Bradwell Homefields CE VC Primary School. However the existing site is unsuitable for expansion as its current size is well below the minimum DfE guideline for a school with 420 pupils. It is therefore proposed to build a new primary school in Bradwell and relocated Bradwell Homefields to this site, which will provide 60 pupil places per year group, with an overall capacity of 420 places on a single site within Wheatcroft Farm housing development.</p> <p>Proposal for age range change</p> <p>The governors at Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School are aware that parents have said that they want to have more flexible early years provision that offers longer hours to assist those parents who work, with childcare provision. Unfortunately, this is not something that the school can currently provide and because of this factor the school continues to have low numbers of Nursery children attending. The school will work with local providers to look at options to support the needs of working parents. In addition, the site of the new school, will not have enough space to include a nursery. This means that we need to change the age range of the</p>
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	<p>school, as they could no longer provide provision for 3 year olds.</p> <p>Norfolk County Council believe that these changes would benefit all children and young people in Bradwell because;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will provide sufficient places for the emerging pressure on primary places in the area. • 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. <p>The consultation document is available at Appendix A.</p>
Consultation details	<p>The consultation was delivered, as set out by the DfE statutory guidance 'Making significant changes (prescribed alterations) to maintained schools', January 2023. A consultation was held from 11 September to 20 October 2023. A total of 339 consultation documents were sent to governors, staff and parents at Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School and key stakeholders (full list is in Appendix B). A consultation event was held on 20 September 2023, in person, supported by the Chair of Governors, Headteacher and School Organisation Manager, Norfolk County Council. 25 people attended. Details of the key issues raised can be found on Page 21. An online survey was established to collect responses. The consultation was promoted widely, via the school website, local newspaper, social media.</p>
Number of responses	82 responses
Summary of views expressed in favour of increase of pupils and relocation 36 responses (44%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools in the area are full and Bradwell needs more places (16 responses) • New school site is a better location, with more opportunities for learning in a new larger school (9 responses) • Current school and grounds is no longer fit for purpose (3 responses) • New location will improve traffic and road safety (3 responses)
Summary of views expressed against increase in pupils and relocation/ no change 43 responses (51%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Like our current school, as small classes and close to our home so can walk to school. Will have to drive to new school site, increasing traffic issues (19 responses) • Leave Homefield as it is, it's a lovely school. Build a new school for the new community. (17 responses) • Concerns that catchment area will change (3 responses) • Build on another part of the Bluebell Estate to avoid traffic issues and find a bigger site (2 responses)

<p>Summary of views expressed in favour change of age range (17 responses)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery provision and needs of parents changed over years and other providers offer more options and there is capacity (2 responses) • Hard to compete with other providers (2 responses) • Too young at 3 years (2 responses)
<p>Summary of views expressed against the change of age range/no opinion (39 responses)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nursery should be part of school, as supports children when transition to Reception (11 responses) • There is not enough local childcare provision (7 responses) • The school is losing out if it moves and does not keep the nursery (3 responses) • Helpful to have older and younger siblings at the same school (2 responses)
<p>Commentary</p>	<p>The consultation has been run in accordance with the DfE guidance. The response rate is 24%, which is higher than other consultation response rates (usually 5%). There was good attendance at the consultation event, with 22 parents attending.</p> <p>The support for the proposals is mixed. However it is noted the responses came in over 2 time periods; 11 – 19th September and then between 4 – 9th October. The majority of the October submissions were from local residents, which may be linked to a local facebook post about the new school proposal.</p> <p>51% of the respondents disagree or strongly disagree with the proposal to expand the school and move to a new site. The concerns are linked to wanting to keep the school as it is, preferring the smaller classrooms, ability to walk to school and the ethos of the school. At the consultation event, parents were reassured that the governors are looking to grow the ‘good’ school so more children can benefit, plus there were more opportunities at new school site, as the current school site is limited and needing investment.</p> <p>47% of the respondents disagree or strongly disagree with the proposal to change the age range and no longer provide early years provision. The concerns are linked to the importance of having a nursery attached to the school as it provided improved transition into Reception. There was also concern about that there is not enough local childcare provision and that the school would be losing their nursery if school moves to a new site. However governors have said that the school cannot provide the wrap around child care provision and therefore numbers in the nursery have dropped. The new school site does not have enough space to include a nursery.</p>

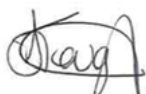
Resource implications	Norfolk County Council's schools' capital programme will be funding this new school building, as part of the growth agenda.
Recommendation	<p>Acknowledging the mixed response to this consultation, the local authority has a statutory duty to ensure there are sufficient school places for all pupils in its area. This proposal meets the need for additional primary phase places due to growth from housing development in the Bradwell area, locating a school in the new community and changing the age range. The proposals are also supported by governors and staff at the school.</p> <p>Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School was judged 'Good' by Ofsted in November 2018.</p> <p>It is recommended for Norfolk County Council to proceed to the statutory public notice stage of the school organisation process, subject to the planning permission application.</p>

I give permission for a public notice to be issued on the proposals to;

- Increase the number of pupils at Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School, from 210 pupils to 420 pupils and move into a new school building – full address yet to be confirmed, but will be located on Chaplin Road.
- Change the age range from 3 – 11 to 4 – 11.

