

July 2025

Report to Executive Director of Children's Services for a final decision on a proposal to change the catchment areas of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy and Burnham Market Primary School from September 2025.

The Proposal

In light of the decision by Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust to amalgamate Brancaster CofE Primary Academy (Market Lane, Brancaster, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE31 8AB) with Docking CofE Primary Academy and Nursery in June 2025- effective from September 2025, it is necessary to revise the catchment areas to ensure they align with the changed educational infrastructure in the wider area. Norfolk County Council proposed that:

- The catchment area for Brancaster CofE Primary Academy is added to the area for Burnham Market Primary School (Friars Lane, Burnham Market, King's Lynn, PE31 8JA), a school within The Wensum Trust.

As a result of the changes to catchment area of the primary schools, this will also affect the secondary phase feeder school arrangements. This proposal was therefore in conjunction with the secondary academies who are the admissions authorities. The changes were proposed to be as follows:

- Alderman Peel High School (Wensum Trust) will amend its admissions criteria to include the former Brancaster CofE Primary Academy catchment area (which would be added to the Burnham Market area), effective from 1 September 2025.
- The former catchment area for Brancaster will no longer be served by Smithdon High School (West Norfolk Academies Trust).
- Expanding the Burnham Market Primary School catchment to include the Brancaster catchment would mean that pupils living in the area would now be aligned with Alderman Peel High School, rather than Smithdon High School.

Local authorities have a statutory duty to coordinate school admissions. This involves publishing an annual coordinated admissions scheme and managing applications. While individual schools and academy trusts are responsible for setting their own admission arrangements, including catchment areas. The local authority acts as a central point of oversight to ensure the overall system is fair, transparent, and aligned with place planning responsibilities.

As the local authority holds responsibility for coordinating the process, it has led the consultation and will use the outcomes to inform recommendations to the Trusts. It will then be for the Trusts to

consider and take forward these recommendations through their own decision-making processes and subsequent arrangements.

The Consultation Process

The consultation ran from 12 June 2025 to 23 July 2025 for six weeks.

A copy of the consultation document is available in Appendix A. The documents were shared by email, school websites and available as hard copies. Online consultation was also carried out and a face-to-face drop-in event was offered.

A consultation documents were sent to the parents and pupils at all schools, as well as governors and staff. A full list is available in Appendix B of wider stakeholders which includes other local schools, Trade Unions who represent staff at the schools, Local Members of Parliament, Local County Councillors, District Councillors and Parish Councillors.

Respondents were invited to share their views in the following ways:

- Completing an online survey hosted on Citizenspace
- Completing the form attached to the consultation document and handing it into the school office
- Emailing schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk
- Writing to School Organisation Team, FREEPOST IH 2076, Lower Ground Floor, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DL. (stamp not required)
- Attending a consultation event; A face-to-face drop-in meeting was held on Thursday 3 July from 2:30pm to 3:30pm at Brancaster CofE Primary Academy. There were no attendees.

Summary Analysis

The full analysis is available in Appendix C.

Overall, there were 12 responses to the consultation, a low response rate.

- 8 people strongly agreed or agreed (67%)
- 0 person neither agreed or disagreed (0%)
- 4 people strongly disagreed or disagreed with the proposal (33%).

The following matters were highlighted in the responses:

Reasons Supporting the Catchment Change:

- Respondents said that the closure of Brancaster Primary is seen as making the proposed catchment change a logical next step.
- Supporters argue that Burnham Market Primary is geographically closer or equally accessible for Brancaster families, offers a broad and rich curriculum, and is already attracting interest from local parents.
- The transition from Brancaster to Burnham Market and then to Alderman Peel High School (all within the same trust) is seen as seamless, providing continuity for students.
- Burnham Market Primary is viewed by respondents as better provision and has capacity to expand if needed. Several comments note that both Docketing and Burnham Market are similar distances from Brancaster, but Burnham Market is slightly closer (4.7 miles).

Reasons Opposing the Catchment Change:

- Respondents highlighted that Brancaster is a church school, as is Docking, and believe children should continue to Docking for consistency in ethos and curriculum.
- Concerns are raised about job losses for local staff if fewer children transfer to Docking, and disappointment is expressed over the closure of Brancaster School, especially with new housing developments that were anticipated to have increased local demand.
- The replies also expressed disappointment and frustration within the Brancaster community regarding the school closure and the perceived lack of consideration for local needs. Some feel the process has been a disservice to the village, in light of new families expected to move in.
- A respondent called for creative solutions, such as shared catchment areas, to support the sustainability of both remaining schools.

Conclusion

Local authorities have a statutory duty to coordinate school admissions. Although local authorities cannot require academies or foundation schools to adopt specific catchment areas, they are encouraged to engage with admission authorities and can make evidence-based recommendations where changes would improve access and better reflect demographic changes.

