

April 2020



Report to the Executive Director of Children's Services for decision on a statutory change to Drake Primary (Community) School

What is the proposal?

The proposal is to establish a 16 place Autistic Spectrum Disorder Specialist Resource Base, from 1 September 2020, at Drake Primary (Community) School, Fairfield, Thetford IP24 1JW.

Public notice and representation period

A statutory public notice was issued by Norfolk County Council and published in the Eastern Daily Press on 3 March 2020. Copies were displayed at all the main entrances to Drake Primary (Community) School. The four week representation period came to an end on 31 March 2020. See Appendix 1 for Public Notice and Prescribed Information.

One submission was received during the statutory Public Notice period from a member of the public who strongly agreed with the proposal as it will give children with SEND needs the opportunity to stay closer to home and not have to travel so far from home, when often they can't cope with everyday situations, let alone long distance travel.

All statutory requirements in relation to the statutory consultation were complied with.

The decision

In coming to a decision, the Decision Maker is obliged to consider the following factors:

Education standards and diversity of provision

Drake Primary (Community) School was rated Outstanding by Ofsted in October 2013.

This proposal supports the implementation of the Norfolk SEND and AP Transformation programme vision for Norfolk, to be a county where;

- all children and young people with Special Education Needs and Disabilities (SEND) reach their potential and thrive
- parents are confident in the improved local SEND and Alternative Provision offer of sufficient, affordable, good quality, local specialist provision.

The cost-effective provision of high quality educational places is central to meeting the County Council's objective of ensuring inclusion and high standards of achievement for Norfolk learners with Special Education Needs.

Specialist Resource Bases are a key part of Norfolk's Local Offer for children with special educational needs and their families. It has been identified in Norfolk's

Transition Programme as an area that needs significant growth. This proposal addresses an identified need and gap in Specialist Resource Base provision as identified in Norfolk Special Educational Needs Sufficiency Strategy to establish new Specialist Resource Base provision for Autistic Spectrum Disorder in Breckland.

This proposal ensures that needs can be met locally, avoiding the needs for children and young people to spend unnecessary time travelling to an appropriate school further away.

This proposal complements the investment in four new specialist free schools, including one in Fakenham for Autism/Complex Communication & Interaction Needs which is due to open in January 2022.

Equal opportunities issues

This proposal supports the presumption of mainstream education for children with special education needs under the Children and Families Act 2014. It also provides further choice for families of children with special educational needs whose preference is for their child to be supported in a mainstream school.

An Equality Impact Assessment has been undertaken on the proposals to establish SRBs in Norfolk Schools. This identified the following action;

	Action	Lead	Date
1.	Consultation on SRB accommodation designs with SRB project group, specialist providers, educational psychologists, current and proposed SRBs to maximise opportunities for the building to be accessible and appropriate for the groups of SEND children they cater for	Capital Team	Aug – Dec 2019 completed
2.	Tender specifications to include Equality Act 2010 compliance and ensure due regard to BB104 guidance to ensure accessibility and SEN specific considerations are catered for in building projects	Capital Team	completed
3.	Schools to update their SEN information reports to include the SRB as part of the school's local offer	SENCO	From opening
4.	ASD SRBs to undertake an audit and moderation exercise against the AET Autism Friendly School Standards to ensure the SRB and whole school physical environments are ASD friendly	ASD SRBs	From opening
5.	SRB schools to review their own equality action plans to reflect any accessibility	SRBs	From opening
6.	SRB schools to make reasonable adjustments for any SRB pupils with a disability so they can play an equal part in whole school life	SRBs	From opening

Actions 3 – 6 will be incorporated in the planning meetings with schools, in preparation for the SRB opening in their school.

Community cohesion

The County Council has considered that there are no specific community cohesion issues that arise from the school organisation change being proposed. The provision will promote inclusion of pupils with SEND in mainstream settings.

Travel and accessibility

It is expected there will be a positive impact on travel and accessibility as this proposal seeks to implement additional SRB places in Thetford, therefore minimising the need to travel further to access this provision.

It is not anticipated that there will be a significant increased impact on peak time traffic at the school, as the majority of these pupils will arrive onto the school site by taxi.