These changes would come into effect from 1 September 2026.

Signed:



(Executive Director of Children's Services)

Date: 24 November 2023

Consultation on school organisation changes for Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School

Our proposal

It is proposed to;

- Increase the number of pupils at Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School, from 210 pupils to 420 pupils
- Move into a new school building – full address yet to be confirmed, but will be located on Chaplin Road
- Change the age range from 3 – 11 to 4 – 11.
- These changes would come into effect from 1 September 2026.

Why do we need to expand Bradwell Homefield CE VC 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 Bradwell area, it is expected there will be 1000 new homes, of which 360 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 Bradwell cannot accommodate these extra children.

Norfolk County Council considered the option of expanding the current Bradwell Homefields CE VC Primary School. However the existing site is unsuitable for expansion as its current size is well below the minimum DfE guideline for a school with 420 pupils.

It is therefore proposed to build a new primary school in Bradwell which will provide 60 pupil places per year group, with an overall capacity of 420 places on a single site within Wheatcroft Farm housing development.

Why we need to change the age range

The governors at Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School are aware that parents have said that they want to have more flexible early years provision that offers longer hours to assist those parents who work, with childcare provision. Unfortunately, this is not something that the school can currently provide and because of this factor the school continues to have low numbers of Nursery children attending. The school will work with local providers to look at options to support the needs of working parents.

In addition, the site of the new school, will not have enough space to include a nursery. This means that we would need to change the age range of the school, as we could no longer provide provision for 3 year olds.

Why we feel these changes are important

Norfolk County Council believe that these changes would benefit all children and young people in Bradwell because:

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

How can you have your say?

Norfolk County Council will be holding a drop-in event on Wednesday 20th September, at 2.30pm at Bradwell Homefield CE VC 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/bradwellhomefield>
- Completing the attached questionnaire and returning it to the School Office, Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School

We need all responses by 12 noon, Friday 20 October 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: 11/9/2023

Appendix B

Summary analysis of responses for Bradwell Homefield School									
Total number of responses = 82									
Method of response									
Online		Letter				Email			
82									
Respondent * please note respondents could tick all that apply									
Pupil	Parent/ Guardian	Member PTA	Staff	Governor	Local resident	Local business	Local sports group	Local commun ity group	Not answered
	41		8		41	1		2	1
Response Analysis – How far do you agree or disagree with our proposal to expand Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School by adding 210 pupil places and relocate to Chaplin Road, Bradwell from 1 September 2026? *please note respondents could tick all categories that apply - % of all respondents									
	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know			
Total	26 (32%)	10 (12%)	3 (4%)	6 (6%)	37 (45%)	1 (1%)			
Pupil									
Parent/Guardian	11	6			24	1			
Member of the PTA									
Member of Staff	7	1							
Governor									
Local resident	11	4	3	5	17				
Local business			1						
Local sports group									
Local community group					2				
Other	1				1				
Summary of views supporting the proposals – 36 respondents									
Good for community allowing more spaces within the school. However I did chose Homefield due to the closeness off all staff and children due to being a smaller more intimate school. Relocation may be difficult for parents who cannot drive with it being further away from the centre of Bradwell.									
The current school is no longer fit for purpose. It is very difficult to offer quality curriculum lessons in subjects such as DT and music. The field is in poor state which makes PE difficult too. There are no break out spaces for interventions.									
Much better location. Less traffic and so many more people within walking distance									

<p>The expansion of Bradwell over the last decade has been enormous, the latest housing development on Bluebell Meadow estate has massively highlighted the need for expansion or addition to existing services. The main being that of a primary school.</p> <p>All three Bradwell schools are at full capacity and have been for a while, the need for additional school places are very much needed to support families moving to the area.</p> <p>Obviously the ideal location would be the proposed site due to continued development within that area.</p>	
Need more schools	
Need more school places	
We have more families in the area and need more school places for our children.	
Additional education settings are needed to give local residents options.	
Because more school places are needed in Bradwell due to the increase in houses and residents in the area, however not sure on the location being out of the village so not walkable for many residents.	
More opportunities for the children	
The increase in housing developments in Bradwell, especially at Bluebell Meadow site, means there will be more children needing school placements.	
I think it makes sense to have one big 420 primary school rather than to build a second 210 place school. A single bigger primary can manage resources better (only need 1 head teacher) so efficiencies are easier. Also better for pupils as more potential friends within the same year group.	
The current school building is limited in its offer for children and a new building would provide some much needed facilities e.g. sports provision, DT/Science/Music provision. Currently the school is very short of space for interventions and for delivering the curriculum particularly for those subjects already mentioned.	
New opportunities to expand a good school.	
<p>happy with the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - new purpose built premises - improved/more facilities - bigger school cohort/more opportunities for friendships 	
The growth in pupil numbers from more housing needs schools to expand. Homefield is a successful school operating out of buildings with significant constraints. These proposal will address these issues.	
I agree the children will benefit from more space, particularly more outdoor space and more resources that can all be provided at a newer, bigger school. It is disappointing that parents were only notified at the start of term as it would have seemed fairer for parents of new entrants to the school to have been informed of the potential change prior to making their school choices last January as I have been told the school would have been aware of the situation at this point.	
Perfect opportunity for the families in bradwell. Homefield is a wonderful school.	
Because it will be easier for me to get to As I live on the estate and will be able to walk	
At the moment we have three schools too close together. Traffic is an issue. Loving the school will create more school places which are badly needed and spread the schools out across the village	
Not enough infrastructure in place or planned to deal with this change	