The local authority uses its role as strategic place planner to identify and highlight issues with current catchment arrangements, supporting its recommendations with pupil forecasts, allocation patterns, and changes to the education landscape, such as amalgamation.

Norfolk County Council would not usually make suggestions to change catchment areas outside of the annual timescales. However, in this case, admission authorities can suggest changes if there has been a significant change in the circumstances and they think the alterations are required.

Changing the catchment area following an amalgamation ensures future admissions reflect the new arrangements and supports fair access for local families.

Following an amalgamation, it is often expected that the catchment areas of the schools involved would be combined. However, in this instance, a different approach has been taken to ensure that the future catchment arrangement aligns more closely with pupil forecasts. These forecasts take into account a range of factors, including birth data, housing development, patterns of parental preference and distance and school capacity. Burnham Market Primary School has sufficient capacity to accommodate local demand, many pupils are already living within the current Brancaster catchment are choosing to attend Burnham Market, and this arrangement will help ensure shorter travel distances for families.

The consultation received a low number of responses, four (33%) of respondents disagreed with the proposal highlighting the impact of the amalgamation on the community. One respondent noted that the school proposed to accommodate the combined catchment is not a church school and therefore may not be considered a natural match for families seeking a faith-based education. It should be noted, parental preference within the admissions code allows families who wish their children to attending a faith-based school can choose to do so and will not be restricted by the catchment change.

Among those who did respond, 8 people (68%) were in agreement that the proposed changes are appropriate and reflect the needs of the local area.

Overall, the consultation received a relatively low number of responses, with the majority indicating broad agreement with the proposed changes. We are grateful to all those who took the time to

contribute and share their views on how this change may affect the area. We fully acknowledge the strength of feeling expressed by some members of the community regarding the impact of the amalgamation. However, it is important that catchment arrangements are updated to reflect the new school structure. Taking no action would risk misalignment between school provision and local need, which would not serve children, families, or the wider community in the longer term.

Recommendation

Following the amalgamation of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy (discontinued) and Docking Primary School, it has been necessary for the local authority to review and consider adjustments to the catchment areas and admissions arrangements to better reflect the new school landscape. These changes aim to ensure that local children continue to have fair and consistent access to school places in light of the revised provision.

The Executive Director of Children's Services recommends to West Norfolk Academies Trust and Wensum Trust that from 1 September 2025 for the academic year 2025-2026 onwards the following:

Wensum Trust:

- The catchment area for the former Brancaster CofE Primary Academy is added to the area for Burnham Market Primary School
- With Burnham Market Primary being a feeder for Alderman Peel High School, it would be recommended the High school amends its admissions criteria to include the former Brancaster CofE Primary Academy catchment area (which would be added to the Burnham Market area).

West Norfolk Academies Trust:

- Smithdon High School removes the catchment of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy catchment from its admissions criteria

**Change of the catchment areas of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy and
Burnham Market Primary School from 1 September 2025 for academic year
2025-2026 onwards.**

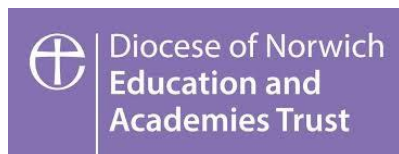
I agree to recommend the change to the catchments area of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy and Burnham Market Primary School from 1 September 2025.



Signed

Sara Tough OBE (Executive Director of Children's Services)

Dated 01/08/2025



Consultation on Proposed Changes to School Admissions:

Catchment area changes from September 2025 for Brancaster CofE Primary Academy and Burnham Market Primary School

Following the amalgamation of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy with Docking Primary School effective September 2025

In light of the recent decision by DNEAT to amalgamate Brancaster CofE Primary Academy with Docking Primary School, it is necessary to revise the catchment areas to ensure they align with the changed educational infrastructure in the wider area.

We're inviting feedback from those who may be affected by this proposal.

The consultation is open from **12 June 2025 until 5pm on 23 July 2025**.

Primary schools involved:

- **Brancaster CofE Primary Academy**, Market Lane, Brancaster, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE31 8AB- *Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust (DNEAT)*
- **Burnham Market Primary School**, Friars Lane, Burnham Norton, King's Lynn, PE31 8JA – *The Wensum Trust*

Secondary schools involved:

- **Alderman Peel High School**, Market Lane, Wells-next-the-sea, Norfolk, NR23 1RB *The Wensum Trust*
- **Smithdon High School**, Downs Road, Hunstanton, PE36 5HY, *West Norfolk Academy Trust*

All the schools in this proposed change are academies, which means they are the Admissions Authorities for their own schools; however, Norfolk County Council works collaboratively with the academies to coordinate the admissions of pupils including how the catchment areas are arranged.

Proposed Change:

Primary school changes:

Norfolk County Council wants to change the catchment areas from which students are admitted to Brancaster CofE Primary Academy, by adding it to the area served by Burnham Market Primary School starting from 1 September 2025.

Secondary school changes:

As a result of the changes to catchment area of the primary schools, this will also affect the secondary phase feeder school arrangements. This proposal is therefore in conjunction with the secondary academies who are the admissions authorities. The changes are proposed to be as follows:

- Alderman Peel High School will amend the admissions criteria to include the former Brancaster CofE Primary Academy catchment area (which would be added to the Burnham Market area), effective from 1 September 2025.
- The former catchment area for Brancaster will no longer be served by Smithdon High School.
- Expanding the Burnham Market Primary School catchment to include the Brancaster catchment would mean that pupils living in the area would now be aligned with Alderman Peel High School, rather than Smithdon High School. This change in secondary school reflects the recent pattern of parental preference in the area. Parents remain entitled to apply for a preferred secondary school outside of their catchment area.

What is a catchment area?

A catchment area is a specific geographical zone that can give children living in the area priority to get into a certain school. Norfolk County Council sets up these areas so parents can expect a better chance for their children to get a place at the school. Even though catchment areas help decide who gets a priority for placements and eligibility for home to school transport, families can still apply to any school, no matter where they live. Not all schools give a priority to children living within the catchment area it serves.

What will not change:

- The changes will not affect pupils already attending any of the schools.
- The changes will not affect the option of pupils and families to make parental preference for a preferred school outside of the catchment area.
- The catchment area for Docking CofE Primary Academy and Nursery will not change.

Reason for Change:

- We don't usually make changes to catchment areas at this time of year. However, in this case, we're considering this change is in response to the amalgamation of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy with Docking CofE Primary Academy and Nursery by The Diocese of Norwich Education and Academies Trust (DNEAT).
- This change will help balance the number of students in nearby schools and make sure all the schools have enough resources to support the pupils.

Primary schools:

This map shows the location of Brancaster CE Primary Academy, marked with a purple square, and its primary catchment area, outlined in green. The map includes surrounding areas such as Brancaster, Burnham Norton, and Burnham Market. A scale bar indicates distances up to 2 miles, and a north arrow is present in the top left corner. The map is sourced from Ordnance Survey AC0000851272, dated 16 April 2025.

Key

- Primary school
- Current Brancaster Primary catchment

Current Brancaster CE Primary Academy - Primary catchment

Scale: 1:100,000

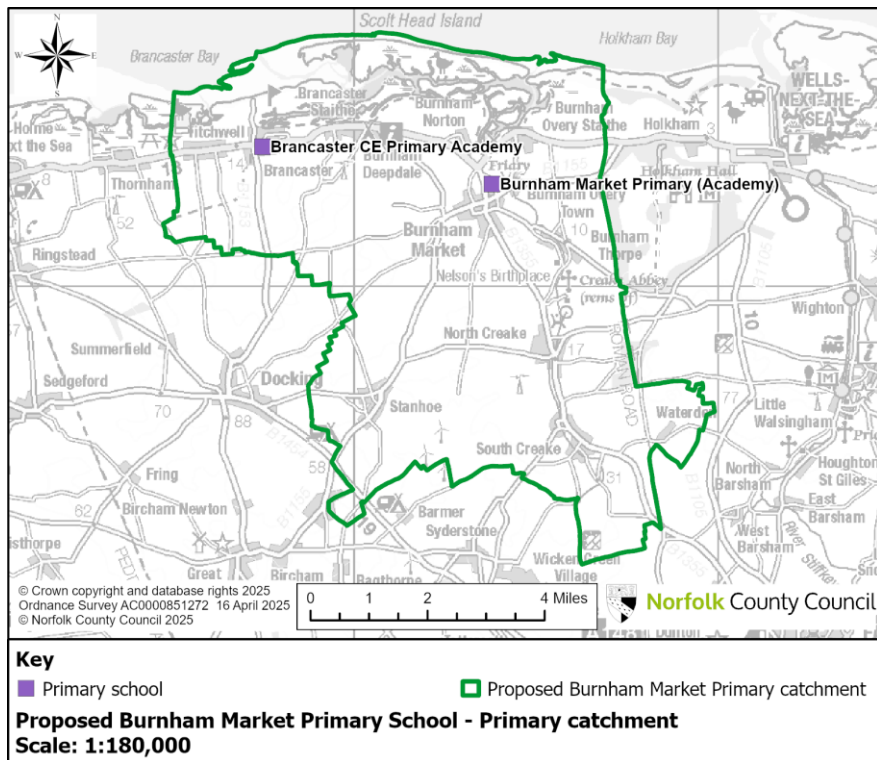
This map shows the primary school catchment area for Burnham Market Primary School, highlighted in green. The school is marked with a purple square. The map includes surrounding towns such as Burnham Thorpe, Burnham Deepdale, and Burnham Norton. A scale bar indicates distances up to 4 miles, and a north arrow is present in the top left corner. The map is credited to Ordnance Survey and Norfolk County Council.