Funding

All capital costs will be met by the Local Authority. The SRB provision at Drake Primary (Community) School is likely to be;

- Remodelling of an interior area of the school for the SRB
- Providing a stand along 2 x classroom block for displacement

There will be a separate consultation as part of a planning application process when the exact location is known.

There may be delays with the capital programme due to Covid19.

Long term value for money will be achieved as there is greater capacity to meet the needs of children with SEN locally.

Conclusions and recommendation

In considering the proposals, the Decision Maker can decide to:

- Reject the proposal
- Approval the proposal
- Approve the proposal with a modification
- Approve the proposal subject to it meeting a specific condition.

There were no objections to the proposal during the statutory Public Notice period.

It is therefore **recommended** that the Director of Children's Services, in her role as Decision Maker as delegated by Norfolk County Council, should decide in favour of the proposal at Drake Primary (Community) School, to establish a 16 place Autistic Spectrum Disorder Specialist Resource Base, from 1 September 2020.



Proposed significant changes to schools; establish special educational needs (SEN) provision

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that, Norfolk County Council intends to make a prescribed alteration to the following schools, in accordance with section 19 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013.

- Caister Infant & Nursery (Community) School and Caister Junior (Community) School, Kingston Avenue, Caister on Sea, Great Yarmouth NR6 6QA – prescribed change is to establish a 16 place Social, Emotional and Mental Health Specialist Resource Base, located on the school site.
- Drake Primary (Community) School, Fairfields, Thetford IP24 1JW – prescribed change is to establish a 16 place Autistic Spectrum Disorder Specialist Resource Base, located on the school site.
- Hillcrest Primary (Community) School, Hillcrest, Downham Market, PE38 9ND – prescribed change is to establish a 16 place Learning and Cognition Needs Specialist Resource Base, located on the school site.
- Mundesley Infant (Community) School and Mundesley Junior (Community) School, Trunch Road, Mundesley NR11 8LE – prescribed change is to alter the 10 place Social, Emotional and Mental Health Specialist Resource Base at Mundesley Infant School to establish a 16 place Social, Emotional and Mental Health Resource Base, located on the school site.
- Redcastle Family (Community) School, St Martins Way, Thetford IP24 3PU – prescribed change is to establish a 16 place Autistic Spectrum Disorder Specialist Resource Base, located on the school site.

These proposals will be implemented from 1 September 2020.

This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/srbprovision/>; emailing schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk or by writing to the School Organisation Team, Children's Services Floor 8 (Bay 34), County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DL.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to, or make comments on, the proposal by sending them to the School Organisation Team, Children's Services Floor 8 (Bay 34), County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DL or by email to: schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk

Signed: Sara Tough
Executive Director of Children's Services

Publication Date: 3 March 2020

Prescribed Information; 3 March 2020

Statutory Proposal to change the existing “POD” provision to a 16 place Autistic Spectrum Disorder Specialist Resource Base (SRB), at Drake Primary School, Thetford from 1st September 2020

1. Local Authority details

Norfolk County Council, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich NR1 2DH

2. School details

Name	Drake Primary School
Type	Community School
Address	Fairfields, Thetford, Norfolk, IP24 1JW
Age Range	4 – 11 years
Capacity	420 pupils; Numbers on roll 1 January 2020 = 405
Ofsted	Last Ofsted; October 2013 Rating; Outstanding

3. What changes are proposed?

It is proposed to change the existing “POD” provision to a 16 place Autistic Spectrum Disorder Specialist Resource Base (SRB), at Drake Primary School, Thetford, from 1st September 2020.

4. Why do we want to do this? (evidence of demand)

Norfolk County Council has a statutory duty to;

- ensure a sufficient supply of school places in its area for children of school age
- promote high educational standards, diversity and parental choice
- ensure fair access to educational opportunity
- help fulfil every child’s educational potential.

The Norfolk SEND Sufficiency Strategy identified gaps in provision and priority areas for development including the need for a new primary Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) SRB in South Norfolk/Breckland. To meet this need and demand for specialist resource base places, Norfolk County Council has been working with governors and senior leaders from Drake Primary School to establish this provision in the right place to ensure improved access to SRB provision in Norfolk, for children, young people and their families. Norfolk County Council is looking to establish new SRBs or expand existing SRBs, from 1 September 2020.