<p>My son currently attends Homefield and it's an amazing school. I also live on Breeze Close, and we are crying out for schools and shops closer to us. My son will have actually have left Homefield by 2026, but I do strongly agree that moving Homefield will be good for Bradwell. It will also clear up traffic around Green Lane/Beccles Road as the three schools all close together causes huge amounts of traffic. I'm a pedestrian and have witnessed many near crashes.</p>	
<p>It would allow the provision of school places to be better distributed across the entirety of Bradwell, instead of having all the schools concentrated in the older sector of the village. It would also mean many children could get to school without crossing a major road that currently has limited & ill-placed safe crossing points.</p>	
<p>Summary of views against the proposals – 43 respondents</p>	
<p>The school currently, is a 2 minute walk for us, and when it moves will mean having to drive. It is a lovely caring school, where everyone knows each other, and when it doubles and moves, we will lose that. Why move a school which is built for our area, to another area? Just keep ours where it is and build a new, smaller one on the new estate, so that their catchment houses can go. If you move our school, we will no longer be in catchment, it's crazy to take it away from us. Alot of parents walk to school at the moment. You will be forcing people to drive and causing alot of traffic. Where are we all going to park??</p>	
<p>This is our local catchment school and to take it from us to give to a new housing estate I feel is wrong. Why not just build a new school and leave ours where it is. People love that's it's a small friendly school and that will completely change. I don't drive and am currently a 5 minute walk from homefield. It will take me 30 minutes and to cross busy beccles road with 2 little ones in the morning and after school also. Personally think it's not a good idea at all</p>	
<p>For existing pupils it makes no sense. It would mean mums/carers having to drive further and for some that isn't feasible with other children to drop to school.</p>	
<p>Homefield has been always situated on homefield avenue in bradwell, whilst I understand the amount of children now in bradwell, I strongly think that a new school with a separate identity should be built to accommodate new children and keep homefield where it is. Also the reason we selected homefield was because of the strong C of E curriculum. With the proposed move at would be very difficult for the continued use of St Nicholas Church</p>	
<p>What's going to happen to the current cohort of children? Surely they would be in different catchment areas, and it'd be a long walk for some! Have provisions been made at hillside/ woodlands to take the current 210 children if they are unable to get to the new school?</p>	
<p>There school is such a lovely school traffic will be so bad</p>	
<p>For current families who have children in this school it makes making every morning more difficult to get their child too and from school</p>	
<p>It's a lovely school , leave it where it is .</p>	
<p>Leave the school where it is for parents who are in walking distance /don't drive. Are there spaces at hillside and woodlands for those than now couldn't get to Bluebell Meadow?</p>	

<p>Will have to drive to take my daughter to school and won't be a local school anymore. We chose homefield for our daughter because it's a small school and walkable.</p>	
<p>Homefield is a very old, 1 of its kind small school. With wonderful values. More of a family. If its not broke don't fix it. Taking away part of the communities heart. Build a new school if needed but why tear apart Homefield to do so, and destroy a wonderful, successful little school, unsettling children in the process. Terrible idea!</p>	
<p>It's only a little school. Which is walking distance of most people who go to that school. Most of us live right near it so it's within our catchment. Hillside, and woodlands are closer to the area as well as Herman are.</p>	
<p>Travel implications for those currently at the school. Parking issues in a busy area.</p>	
<p>Homefield is already in the middle of a densely populated area, which the bulk of walk to school. A new school should be placed on Chaplin Road to accommodate the new housing being built. But leave homefield where it is. Primary schools work better with smaller class numbers anyway.</p>	
<p>Keep Homefield a smaller school, its part of our community, and update the building, its worth it as it should have been maintained all along. We have a nursery facility currently, so it seems that that will no longer be an option at the other school, which is a shame. Of course people are wondering if the site will then be built on for housing etc, which will still have an effect with extra cars again. Building another school sounds nice to some people, but don't build things then in the future look to demolish, thats crazy, because all buildings need to be maintained and not abandoned. We live in a very throw away society, and is this what we want to portray to the children in the future. I remember not to long back meetings about lack of children in the area and then this why Claydon school site was built on, if the council still had that they could of used that as a site. Absolutely no foresight! We are not a failing school either, we have a good ofsted report and very good staff and headship, my philosophy is "if it ain't broke don't fix it", The bigger the school the bigger the problems that it will have. I was wondering if the school will become a dreaded Academy, where you will get treated as a number and not a person.....?</p>	
<p>Small schools are invaluable to some children, smaller classes more personal learning opportunities. Over subscribed schools don't have the opportunity to teach at a more personal level, children who don't have additional needs get forgotten about in classrooms.</p>	
<p>While I understand the need for progress and growth, I strongly believe that the current size and atmosphere of the school provide a unique and valuable experience for its pupils.</p> <p>One of the aspects I appreciate most about the school is its small and personal nature. With a limited number of pupils, there is a sense of community and a family feel that is difficult to replicate in larger schools. Increasing the number of pupils to 420 will undoubtedly affect this close-knit environment, potentially diluting the quality of education and personal attention that each student receives.</p> <p>Another concern I have is the parking situation. With a significant increase in the number of parents dropping off and picking up their children, I worry</p>	

