

Consultation on Proposal to add 6 places to the existing autism base creating a 16 place autism base at Edward Worlledge Ormiston Academy, Great Yarmouth Norfolk from 1 April 2024

Our Proposal

Ormiston Academies Trust would like to hear your views on our proposal to add 6 places to our existing Autism base, creating a 16 place provision from 1 April 2024, at Edward Worlledge Ormiston Academy, Suffolk Road, Great Yarmouth NR31 0ER.

We are very keen to provide this support in our schools and are looking to expand our offer to enable earlier support to be made available and more families to benefit. By accessing the Autism Base and its support, it will allow those children with autism and other associated needs to be effectively supported in a mainstream setting with access to our curriculum, enrichment and other opportunities.

This has been identified in Norfolk's Local First Inclusion Programme as a priority for development. The additional places will be allocated through Norfolk County Admissions processes will grow up to full capacity through this admissions process.

Our Autism Base

Our Autism Base will be located within the existing "H" Block modular building. This will include refurbishment to two existing classrooms, providing new intervention spaces, new ICT, along with external area improvements. All capital costs for the refurbished accommodation will be funded from Norfolk County Council's Local First Inclusion programme, to ensure there is the appropriate accommodation.

What is an Autism Base?

Autism Bases are areas within a mainstream school setting with a dedicated lead teacher and high levels of support staff. They are an integral part of the school and provide additional support from trained staff for children with social communication difficulties or a diagnosis of autism. The Base provides a learning area which is calm and adapted to meet these needs. Children and young people can be, as needed taught in the Base with a focus on supporting children to integrate and access mainstream classes alongside their peers with increasing independence.

What are the benefits of this proposal?

The main driver for Ormiston Academies Trust and the senior leaders of Edward Worlledge Ormiston Academy, is to meet the increased demand for specialist educational provision within our area, to best meet the needs of our most vulnerable learners. We feel our proposal would benefit children and young people because it will:

- support more pupils with special education needs and disabilities to be educated and thrive in their local school and community;
- enhance pupils progress by effectively meeting their individual social, emotional and mental health needs;
- help facilitate better access to the curriculum and support pupils to achieve their potential;
- ensure that needs can be met locally avoiding the need for pupils to spend unnecessary time travelling to an appropriate school further away. This is better for young people and saves the taxpayer money in transport costs;
- increase the availability of places to meet the needs of pupils with SEND;
- address identified geographical, and age and phase gaps in Base provision as identified in Norfolk's SEND Strategy;
- support the sharing of autism expertise and good practice as part our school and Trust.

Capital costs

All capital costs for the refurbished accommodation will be funded from Norfolk County Council's Local First Inclusion Programme, to ensure there is an enabling environment in line with Autism friendly school standards.

How can you have your say?

Ormiston Academies Trust will be holding a drop in event on 9th November 2023, from 3.15-4.30pm at Edward Worledge Ormiston Academy, 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/ewoabase>
- Returning the completed form to the school office at Edward Worledge Ormiston Academy.

We need all responses by 24 November 2023.

What happens next?

Ormiston Academies Trust will consider all the responses received during this consultation and decide whether to complete a business case and send it to the Regional Director, for a decision.

30th October 2023

Consultation on proposed changes to Edward Worlledge Ormiston Academy, Great Yarmouth

Let us know what you think of our proposal.

How far do you agree or disagree with our proposal to establish a permanent 16 place Autism Base at Edward Worlledge Ormiston Academy, by adding 6 places to the existing base?

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 establish the Autism Base at Edward Worlledge Ormiston Academy.

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 Academy Trust's data protection policy and guidelines. This means that Ormiston Academies Trust 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): _____

Which school are you linked to: _____

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/ewoabase>
- Returning this completed form to the School Office at Edward Worlledge Ormiston Academy

This consultation ends on 24 November 2023