Norfolk County Council and the Governors at Drake Primary School feel these changes would benefit children and young people because;

- It provides consistency of and access to autistic spectrum disorder SRB provision for children, young people and families in the area
- It ensures that needs can be met locally avoiding the need for children to spend unnecessary time travelling to an appropriate school further away
- There is an increase of places to meet the needs of children with autistic spectrum disorders

- This SRB would continue to be part of a wider county wide SRB programme, providing consistency of SRB provision
- Provides additional resource for the pupils currently requiring specialist resource
- It addresses an identified gap in specialist provision through the SEND Sufficiency Strategy to meet needs locally.

An initial consultation was held between Tuesday 7 January and Tuesday 4 February 2020. During that period, two public meetings were held at the school on 10 January and 16 January 2020. 4 members of the public attended. 5052 consultation documents were distributed and 209 responses were received. Of these, 68 people (32%) gave their views on **all** the proposals and 161 people (77%) gave their views on individual schools. Please note some people will have responded to all the proposals and on an individual school.

Of the 68 people who gave their views on all the proposals;

Strongly Agree	50 people (73%)
Agree	10 people (15%)
Neither agree or disagree	1 person (1.5%)
Disagree	5 people (7.5%)
Strongly Disagree	2 people (3%)

Of the 8 people that commented on Drake’s SRB proposal, 7 strongly agreed to the proposal and 1 person strongly disagreed to the proposal.

A copy of the consultation report including the consultation proposal, is available in Appendix 1.

5. Objectives, including how the proposal would increase educational standards and parental choice.

Norfolk County Council wants to:

- Enable 16 pupils to benefit from ASD SRB specialist education and support provided by Drake Primary school.
- Increase the number of places for children with autistic spectrum disorders in Breckland, as part of the Local Authority SEND Transformation Plan.

Norfolk County Council’s policy is to expand schools that are rated ‘Good’ or ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted. Drake Primary School was inspected in October 2013 and rated Outstanding.

The cost-effective provision of high quality educational places is central to meeting the County Council’s objective of ensuring inclusion and high standards of achievement for Norfolk learners with SEN.

This proposal offers parents access to more autistic spectrum disorder specialist resource base places in Norfolk, reducing the travel time for children and young people living locally.

6. Will there be any effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions within the area?

We cannot foresee any impact on any other schools, as this proposal provides specialist support in a mainstream school which removes the pressure of meeting the needs of pupils who are currently waiting for additional support.

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

All capital costs will be met by the Local Authority. The SRB provision is likely to be in a new building on the school site and there will be a separate consultation as part of a planning application process when the exact location is known.

Long term value for money will be achieved as there is greater capacity to meet the needs of children with SEN locally.

8. Will this definitely happen?

No. There is a statutory process we must follow to make this type of change to schools.

9. Implementation date and proposed stages

If the proposal is agreed by the local decision maker; the Executive Director of Children’s Services, Norfolk County Council, it is intended that the significant change will be implemented from 1 September 2020.

10. Related proposals

This proposal is linked to 9 other proposals to establish new SRBs or expand existing provision at SRBS in Norfolk. These are set out in the consultation document attached in Appendix A. Please note some of these proposals are from Academy Trusts who will be applying to the Regional Schools Commissioner for approval for their SRB proposal.

11. How can I make my views known?

Any person may object to, express support for, or make comments on the proposals, within 4 weeks of the publication of the statutory public notice by:

- Sending an email to; schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk
- Writing to: School Organisation Team, FREEPOST, 1H 2076, Floor 8, Bay 34, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2BR. You don’t need a stamp.

12. What happens next?

The following table sets out the key dates for the consultation and decision making. At any point the proposal may be withdrawn. The dates set out below meet the Department for Education requirements for consultation on school organisation proposals.

