



Norfolk County Council



School Organisation in Great Yarmouth affecting Alderman Swindell Primary School and North Denes Primary School

In 2015 all schools in Great Yarmouth were reorganised to become all-through primary schools. The County Council is undertaking a second stage of organisational review in North Yarmouth to ensure that we are making better use of existing buildings and to consider how we can improve them in the most cost-effective way.

There are a number of aspects that the County Council as the Decision Maker must take into account when considering the organisation of schools. These include school leadership, performance, impact on the community, diversity of provision, need for places, travel, early years provision and special education provision.

Headteachers and Chairs of Governors of the two schools - North Denes Primary School and Alderman Swindell Primary School - have been working with us about the future provision of school places. The discussions included the option of keeping things as they are, as well as the proposal below.

The proposal is:

- All primary school children in the North Yarmouth area, to go to a single, larger primary school on North Denes Primary School site, for 420 children aged 2 – 11 years (60 pupils in each year group). We will do this by building a new larger school building which will accommodate all the children and which could be expanded further. There will be provision for pre-school children on this site.

Why we feel this is important

The overall driving force is ensuring any change to school organisation is in the best interest of children's education and achievement.

We are consulting you on this proposal to seek your views on whether this will give a sound base of school organisation and school buildings for the way the area is developing now and the way it will develop in the future. Norfolk County Council believes this would benefit all children and young people in Great Yarmouth because:

- It will provide sufficient places for the current number of primary pupils in the northern part of the town and will allow for some expansion in the future. Smaller schools are likely to face more funding pressures in the future than larger ones.
- It will provide capital investment on one site, by providing a new school building on the North Denes site, by September 2020. This uses the County Council's capital budget in the most cost-effective way. The funding allocated for the

improvements to both school buildings, which amounts to £6.4m, could be pooled to use for a new primary school building on the North Denes site.

- It will provide a huge improvement in the quality of accommodation for local school children, including pre-school age children. The County Council believes this will provide a modern school building, with facilities that support flexible learning environments and enhance pupils' pride in their school.

As part of our consultation now we are currently considering alternative uses of the Alderman Swindell Primary School site, to address priorities to meet the needs of children and young people who cannot be educated in a mainstream school. The factors informing this identified need include:

- High rates of permanent exclusion from school, locally and in the wider Norfolk area;
- Transport costs of pupils resident in the Yarmouth area, who have to travel long distances to attend a school away from their local community;
- The current capacity of local state funded special schools and over reliance on the independent sector where young people are placed in out of county residential schools.

If at the end of the consultation process, the proposal does not go forward, then the schools will remain as they are.

The earliest this could happen is 1st September 2018.

We will be holding drop-in events where you can come and find out more about these plans. You are welcome to attend at either venue.

- Tuesday 20th June, 5 – 6pm, at North Denes Primary School
- Thursday 22nd June, 2 – 3pm, at Alderman Swindell Primary School
- Tuesday 27th June, 2.30 – 3.30pm, at North Denes Primary School
- Thursday 29th June, 5 – 6pm, at Alderman Swindell Primary School

If you are unable to attend these events but would like to comment on our reorganisation proposals please:

- complete the attached form and hand it to the school office
- or write to School Organisation Team, FREEPOST IH 2076, Floor 8 (Bay 29), County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DL
- or email schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk
- or access our online survey:
<https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/north-yarmouth>

We need all responses by 21st July 2017.



Norfolk County Council



School Organisation in North Yarmouth

Let us know what you think of our proposal.

Do you agree or disagree that all primary school children in the North Yarmouth area, go to one primary school, on the North Denes Primary School site?

Agree

☐

Disagree

☐

Please give your main educational reasons for your answer. 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.

In addition, we would also welcome your views on the possible re-use of the buildings currently occupied by Alderman Swindell Primary School, to meet the needs of children and young people who cannot be educated in a mainstream school.

We want to hear from a wide range of people. We will use your answers to help us understand which sections of the community have responded to our consultation. You do not have to answer these questions if you do not want to.

We will process your personal data in accordance with the Data Protection Act, 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): _____

At which school? _____

What is your name? _____

What is your postcode? _____

Your views will help us identify the preferred option.

This consultation ends on 21st July 2017

The Executive Director of Children's Services at Norfolk County Council will make a decision about whether or not to proceed to the next stage. If we decide to go ahead, we would then have to publish a formal public notice. A final decision would then be made in August 2017.

You can tell us your views:

Online: <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/north-yarmouth>

Post: by using this form which can be returned via your local school or post to: School Organisation in North Yarmouth Consultation, FREEPOST, IH2076, County Hall (Floor 8 / Bay 29), Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2BR. **You don't need a stamp.**

Email: schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk