

## **North Denes (Community) Primary School Statutory Proposal to change the Age Range**

### **1. LA details**

Norfolk County Council  
County Hall  
Martineau Lane  
Norwich  
Norfolk  
NR1 2DL

### **2. School details**

North Denes Primary School  
Jellicoe Road  
Great Yarmouth  
Norfolk  
NR30 4HF

### **3. Description of alteration and evidence of demand**

The Governing Body of North Denes Primary school opened childcare provision on 1 September 2017 under Section 27 of the Education Act 2002 (Power of a Governing Body of a maintained school to provide community facilities). This proposal is to extend the age range of North Denes to admit pupils from the age of 2, formally changing the age range of the school.

It is further proposed that all primary school children in the North Yarmouth area, go to one primary school, on the North Denes Primary School site. This proposal is related to one to close Alderman Swindell Primary School, which is half a mile from North Denes.

In order to create a single primary school for the children in North Yarmouth. we would build a new 420 place primary school, with room to expand further, and when coupled with other developments in the town, will mean there are sufficient places in the future.

If this proceeds, the change would be made from 1 September 2018.

An initial statutory consultation was held between Monday 12 June and Friday 21 July 2017. Over 3200 consultation documents were distributed in accordance with the Department for Education guidance on statutory school organisation changes. Consultees included pupils; parents and carers; staff; other schools in the local area; the local MP; the local District and County Councillors; Diocesan Bodies and early years providers. All households in the immediate neighbourhood area of Alderman Swindell Primary School and North Denes Primary Schools received directly a copy of the full consultation document. The document was also available as a shortened leaflet in English, Portuguese, Lithuanian and Russian. The consultation document explained the proposal and provided a range of means to respond.

Four stakeholder meetings were agreed between the Headteachers and the County Council prior to the start of the consultation and were held as follows:

20 June from 5 – 6pm at North Denes Primary School – 25 people attended  
22 June from 2 - 3pm at Alderman Swindell Primary School – 75 people attended

27 June from 2.30 – 3.30pm at North Denes Primary School – 25 people attended

29 June from 5 – 6pm at Alderman Swindell Primary School – 60 people attended

#### **4. Objectives (including how the proposal would increase educational standards and parental choice)**

Norfolk County Council has agreed to invest £7m in education in North Yarmouth and has been exploring how to make the best use of that money for children now and in the future.

Both schools are in old buildings which are not equipped for a modern curriculum and extending the existing schools will not address the issues with the current buildings. A new school would give children 21<sup>st</sup> century facilities and would be more cost effective. Schools with two-form entry generally achieve better results for children, having a greater pool of teaching experience and find it easier to recruit, whilst being more financially sustainable.

There are two other primary schools within a 10 minute walk of the area, so parents will continue to have a choice.

#### **5. The effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area**

This proposal for North Denes Primary School is related to a proposal to close Alderman Swindell Primary School. Other primary phase schools in the Great Yarmouth are not in the scope of this review.

#### **6. Project costs and an indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved**

In 2015 all schools in Great Yarmouth were reorganised to become all-through primary schools. County Councillors asked us to undertake a second stage of organisational review in North Yarmouth to ensure the County Council is making better use of existing buildings and to consider replacing them where this is more cost-effective.

The current estimated cost of the new school building on the North Denes site is £7.25m. This is available in the approved Children's Services capital budget.

#### **7. Implementation date and proposed stages**

The proposal will be implemented on 1 September 2018.

#### **8. Related proposals**

This proposal is related to the proposal to close Alderman Swindell Primary School.

## 9. Procedure for making representations

Any person may object to, express support for, or make comments on the proposals by responding to the survey at <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/north-yarmouth/> by emailing us at [schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk), or by writing to us at:

North Yarmouth Consultation, FREEPOST, 1H 2076, Floor 8, Bay 29, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2BR. You don't need a stamp.