School organisation process	Date
Public Notice published	3 March 2020
Statutory consultation (representation stage)	3 March – 31 March 2020
Decision required, no later than	31 May 2020
If approved, change of age starts	1 September 2020

Appendix 1



Report to the Executive Director of Children’s Services for permission to publish a statutory public notice

The proposal;

To open new Specialist Resources Bases for children with special education needs and disabilities and expand existing provision at Specialist Resource Bases in Norfolk, from 1 September 2020.

The consultation involves 10 schools/academies. Stakeholders, parents and other consultees were given the option to give their views on all the proposals and/or specific schools. This report is on the responses given to **all** the proposals. The summary analysis of the responses to the individual LA maintained school proposals are attached in Appendix C. Responses to the individual Academies taking part, have been sent to the Academy Trusts.

Reason for the proposed change	Norfolk County Council is investing £120m in specialist school places and services, with up to four new special schools and 170 places in specialist bases at mainstream schools. This proposal is part of this investment. Specialist Resource Bases (SRBs) are a key part of Norfolk’s Local Offer for children with special educational needs and their families and has been identified in Norfolk’s SEND Strategy as a priority for development. This proposal has been made by Norfolk County Council and Boudica Trust (previously Rightforsuccess Trust), Evolution Academy Trust, KWEST Academy Trust, Inspiration Academy Trust and Wensum Academy Trust. The proposal can be found at Appendix A.
Consultation details	A consultation document was produced on the proposal for 8 <u>new</u> Specialist Resource Bases at Redcastle Family School, Thetford Academy, Caister Infant & Nursery, Caister Junior School, Arden Grove Infant & Nursery School, Edith Cavell Academy & Nursery, Wensum Junior Academy, Greyfriars Academy, and Hillcrest Primary plus <u>expand/change</u> the SRB at Mundesley Infant School and Drake Primary School. The consultation ran from 7 January to 4 February 2020. Consultation documents were sent to all parents, governors, staff at each school/academy and key stakeholders as identified by DfE guidance. A total of 5052 documents were distributed and all Norfolk schools were informed via e-courier published on 10 January 2020. Consultation documents were produced in Portuguese, Polish, Lithuanian and Russian. Consultation events (details set out in the consultation document) were offered by each school/Academy on dates during the consultation. There was low attendance at these events and issues

	<p>raised including; location of SRB, how SRB would work, resourcing of SRB and how a child would be given a place at a SRB. A summary of the issues raised at the consultation events held at local authority maintained schools is attached at Appendix B.</p>										
<p>Number of responses</p>	<p>209 responses were received during the consultation period and of these 68 people (32%) gave their views on all the proposals and 161 people (77%) gave their views on individual schools. Please note some people will have responded to all the proposals and on an individual school.</p> <p>Of the 68 people who gave their views on all the proposals;</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Strongly Agree</td> <td>50 people (73%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Agree</td> <td>10 people (15%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Neither agree or disagree</td> <td>1 person (1.5%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disagree</td> <td>5 people (7.5%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strongly Disagree</td> <td>2 people (3%)</td> </tr> </table>	Strongly Agree	50 people (73%)	Agree	10 people (15%)	Neither agree or disagree	1 person (1.5%)	Disagree	5 people (7.5%)	Strongly Disagree	2 people (3%)
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<p>Summary of views expressed in favour of the proposal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We should if at all practicable keep children within their own community within schools which also possibly teach their siblings. Putting children with special educational needs in a vehicle and travel up to one and a half hours both ways to get to school in this day and age is unwarranted. • There is huge unmet need. Every child has the right to an education that meet their needs, ideally inclusively, within their local community • Much needed as the population across Norfolk increases so must the provision for specialist education. South Norfolk requirements seem not to have been attended to though • Strongly agree for the need, children and parents drown in this system as it stands • Strongly agree as places are desperately needed, so any increase in provision is very welcome • Get these places quickly, there is a need. My daughter is in danger of being excluded as rejected for SRB as not enough places for applications • While some children need a place in a special school, the ability to stay in mainstream school for others while still receiving the SEN provision required is essential. This is only going to continue as SEN diagnoses are becoming more common and we need to adapt accordingly, and rapidly • Mainstream schools need support, increase in need. North Norfolk needs a full range of therapeutic placements available. Some short term interventions, some emergency interventions and some long term places • There is a need for more provision for SEND & SEMH pupils • Much needed resource, wish it was available in all schools. need to shake up the SENDCO's and commission post diagnosis support for autistic children and their families 										