Key

- Primary school
- Current Burnham Market Primary catchment

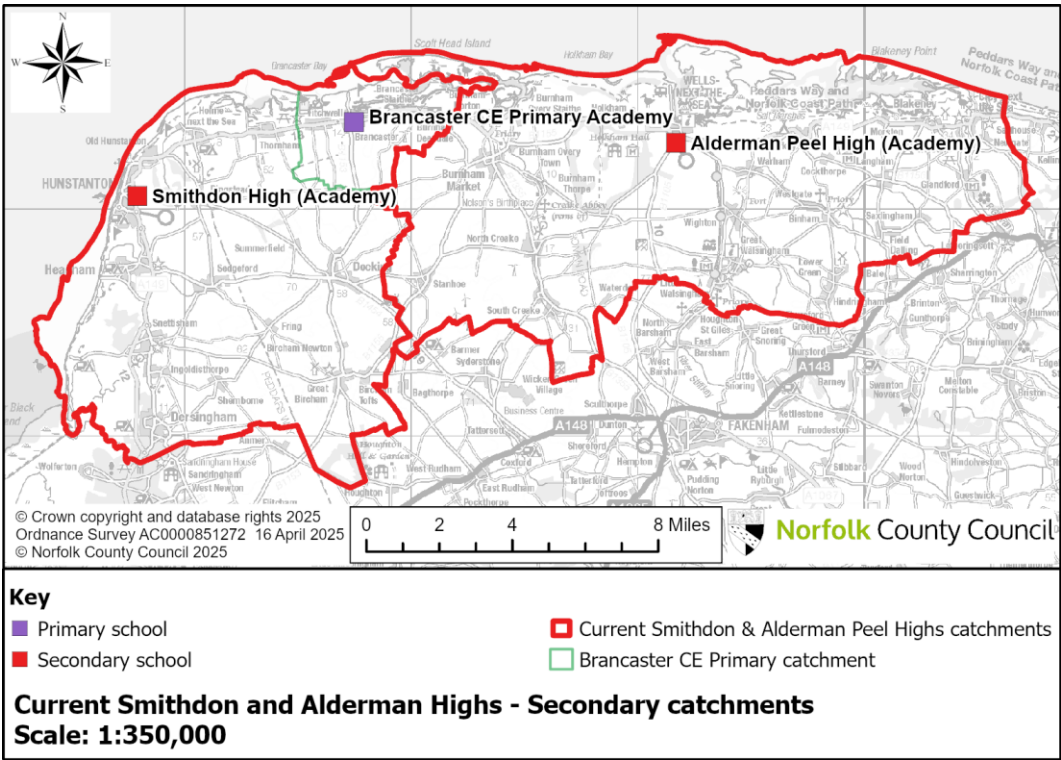
Current Burnham Market Primary School - Primary catchment
Scale: 1:180,000

