

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

Consultation on proposed school organisation changes at Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School

Let us know what you think of our proposal.

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 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.

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 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 make school organisation changes to Bradwell Homefield CE VC 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/bradwellhomefield>
- Returning this completed form to the School Office, Bradwell Homefield CE VC Primary School

This consultation ends at 12 noon on Friday 20 October 2023