<p>about the potential traffic congestion and safety hazards that may arise. Additionally, the proposed location of the new school building on Chaplin Road distances it from many families, making it no longer within walking distance for some. This raises questions about accessibility and convenience for families who depend on walking or cycling as their primary means of transportation.</p>	
<p>Nothing wrong with the existing school that is in Bradwell. If a school is being built then a fresh new one for all the new local children in the area should be built. Also the location of the school will chase noise complaints by locals and it's too close to the shops.</p>	
<p>I don't believe it would be best for the school.</p>	
<p>The reason for the expansion is due to the many houses being built and the current school cannot accommodate for all the additional children; surely it would be more beneficial to build another school to accommodate the influx of houses/children and leave the current Homefield site as a smaller school in the heart of Bradwell. Also; the current site has a nursery and the new one won't; Homefield Bradwell is a beloved school in the RIGHT location; in the heart of the village; moving it will be a massive loss. Not to mention the upheaval of school change, and travelling to the new site. We chose Homefield as its on our doorstep; as it is with many of the children there. This will in turn will create many more vehicles being used to get children to school at the new location. Congestion down the new road will be a nightmare; fumes being breathed in by children walking to school down a busy main road and I believe the school is close to a supermarket which again will add to the congestion!</p>	
<p>My daughter is currently in nursery - will be in going into year 2 in Sept 2023. We chose this school because it's within walking distance and a small village school. My little boy would be due to start nursery here Sept 2023 also which won't be offered in the proposal.</p>	
<p>I feel there is no need to upheave a school which is settled which it's children to move it somewhere else and add another 210 children, build a new school which holds another 210 children and leave the original homefield where it is! All the children are very settled at homefield and it's a lovely little school with a nursery. I have no idea who you would take a nursery away from a school! Who thinks of these ideas! I really disagree with the idea of moving the whole school completely. Build a new school with a new name and leave the rest where they are!</p>	
<p>I feel it would be more beneficial to open a new school rather than moving an already existing school. It is a huge upheaval for the children there. My son just started reception there and we chose the school for its location and size of school. It would not be suitable for my son at the new premises due to size.</p>	
<p>I liked homefield for my daughter as it was a smaller school and she could maintain the same friends. It's also close by, and easy to walk to as I do not drive. There isn't a bus route for us to use and it would be an incredibly long walk.</p>	
<p>The area is increasingly having new homes built on, schools are full. One extra class per year group isn't going to make enough impact. On top of that the new school build isn't even going to have a nursery. This means that something is actually going to be taken away from Bradwell. Homefield school was always about the community, having children from nursery age through enabled this feeling of a family/community. In my opinion, Homefield</p>	

should stay were it is and a further new school is needed as well to accommodate the ever growing Bradwell occupants.	
Some parents of the parents of the children who attend here walk to school, this would not be possible for them if it were to relocate. Also you are only increasing the amount of pupils by 30 per year. This is no where near the size that a new school should be to accommodate all of the new housing in bradwell. Some of the teachers may also not want to relocate so this would mean loosing long standing staff and have to employ new members	
You are relocating a full capacity school to a new build estate which would probably use the new school to its full capacity once all the phases are completed, leaving both schools at full capacity is the only viable option for an overstretched community, you will probably build new house on the old Homefield site again adding further strain to local schooling.	
You are just moving the problem to another part of bradwell and sending a full capacity school into an area which will require more space. Also where will the little ones go if you don't have a nursery? It's not on. You haven't thought about this properly. You should keep the current site at homefield for youngest years and have older children go to the new site.	
It best school leave it along	
Area already has no parking, this is before the new units are being built opposite the proposed school. The area into the estate has a high flow of traffic, which does not help with constant congestion at becon pk roundabout. It would make more sense locating the school on the otherside of the bluebell estate or build it down at becon Park where there is very limit traffic and alot of space for collecting children which would make it more safer than on an housing estate.	
Parking will be an issues with the increases size of the school	
Homefield school should be kept as it is and build a new school to accommodate the children from all the new builds	
We need more schools not replacement schools And more SEN provision in these schools !!	
Keep the current school and build another for the Bluebell estate	
Whilst I don't disagree with the expansion - it is needed given the increasing number of houses in the area - I do disagree with the plan to close the original site as I feel that there will still be limited spaces despite the expansion!	
Yes build another school disagree with closing homefield have both then this will allow for smaller classes.	
Why should the old part of Bradwell lose their village school because of a new housing estate, it's totally unfair. A smaller school should be built on the new housing estate and Homefield should be kept open as a village school.	
With the amount of houses being built in this area and more to come in the next few years (and even at the present time local schools already under pressure) I strongly believe that the present Homefield school SHOULD REMAIN OPEN and be SUPPLEMENTED by a new school for 420 extra pupils not replaced. Otherwise, In three years time there will be no spaces left in the new school either	
We live locally to Homefield and walk to the school. The proposed move will mean we would be forced to drive as my eldest daughter (18) has a disability and cannot walk that distance (Will have to be with me on school runs as cannot be left unsupported). It will also then be a fair walk for my	

<p>daughter that currently attends Homefield. It will also mean the 'village school' will become a much much larger school, with hundreds of new homes being built and have been built in that area. We applied for that specific school as we wanted a smaller setting for our daughter. We are not being given any choice about the changes being made, we cannot pull our daughter out in her last year at the school to move to Hillside Primary. It's such a giant leap in capacity, not something that will maintain the current feel of Homefield. Why move the school when a new one can be built without the removal of another.</p>	
<p>There is already a alot of traffic and parking issues on the estate by building a school here it will cause alot of problems on the roads.</p>	
<p>I have been a Norfolk Headteacher for a total of twenty seven years. I have a grandson in a Suffolk Primary school with a church foundation, so I am fully up to date with changes to curriculum, etc.</p> <p>The majority of the rebuilding of Homefield School took place whilst I was its Headteacher. The outdoor classroom which was planned as part of the Ofsted action plan in 2002, was opened in 2005.</p> <p>I fail to see why Governors are saying they cannot meet the needs of parents for childcare of the early years children. Can't or don't want to? The outdoor classroom is of a "conservatory type" construction which actually links Nursery and Reception, thus giving the children joining reception, who are not yet ready for a more formal education, a space to develop in an appropriate manner. How many schools in Norfolk have this kind of space for the whole of their Foundation Stage? It is a space that can be used all year round for play, building, making music, etc. Sadly, the last time I visited the school in October 2022 this outside classroom was just being used as a storage space.</p>	
<p>Comments from those who selected 'Neither Agree or Disagree' or 'Don't' Know; - 3 respondents</p>	
<p>I am completely for the Homefield school moving due to lack of facilities, the field, sports etc it needs to be updated. However the school it's self is amazing, so small, just lovely, the staff are incredible, but is all this because of how small the school is. They start from a young age at 3 in nursery which I thinks makes such a huge difference to their school life starting off in a school nursery, I really think this needs to be evaluated and try have a nursery included.</p>	
<p>The siting of the school at Chaplin Road (some considerable way from the current location) places the school close to Moorlands Primary Academy. Moorlands Primary Academy already has a falling role and is not full. Many of the parents live on the estates around Chaplin Road and will more than likely look to move once the new school opens. The current PAN at Moorlands is 45. This will need to reduce to a PAN of 30 if the proposal goes ahead, meaning that several members of staff will be made redundant. Plans for this need to be underway if the proposal goes ahead.</p>	
<p>I agree there needs to be a school thar side of bradwell However surely the proposed site for the school is not big enough for a 410 pupil school even if it has two floors.</p>	
<p>What is going to happen with the already existing school?</p>	

Response Analysis – How far do you agree or disagree with our proposal to change the age range from 3 – 11 to 4 – 11 years, from 1 September 2026?						
*please note respondents could tick all categories that apply - % of all respondents						
	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
Total	8 (10%)	9 (11%)	22 (27%)	5 (6%)	34 (41%)	4 (5%)
Pupil						
Parent/Guardian	3	4	10	1	20	2
Member of the PTA						
Member of Staff	2	5	1			
Governor						
Local resident	3	2	11	4	16	2
Local business			1			
Local sports group						
Local community group					2	
Other			1		1	
Summary of views supporting the proposals – 17 respondents						
Nursery provision and the needs of parents have changed a lot over the past few years. Households often depend on two adult incomes to support a family, a school offered provision does not support those who work. Many other local preschools offer extended provision that suit the modern family dynamic.						
3 is too young.						
Nursery spaces are needed and good to have nursery started to school						
The space in the new school will provide lots of enriching learning for the children from reception to year 6.						
Read the Links Road 240 home application and Norfolk County council response showed significant nursery under capacity so there is more than enough nursery places within the Borough already						
Whilst a nursery provision can enhance the school offer, it is difficult to compete with bespoke nurseries and the wraparound provision which is needed by many working families. I do not believe it is essential for the area as there are many alternative providers and the current school provision is not full						
Because they are too young to go to school at 3 years old						
Summary of views against the proposals – 39 respondents						
If this means no nursery from 3 years old I strongly disagree. At very young age I feel it's important for children to get in the school routine which is very						