Proposed Burnham Market Primary School catchment from September 2025

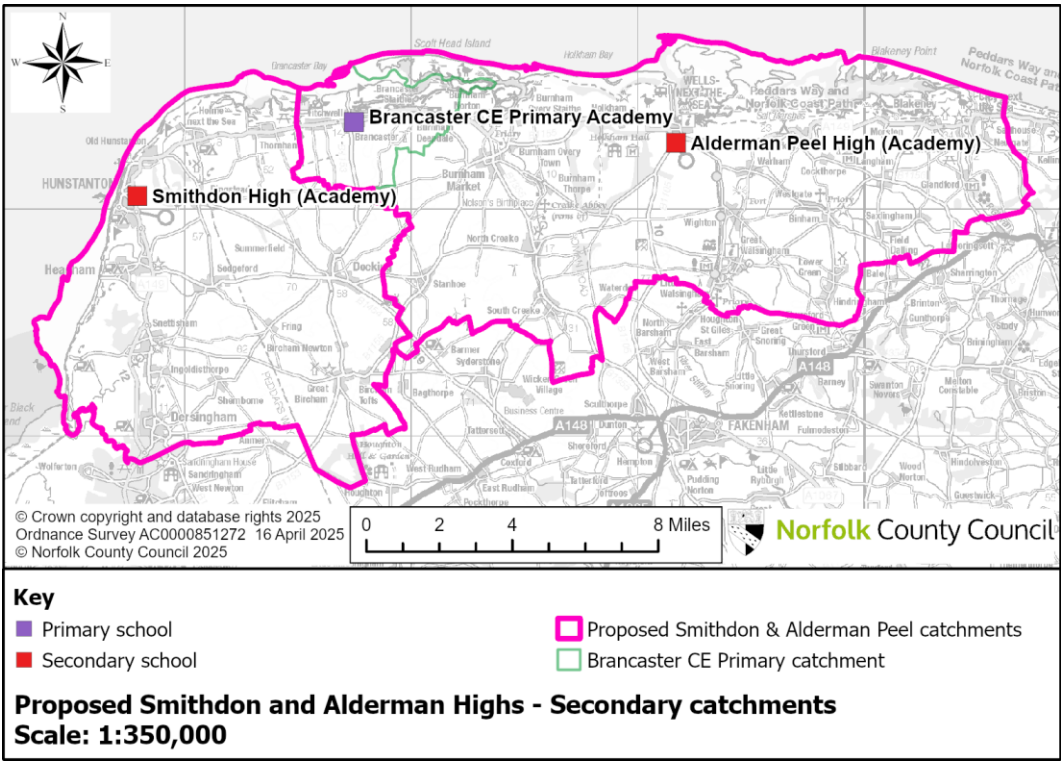


Secondary schools:

Current Smithdon High and Alderman High Peel Catchments



Proposed Smithdon High and Alderman Peel High Catchments from September 2025



Why are we not proposing to merge the Brancaster and Docking catchments?

- Pupil forecasts are the current projection of how many places we will need to provide all Norfolk children with a school place. The data includes all children currently attending schools, birth details, housing development plans, parental preference patterns and migration information. Assessment of the Brancaster and Docking catchment proposals suggest that capacity could be limited in the future were the areas to be combined.
- Burham Market Primary School has capacity to offer the pupils places.
- For many families living in the current Brancaster catchment, Burnham Market Primary School is closer than Docking CofE Primary Academy and Nursery, and many are already choosing it because it means a shorter journey to school.

How might this change affect home to school transport?

Depending on where you live, children may be eligible for free home to school transport. Your child will be entitled to free school transport, if they:

- Are of compulsory school age (five to 16 years old) on 1 September or
- Will be five before 1 September 2025 when applying for school year 2024-25 or
- Will be five before 1 September 2026 when applying for school year 2025-26 and
- Attend the nearest catchment or the nearest appropriate school with a place as designated by Children's Services and
- Live more than two miles, measured by the nearest walking route to school, when under the age of eight
- Live more than three miles walking distance from school, when aged eight or over

If the proposed changes to catchment areas go ahead, this may affect which school is considered a child's nearest or catchment school.

Not sure what this means for you or your child? Please speak to us about your personal circumstances, call our Admissions team on **01603 638036** or **01603 638528**.

You can find see the full home to school transport policy here: [Transport for 5 to 16-year-olds - Norfolk County Council](#)

Getting more help:

- If you have questions about your child's circumstances, please talk to our Admissions team on **01603 638036** or **01603 638528** who will be able to help.

How to Share Your Views:

You will have received this consultation as you are a stakeholder and may be affected directly or indirectly by the change. We would like to seek your views on the proposal.

- The consultation will run from **12 June 2025 till 5pm 23 July 2025**.
- There are several ways you can share your views:

Tell us your views about the catchment change by;



- Completing the online survey via QR code on <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/brancasterandburnhammarket>
- Talking to us; There will be drop-in session held on **Thursday 3 July from 2:30pm to 3:30pm at Brancaster CofE Primary Academy**.
- Emailing us at schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk
- Completing the attached form and handing it into the school office
- Write to School Organisation Team, FREEPOST IH 2076, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DL. You do not need a stamp.

Next Steps:

- After the consultation ends, Norfolk County Council will review the results and present the findings to the Executive Director of Children's Services who will make a recommendation to change the catchment area of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy and Burnham Market Primary School to the academies and trusts involved.

Consultation on Proposed Changes to School Admissions:

Catchment area changes from September 2025 for Brancaster CofE Primary Academy and Burnham Market Primary School

Following the amalgamation of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy with Docking Primary School effective September 2025

What you think of the proposals? Please provide responses below

How far do you agree or disagree with the proposal to change the catchment areas of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy and Burnham Market Primary School from September 2025?

Please tick one box

☐

Strongly Agree

☐

Agree

☐

Neither agree or disagree

☐

Disagree

☐

Strongly Disagree

☐

Don't know

Please give your main reasons for your answers.

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 of the children?

Please write in the box below.

We would like to hear from many different people as your views help us to decide whether or not we make these changes.

We will process your personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations, which means that we will not give your personal data to any third parties.

Your comments will be anonymous - your name or anything that could identify you will not be included in any report. However, we cannot guarantee that this information will be withheld if it is requested under the Freedom of Information Act.

Please tell us who you are:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pupil | <input type="checkbox"/> School governor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parent / Guardian | <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): _____

Which school are you linked to? _____

What is your postcode? _____

The earliest this change could take place would be September 2025.

You can tell us your views by returning your completed form to the school office.

Appendix B

Stakeholder List

St Mary's Federation	head@thestmaryfed.norfolk.sch.uk ;	Gavin King
Smithdon High School	head@smithdonhigh.org.uk ;	Amanda Gibbins
West Norfolk Academies Trust	office@westnorfolkacademiestrust.co.uk ;	Andrew Johnson
Dersingham Primary and Nursery	head@dersingham.norfolk.sch.uk ;	Zoe Warren
Heacham Infant and Nursery	head@heachaminfant.co.uk ;	Louise Jackson
Heacham Junior School	head@heachamjunior.co.uk ;	Louise Jackson
Hunstanton Primary School	head@hunstanton.norfolk.sch.uk ;	Joanna Sullivan
Ingoldisthorpe Junior School	head@ingoldisthorpe.norfolk.sch.uk ;	Julia Norman
Snettisham Primary School	head@snettishamprimary.co.uk ;	Louise Jackson
Alderman Peel High School	principal@aldermanpeel.norfolk.sch.uk ;	Matt Hardman
The Wensum Trust	info@wensumtrust.org.uk ;	Daniel Thrower
Pilgrim Federation	office@walsingham.norfolk.sch.uk ;	Tom Snowdon
Langham Village School	head@langham.norfolk.sch.uk ;	Ms Polly Kossowicz
Wells Primary and Nursery	head@wells-next-the-sea.norfolk.sch.uk ;	Rachel Strowger
College of West Anglia	david.pomfret@cwa.ac.uk ;	
Councillor Michael Dalby	michael.dalby.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk ;	
Wells Town Council	clerk@wellstowncouncil.org.uk ;	Emma Gunhouse
North Norfolk District Council	steve.blatch@north-norfolk.gov.uk ;	Steve Blatch CEO
Burnham Market Parish Council	burnhammarketpc@gmail.com ;	
Councillor Andrew Jamieson	andrew.jamieson.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk ;	
Hunstanton Town Council	clerk@hunstantontowncouncil.gov.uk ;	
Kate Blakemore CEO	kate.blakemore@west-norfolk.gov.uk ;	Kings Lynn and West Norfolk BC
Steff Aquarone MP	steff.aquarone.mp@parliament.uk ;	

James Wild MP	James.wild.mp@parliament.uk ;	
Sara tough	sara.tough@norfolk.gov.uk ;	
Councillor Tom dewinton	cllr.tom.dewinton@west-norfolk.gov.uk ;	
Councillor Michael Chenery	michael.chenery.cllr@norfolk.gov.uk ;	
Councillor Sam Sandell	cllr.sam.sandell@west-norfolk.gov.uk ;	
Brancaster Parish Council	clerk@brancaster-pc.gov.uk ;	
Docking Parish Council	clerk@dockingparishcouncil.gov.uk ;	
Burnham Market Nursery School	nursery@burnhammarket.norfolk.sch.uk ;	
Snettisham Bobtails	snettishambobtails@gmail.com ;	
Little Gillies	manager@littlegillies.co.uk ;	

UNION/other key CONTACTS

Scott Lyons National Education Union Norfolk Joint Secretary	scott.lyons@neu.org.uk ;
Vicky Warnes NEU joint Secretary	Vicky.warnes@neu.org.uk ;
Diocesan Director of Education	paul.dunning@dioceseofnorwich.org ;
Diocese of Ely	adrian.ball@demat.org.uk ;
Diocese of East Anglia – Andy Stone	andy.stone@rcdea.org.uk ; ssc@rcdea.org.uk ;
Educate Norfolk – Jim Adams (Secondary)	jadams@cc-trust.co.uk ;
Educate Norfolk – Sarah Shirras (Primary)	head@st-williams.norfolk.sch.uk ;
Nigel Beiley, Unison	nigel.beiley@unisonnorfolkcounty.co.uk ;
Mrs C Gibson, NAHT	info@naht.org.uk ;
NASUWT, Tim Lambillion-Jameson	timlambillion@gmail.com ;
Bob Groome NEU (ATL section)	Bob.Groome@neu.org.uk ;
Voice Community Trade Union	mrdavies@community-tu.org ;
Ivan Mercer, GMB	info@gmb.org.uk ;

Richard Moore ASCL	richard.moore@ascl.org.uk ;
Carol Barber, Suffolk CC (sch org)	schools@suffolk.gov.uk ;

