

Consultation on a proposal to increase the number of pupils with Special Educational Needs and change the age range at The Parkside School, Norwich

The Proposal Summary

As Governors at The Parkside School, we are proposing from 1 September 2024 to;

- increase the number of pupils in the 6th form, to provide 12 extra pupil places with Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- change the age range from 7 – 17 to 7 – 18 years.

These changes, if agreed, will create a Year 13 provision, to offer a 24 place 6th form; 12 places in Year 12 and 12 places in Year 13. Please note that all the places will not be available from 1 September 2024, but phased over 2 years. By creating a Year 13 provision, we need to change the age range of the school to be able to offer places to pupils up to the age of 18 years.

This proposal is part of the Local Authority's SEND Transformation Plan and Local First Inclusion project to increase the number of places for children with SEND in the Norwich area.

Why is this consultation taking place?

Before any major decision can be made about the changes of a foundation special school, there has to be consultation with those people likely to be affected by the change. The purpose of this document is to consult with parents and other stakeholders with an interest in the provision of special education provision for children in Norfolk. This document gives you background information and asks for your views.

Background information on The Parkside School

- The Parkside School is a complex needs school located in Norwich, split over 2 sites. The 6th form is based at Surlingham House.
- We currently have 181 pupils on roll, as at 1 January 2024, all of whom have Education, Health and Care Plans. We cater for all abilities across all ranges.
- The school educates pupils between the ages and 7 and 17, many of whom have additional sensory impairments, physical difficulties and/or medical needs.
- Our most recent Ofsted inspection (January 2020) rated the school as Outstanding in all areas.
- Surlingham House has capacity for the additional pupils, so there are no capital costs with this proposal.

Why we feel the changes are needed

The Trustees of The Parkside School believe the changes would benefit young people because it would:

- Enable pupils with special education needs to benefit from the high-quality education and support at The Parkside School, with potentially shorter travel times for local pupils.
- Enable The Parkside School to develop provision at 6th form for more young people with SEN.
- Enable more Norfolk young people with SEN to attend a school in Norfolk.
- Reduce the pressures on budgets created by expensive out of county placements thus enabling spend to benefit the development of Norfolk provision for Norfolk pupils.

How can I have my say

We will be holding a consultation event, virtually, where you can find out more about this proposal on Monday 29th January, 5.30 – 6.30pm

If you would like to attend this event, please contact the school office, by email; office@parkside.norfolk.sch.uk to register and receive the joining details to the meeting.

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

- access our online survey: <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/parkside>
- complete the attached form and hand it to the school office
- or write to Chair of Governors, c/o The Parkside School.

We need all responses by 12 noon, 16 February 2024.

What happens next?

The Governors will review all the comments made during this consultation and decide whether to proceed to the statutory public notice stage for this proposal.

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Let us know what you think of our proposal

How far do you agree or disagree with our proposal to increase the number of pupils with Special Education Needs at The Parkside School, Norwich from 1 September 2024? Please tick a box.

Strongly agree Agree Neither agree or disagree

Disagree Strongly disagree

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 7 – 17 to 7 – 18 years at The Parkside School, Norwich from 1 September 2024? Please tick a box.

Strongly agree Agree Neither agree or disagree

Disagree Strongly disagree

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 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 also use any personal information to understand how different groups of people feel about our proposal to increase the number of places at The Parkside 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 Parkside's data protection policy and guidelines. This means that Governors 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 / 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 postcode? _____

Your views will help us decide if this proposal goes ahead. You can tell us your views by:

- Accessing our online survey: <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/parkside>
- Return this completed form to the school office.

This consultation ends at 12 noon, 16 February 2024