beneficial at this young age. Which then in turn makes the adaptation from nursery to early years easier.	
School nursery's are a brilliant stepping stone into reception, I wish all schools had them	
Some parents work full time in order to keep a finically stable income for their children and putting the age to 4 means another year of finding childcare elsewhere for their younger children	
Not enough Local nursery provision	
My other daughter won't be able to attend nursery with my other daughter at school	
As stated above the school nursery done my eldest absolute wonders I think it's so important	
I believe not having the nursery within the school is very concerning and I strongly disagree. I put my child in nursery within Homefield as it is a easier transition from nursery-reception for every child. Making them comfortable before joining the main school. It also benefits many parents who have older children therefore having all children in the same school. There is also a lack of local nurseries who are not already full from nursery children may cause the potential for some parents not being able to secure a place elsewhere.	
Why change something that works currently	
If all the nursery provisions keep closing around us,they can't seem to make ends meet because of this cost of living crisis then Homefield has the key,offer more hours in our purpose built nursery. No provisions then parents and carers will choose other schools and that will not be cost effective in the long run.Unfortunately everything costs money.	
Whilst I acknowledge that this change may not directly impact me and my child, I strongly believe that the pre-school has been an invaluable asset to both the school and the children who have had the opportunity to attend. Having witnessed first hand the benefits of the pre-school, I am deeply saddened by the prospect of losing such a valuable foundation for our youngest learners. The pre-school experience has played a significant role in nurturing my child's communication skills, boosting their confidence, and fostering meaningful friendships. It has provided a safe and supportive environment where children can develop essential skills, socialise,and prepare for the transition to main school. Personally, I have witnessed how the pre-school has positively influenced my child's development. Their communication abilities flourished, and they gained a newfound confidence that has carried through to their experiences in primary school. Moreover, the friendships formed during this early stage have continued to blossom, creating a sense of familiarity and ease as they progressed to the main school.	
Lack of nursery spaces already.	
I don't think it's fair, it's good for children's to start and stay at the school even at nursery age.	
Because nursery places are needed so why would you remove this age group	
The Ark nursery is a wonderful addition to Homefield; allowing young children the big school environment before moving up themselves. They see and hear how the older ones interact and gives them the experience and ability to interact and merge successfully.	

My little boy is due to start nursery Sept 2023. With my little girl going into year 2 in Sept 2023 I'd like them to be at the same place.	
I feel it would be a shame for a nursery not to be included on the school site.	
So many nurseries are already oversubscribed so removing one is going to create a even bigger struggle	
My little boy is now in reception and has gone from the nursery to reception with all his nursery friends and I feel that has played a massive part to him settling into reception!	
The area is increasingly having new homes built on, schools are full. One extra class per year group isn't going to make enough impact. On top of that the new school build isn't even going to have a nursery. This means that something is actually going to be taken away from Bradwell. Homefield school was always about the community, having children from nursery age through enabled this feeling of a family/community. In my opinion, Homefield should stay were it is and a further new school is needed as well to accommodate the ever growing Bradwell occupants.	
My child only joined this school because the nursery is a part of it. I wanted him to get an early feel for school and having looked at various nurseries it became apparent this would be best achieved by him having a place at a nursery attached to a school. Independent nurseries do not offer the same opportunities for children. Going to homefield nursery prepared the children for their next step, moving into reception. The fact that the reception children transitioned so well and went straight into full days at the beginning of term (unlike all the other primary schools) is a testament to the preparation done in the nursery setting which the majority of the reception children this year attended. I would not have applied for a place for my child at homefield school had the school not had a nursery. From getting used to the uniform and routine onwards, the nursery is so important to the development of the children and to help them in their progression to the school. It familiarises them with the teachers and other staff members, the school setting and environment and it would be terrible for the nursery not to be a part of homefield anymore.	
People who have other children at this school will rely on a nursery there as it is convenient. Also a school led nursery is educationally better for the 3-4 year olds and this would be taking that away from their needs.	
There is a huge demand for nursery places to aid parents to work, mainly in the local community.	
Where will little ones go? You are just going to force the children into already over subscribed nurseries in the area.	
We're younger going	
Again we need more provisions not replacements	
Having just had twins myself and knowing how limited nursery spaces already are, this will simply make it harder for families to get their children into childcare.	
So homefield at the moment takes in 3yr olds , you build a newer (bigger) school but haven't got the room for 3yr olds what's the point in that !!! Absolutely hideous	
It's start from the age of 3. The majority of Bradwell work.	
Nursery places are imperative to transition little ones in to school but also provide facilities for working parents to have good quality provision of care. In these days of cash strapped families most parents both have to work, and nursery care is supposed to be expanding isn't it? Not reducing.	
This will affect a large number of local families. Removing provisions is not something that should be happening during the transition.	