Appendix C

Brancaster CofE Primary Academy and Burnham Market Primary School catchment consultation

<https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/brancasterandburnhammarket>

This report was created on Thursday 31 July 2025 at 09:07

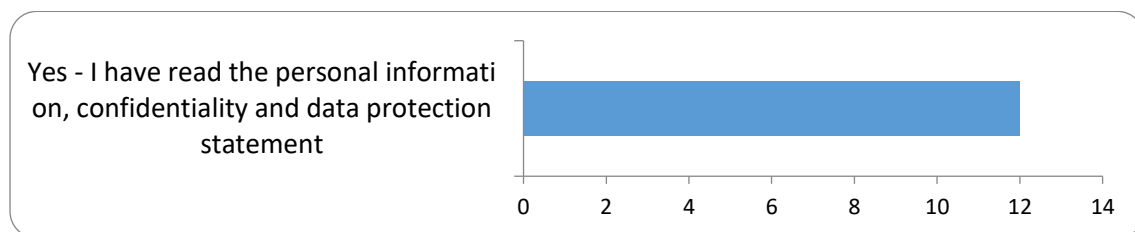
The activity ran from 12/06/2025 to 23/07/2025

Responses to this survey: **12**

1: Please tick to confirm that you have read the Personal information, confidentiality and data protection statement above.

Data protection agreement

There were 12 responses to this part of the question.



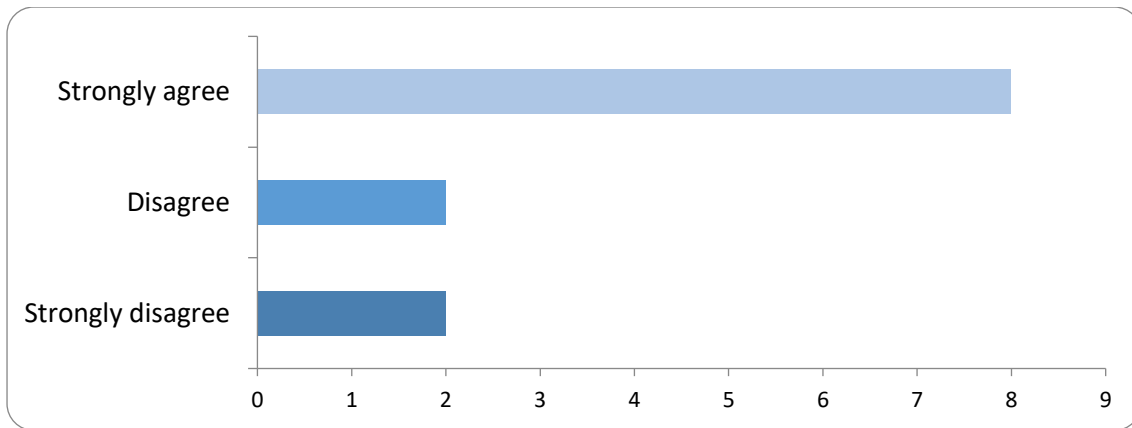
Option	Total	Percent
Yes - I have read the personal information, confidentiality and data protection statement	12	100.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

2: How far do you agree or disagree with our proposals to change the catchment areas of Brancaster CofE Primary Academy and Burnham Market Primary School from September 2025?

Please select only one item

agree disagree

There were 12 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Strongly agree	8	66.67%
Agree	0	0.00%
Neither agree or disagree	0	0.00%
Disagree	2	16.67%
Strongly disagree	2	16.67%
Don't know	0	0.00%
Not Answered	0	0.00%

3: Why do you say this?

Please write in the box below:

tell us why

There were 11 responses to this part of the question.

4: 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 of the children. Please write in the box below.

