



Consultation on a proposal to increase the number of places from 18 places up to 26 places, at the complex needs Specialist Resource Base at Sprowston Infant School, Norwich from 1st February 2024.

Our proposal

Norfolk County Council would like to hear your views on our proposal for Sprowston Infant School, Recreation Ground Road, Norwich, Norfolk NR7 8EW to **add 8 places** to the complex needs Specialist Resource Base (SRB) from 1 February 2024.

We appreciate that children and young people with complex needs can struggle to engage with learning and cope in a classroom without additional strategies and interventions. A Resource Base can support children to overcome their barriers to learning, to be better able to cope and to be re-integrated into a mainstream setting, in which they can achieve their potential.

We are very keen to provide this support in Norfolk schools. Our Specialist Resource Base will be expanded to cope with the additional places and will still have an enabling environment for SRB learners in a bespoke accommodation base. The Base will be managed by the Headteacher and governing body at Sprowston Infant School.

The local authority, Norfolk County Council is responsible for all admissions to Specialist Resource Bases. Referrals are considered by a County panel, and placements of pupils with or without an Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) are made using eligibility criteria for pupils with an ASC profile and assessing these against needs and appropriateness of referral.

What are the benefits of this proposal

The main driver for Norfolk County Council and the governors at Sprowston Infant School, 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 students with special education needs and disabilities to be educated and thrive in their local school and community;
- enhance students' progress by effectively meeting their individual complex needs;
- help facilitate better access to the curriculum and support students to achieve their potential;

- ensure that needs can be met locally avoiding the need for students 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 students with SEND;
- address identified geographical, and age and phase gaps in SRB provision as identified in Norfolk's SEND Strategy;
- support the sharing of complex need expertise and good practice as part of our school.

There are several considerations that Norfolk County Council take into account when considering changes to organisations 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. The overall driving force is to ensure any change is in the best interest of children's education and achievement.

What will happen to children currently supported by the SRB

The current children supported by the SRB at Sprowston Infant School will remain on roll at the school and there will be no disruption to their learning. The only exceptions would be where an annual review of a child's Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) decided to consider a change of school, or parental preference changes.

Capital costs

The proposal is to expand the existing complex needs SRB to create a new 50sqm space. This will be achieved by extending the front of the school. The new space will include a new accessible pupil toilet and a corridor to the existing secure outdoor play area. In addition, there will be a new lobby to the main school entrance and two additional car parking spaces. Capital costs will be covered by Norfolk County Council.

How can you have your say

We will be holding a drop-in event where you can come and find out more about this proposal and look at the proposed plans for the capital project:

- 2 – 3pm, Thursday 9 March, Sprowston Infant 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 email schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk
- or access our online survey: <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/sprowstonsrb>

We need all responses by 31 March 2023.



Consultation on proposed changes to Sprowston Infant School, Norwich

Let us know what you think of our proposal

How far do you agree or disagree with our proposal to increase the number of places from 18 places up to 26 places, at the complex needs Specialist Resource Base at Sprowston Infant School?
Please tick a box.

<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Agree	<input type="checkbox"/>	Neither agree or disagree
<input type="checkbox"/>	Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 the Specialist Resource Base at Sprowston Infant 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 Norfolk County Council's data protection policy and guidelines. This means that Norfolk County Council 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 returning this completed form to:

- Your school office
- Emailing schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk
- Accessing our online survey: <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/sprowstonrb>

This consultation ends on 31 March 2023