I am shocked that the purpose-built Nursery opened around 1998 is not full. Under my leadership and before, it was always over-subscribed and used by Health Professionals and Social Services to place five children with Special Needs at each half-day session. These children were assessed pre-statutory school age so that the year in which they were five they attended a school that was able to meet their needs with the appropriate support in place. Many of them I have to say were able to continue their education at Homefield.	
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Comments from those who selected 'Neither Agree or Disagree' or Don't Know; (26 Respondents)

Doesn't matter to me as my daughter will be 8 then.	
Will the current site continue to be an educational setting? If so, will it continue to provide nursery care? With the recent closure of House of Fun, we have seen an influx of need for nursery provision in the Gorleston area. This has no doubt been looked at.	
There are child care settings for child before reception year so it's not really a must that they need to be at the school before reception year.	
It would be a shame to lose Homefield Nursery as many children start their Homefield journeys there, it is also a positive if existing children at Homefield have younger siblings that would attend the nursery - this would mean 2 morning drop offs at different settings	
Not too worried about nursery provision. It may impact availability in the area as others are very oversubscribed	
A nursery would be helpful but understand the constraints of the site.	
Don't have school age children	
Don't have enough information to make a decision, might be just one year difference but big gap in starting and finish ages	
The only thing to make sure is considered here is enough provision of alternative childcare for the age group being restricted by this changes. It would also make sense as it will ensure the new Homefield has the maximum provision for school age children.	

Other comments or suggestions you would like to make to help us with this decision and in planning for the future provision of the children.

Please leave our school where it is, and make another for the people on the new estate.
Why not just build a new school with its own identity rather than take homefield? It's really not fair to take it from one estate to put it in another. I put my child in homefield instead of my other catchment schools in Bradwell as I felt it was the best location size ect. Also will it remain a church school and go to the local church on visits like they do now as I'm not sure you could walk children to the church crossing Beccles road either if it was to move.
Why close a school to open another, can you not just open a new one on the estate and then gradually change the catchment areas. Those poor children will have a huge upheaval especially if they then need to change schools due to location. Most people apply for there catchment schools as they are close to where they live!

Build a separate school on Bluebell Meadow and leave Homefield where it is
Leave homefield as it is and build a separate new school for the residents of bluebell meadow
Leave Homefield alone, stop destroying the good. Build your new school without disrupting innocent children and families!
School is in need of a renovation and moving is the only option. However I would strongly advise the need for the nursery to remain within the school.
I get that the area needs a new school, but to tear up a small little school like this, which would only then have a few houses on instead is just ludicrous. I think the parents should have a say, we have all put our children into these schools so it works best around us an where we live etc
But another school on the new estate and keep the old one where it is!!
We would appreciate a conversation about the knock on effect that the school will have on Moorlands Primary Academy so that we can begin to make plans for future provision.
The decisions that Norfolk county council make effect us all, and I hope you make the right decision based on staff and residents who work and live in the area.
The proposal is definitely in the interest of the children, families and local community, a rejection would be a massive disservice to those that are in desperate need of local school places and an education site that is for for purpose.
Parking around schools is never well planned out, there needs to be consideration for the people who live on the estate. The estate at the moment is fairly quite, this will seriously affect this.
What will happen to the original Homefields site? With new build estates increasing the number of residents and children locally extra provision is needed.
Would there be sufficient on-site parking for drop off / pick up ?
I think it's essential that the school is delivered.
I feel a school on one level is far more safer for children of a younger age.
Please don't move the school :(
The public transport is not good enough for this to work. I have a bad back and walking would make life difficult for us. It would also add an extra change of school for my daughter, which we wanted to avoid.
Better parking required Retain CoE status Retain feeder status in to Lynn Grove High School
Due to the increase in houses being built in the area I believe that a brand new school to accommodate these would be beneficial. Alongside keeping Homefield as it is.
Get involved with local residents at the earliest opportunity as because I am a Bluebell Meadow resident this is the first I heard on this via a Facebook community post, I would have attended the 20th September meeting if I was aware!
Noone in bradwell knew about the proposal until someone posted it on Facebook. Communication is key to involving a community! What is going to happen to the old homefield existing site?
Personally think that the new school should be bigger to allow for future proofing the number of places required
As I've said above keep homefield as it is and build a new one for new builds , and if u are to build a new one for goodness sake call it another name !!!!!
Keep homefield and make the new school as well it will still fill it's all a nonsense !! More employment opportunities too.
Keep Homefield for pupils in that area and build an additional school for Bluebell estate that way parents would not have to use their cars to get their children to school which will help the carbon footprint

<p>Personally I feel the community would better benefit from keeping the old site and also opening the new site. Could the old site not act as a nursery and the new site as a primary school?</p>
<p>Yes what's going to happen to a perfectly good fully functional school when all this happens . BUILD MORE HOUSES ????????</p>
<p>New school to take children from 3</p>
<p>Homefield is a good and popular school. I reiterate my comments above about a new school in addition to the existing and lack of nursery places not being an option. I hope you as an authority come to your senses about the plan and deliver both a much needed EXTRA school and much needed nursery provision</p>
<p>Whether or not this specific proposed change occurs, there does need to be primary school provision in this part of Bradwell (as well, perhaps, as Secondary school provision, given the change in age over time). In concert with new/expanded school provision, there needs to be connected thinking and action taken regarding other services such as healthcare, dentists, public library. In particular the effective decommissioning of the Falklands GP site by Millwood Practice has restricted the number of people able to walk to a doctor surgery, and therefore disadvantaged people who live in the new sector of Bradwell.</p>
<p>I was a member of the S.E. Working Party and attended meetings regularly at County Hall when the development in Bradwell was discussed. The need for a new school was recognised 25-30 years ago. It was seen as a school to meet the needs of the new housing areas, not to destroy any existing schools. Your proposals are going to increase the volume of traffic on the Beccles Road; the parents of children at present in Homefield School will not be able to walk their children to the new school. At a time when many young families are struggling with higher mortgage/rent costs they will need to find more money for travel expenses incurred by having to get their children aged five plus to their school and their pre-school children to "a provider". A new school gives an opportunity to provide all the educational needs on one site. Why can't the new school be built to accommodate 210 statutory aged children plus facilities to provide Nursery education for the children in the newly built housing development. This would allow the present day Homefield School to continue providing education into the foreseeable future.</p> <p>The present school is at the heart of the Bradwell village community and always had very close links with the church. The vicar came into school regularly to take Assembly and accompanied us on many of our educational visits. He was part of our school community. We held special services in the church and used it to enrich most areas of the curriculum e.g. science projects on sound would involve a walk to the church to listen to the sound of the organ. That was true awe and wonder.</p> <p>The new school may be called the same and retain its church foundation but it would not be accessible to the church because you couldn't possibly walk that far from the new site.</p> <p>If your proposals go ahead I feel that in a time of economic downturn it is a complete waste of taxpayers' money. Hundreds of thousands of pounds have already been spent on the present Homefield School over the last twenty five years. I suspect the idea is to demolish it and sell the site off for more housing development.</p> <p>At the time of re-organisation I put forward an idea for Homefield to become a Centre of Excellence to meet the needs of families in Gt Yarmouth, Gorleston and the surrounds who have pre-school children. A centre where assessment for such things as speech and language, hearing disorders, etc. could be tested at pre-statutory school age. A place where parenting classes could help with nutrition, behaviour, reading, playing, talking to their</p>

children etc. could be held whilst their children were receiving quality experiences on the same site.

If it cannot continue to be the school, in which I was proud to serve, then please be creative and make sure it is not destroyed as the hub that it forms at the centre of the Bradwell community. A hub serving families and children which would be replaced with more soulless housing.

List of stakeholders who were sent the consultation document

Parents, staff and governors, Bradwell Homefield CE VC School
Lynn Grove Academy
Creative Education Trust
Hillside Primary School
Moorlands Church of England Primary Academy
DNEAT
Woodlands Primary Academy
Wroughton Infant Academy
Wroughton Junior Academy
Bradwell Parish Council
Great Yarmouth BC
Brandon Lewis MP
District Councillors
County Councillor
Little Learners Nursery
Little Squirrels Play Forest
Peterhouse Nursery
Rascals Nursery
Stay and Play
St Mary and St Peter Catholic School
House of Fun
Busy Bees
Scribbles Nursery
Shine Day Nursery
The Nurture Cove
Scribbles
Cliff Park
Great Yarmouth Primary Academy
Southtown Primary
Cobholm Childcare
Dragon Club
St Nicholas
Park Playgroup
Sunflowers
National Education Union Norfolk
Diocesan Director of Education
Diocese of Ely
Diocese of East Anglia
Educate Norfolk – (Secondary)
Educate Norfolk – (Primary)

Unison
NAHT
NASUWT
NEU (ATL section)
Voice the Union
GMB
ASCL
Suffolk County Council

Consultation Event

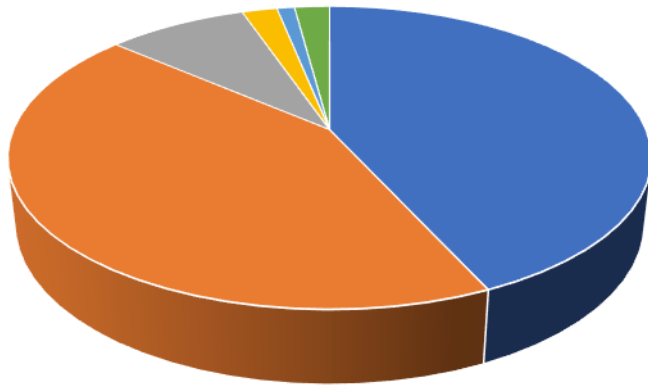
A consultation event was held on 20 September 2023, in person at the school, supported by the Chair of Governors, Headteacher and School Organisation Manager, Norfolk County Council. 25 people attended. The key issues raised included;

- Concern if the school was further away that it may be difficult to maintain the links with the church, which is used regularly; HT confirmed that this would continue.
- Data/evidence for the school places in Bradwell
- Identity of the school; will the school change its name as will no longer be on Homefield Avenue.
- Culture of the school; HT confirmed that this will continue and will continue as the school grows
- Pastoral support for families
- Explanation why Homefield wants to grow within a larger new school site
- Concerns about distance to new school, parking
- Concerns about lack of nursery provision
- Communication on progress of project
- Opportunities at new school site, as current school site limited and needing investment.

Who responded to the online survey?

The majority of respondents were parents/guardians and local residents (each 41 respondents). Respondents were able to choose from a list of categories, and 14 respondents selected both categories. 8 members of staff took part in the consultation.

Who took part in the consultation



■ Parents ■ Residents ■ Staff ■ Local Community Group ■ Local business ■ Other