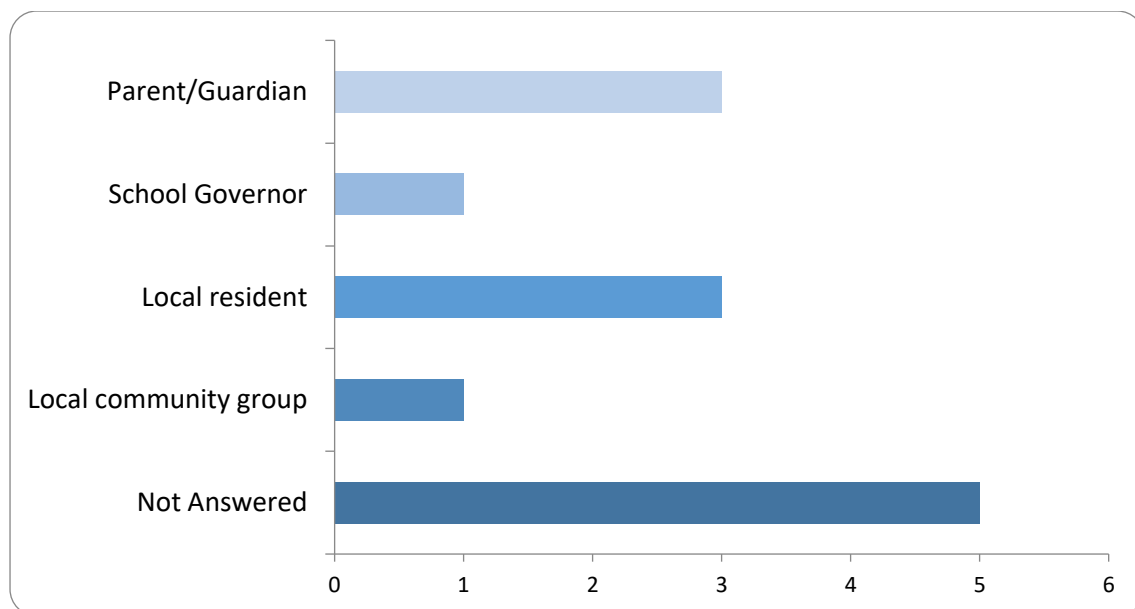
Please write in below:

There were 4 responses to this part of the question.

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

who are you

There were 7 responses to this part of the question.



Option	Total	Percent
Pupil	0	0.00%
Parent/Guardian	3	25.00%
Member of the Parent Teacher Association	0	0.00%
Member of Staff	0	0.00%
School Governor	1	8.33%
Local business	0	0.00%
Local resident	3	25.00%
Local sports group	0	0.00%
Local community group	1	8.33%
Not Answered	5	41.67%

Other, please specify

There were 6 responses to this part of the question.

6: What is your postcode?

postcode

There were 12 responses to this part of the question.

Comments received to the consultation via CitizenSpace

	Why do you say this? Please write in the box below: - tell us why	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 of the children.
Disagree	Brancaster is a church school. Burnham market is not. The pupils should go to Docking another church school.	
Strongly agree	As CEO of the Wensum, I would like to see schools and Trusts work together to make as many Norfolk schools sustainable as possible. Burnham Market Primary School is a thriving school that offers a very broad and rich curriculum. Whilst numbers of children at the school are very healthy, I would welcome children from the Brancaster catchment to join the school as what is offers is exceptional. It makes sense that Brancaster falls with the catchment of Burnham Market. The majority of Brancaster children transition from Primary schools to Alderman Peel High School which is also part of the Wensum Trust. It makes sense that a child can start their journey aged 2 in a Wensum Trust school and end their school journey at 16 also in a Wensum Trust school. Their journey will be seamless and linked up.	
Strongly agree	Parental preference for a while has been towards APHS for secondary provision	
Strongly agree		
Strongly agree	Geographically it makes sense in terms of location and the ability of BM Primary to expand if needed. Distance is just 4.7 miles from Brancaster to Burnham Market.	Ability of BM to accommodate the children is probably greater than Docking. APHS as a destination has been a school of choice for many families from Brancaster - helps to secure this moving forward.
Strongly agree	Burnham Market Primary School is already attracting interest from parents in the Brancaster Area and it should be allowed to accept pupils from that area.	
Strongly disagree	This will mean less children transferring to Docking primary school which would br a far smoother transition as it has the same Head, values and curriculum as Brancaster. Less children would mean less staff would also be able to transfer to Docking as part of the merger so more local people lose their jobs than necessary	
Disagree	The school at Brancaster was federated with Docking. Docking and Burnham Market are similar distances from Brancaster and it would have made sense to enable Brancaster children to attend Docking. Having some creativity around developing catchment areas could have seen a shared solution enabling the flourishing of both remaining schools.	Having a more holistic, strategic and creative approach to changing catchment areas will be needed as we enter a period where many small schools are likely to close.
Strongly agree	I live in Brancaster Staithe and Burnham Market is our nearest school. My son has a place there from September 2025. Docking School already has far too many children for the footprint of the school and	We hope there will be transport provided to take the children to and from Burnham Market school for children attending from the parish

	Burnham Market is a much better provision	
Strongly disagree	DNEAT should never have closed Brancaster School. It is a disservice to our village, especially when we are building 12 x 3 bedroom social rent houses in Brancaster Staithe who would have used the school. To just say 'oh well they can go to Burnham Market' is just not good enough. We are extremely disappointed in the way DNEAT has conducted themselves.	Yes, have the council take over the school site in Brancaster and run it properly.
Strongly agree	Makes sense that Brancaster is included in the catchment for Burnham market and onward to wells for senior school because of proximity	
Strongly agree	Given the announced closure of Brancaster Primary, the proposals seem like a logical option for future catchment areas.	