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree as there is a strong need for more schools for pupils who cannot access mainstream education. My concern is for transition from SEMH setting back to school • Agree this is urgently needed, but is this enough? My understanding is that there are more children that need places • Agree with the proposal, but Schools/teachers need to have a better understanding of SEN needs so that they can adopt measures to enable all children especially those with low level SEN needs to thrive in the classroom • Agree and must be properly resourced • Norfolk needs more spaces full stop. Not just more SRBS but more specifically whole specialised provisions especially near Hellesdon, Drayton, Taverham etc
<p>Summary of views expressed against the proposal/no opinion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • My 14 year old son needs a place at a school for Autism. Took 3 years for a diagnosis • Outcome for SRBs is poor, rather see the money spent on shake up for schools generally. Train all the staff to ensure they are trauma informed. Money should be spent on new school built for older children with early trauma • Experience of friends and family is children are being placed in mainstream are not having their needs met so invest more in specialist schools • Missed opportunity to provide new approach to children with special needs. This proposal does nothing to help children who are now out of school or placed in schools away from where they live • This addressed primary school children, what happens to provision needed in secondary schools • Training of SRB staff is an issue. Hope the SRB links with effective psychology and proven therapy providers • Strongly agree with expanding the number of SRB units and places across the county, HOWEVER I do not fully understand how the proposal determined the type of place (eg SEMH, ASD etc) required and locations of where these places are needed. The location of the proposed SRBs does not seem to correlate with the location of the greatest populations Norfolk. Please review the location of SRBs.
<p>Commentary</p>	<p>88% of respondents who commented on all the proposals strongly agree or agree to the proposal and view it as a positive change for children with special education needs and disabilities and their families. This proposal supports Norfolk County Council's commitment to increase places in specialist resource bases as set out in the Norfolk Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) Strategy.</p>
<p>Resource implications</p>	<p>Norfolk County Council has committed £120m in specialist school places. There is a capital programme in place as many of these schools will need a new build and some will need refurbishment. There is capital budget allocated for this.</p>

Recommendation	<p>To proceed to statutory public notice to establish a specialist resource base in the following local authority maintained schools;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caister Infant & Nursery (Community) School and Caister Junior (Community) School, Great Yarmouth • Drake Primary (Community) School, Thetford • Hillcrest Primary (Community) School, Downham Market • Mundesley Infant (Community) School and Mundesley Junior (Community) School, Mundesley • Redcastle Family (Community) School, Thetford <p>Please note that the Academy Trusts involved in this consultation are preparing business cases for their significant change to go to the Regional Schools Commissioner for discussion at the Headteacher Board in April 2020.</p>
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I give permission for a public notice to be issued on the proposal to open new Specialist Resource Bases for children with special education needs and disabilities and expand existing provision at Specialist Resource Bases (SRB) in Norfolk, from 1 September 2020 as follows;

- Caister Infant & Nursery (Community) School and Caister Junior (Community) School, Great Yarmouth – establish a 16 place Social, Emotional and Mental Health Specialist Resource Base, located on the school site.
- Drake Primary (Community) School, Thetford – establish a 16 place Autistic Spectrum Disorder Specialist Resource Base, located on the school site.
- Hillcrest Primary (Community) School, Downham Market – establish a 16 place Learning and Cognition Needs Specialist Resource Base, located on the school site.
- Mundesley Infant (Community) School and Mundesley Junior (Community) School, Mundesley – alter the 10 place Social, Emotional and Mental Health Specialist Resource Base at Mundesley Infant School to establish a 16 place Social, Emotional and Mental Health Resource Base, located on the school site.
- Redcastle Family (Community) School, Thetford – establish a 16 place Autistic Spectrum Disorder Specialist Resource Base, located on the school site.

This will appear in the Eastern Daily Press on 3 March 2020.



Signed: _____
 (Executive Director of Children's Services)

Date: 08/04/2020

Consultation on proposals to open new Specialist Resources Bases for children with Special Education Needs and Disabilities and expand existing provision at Specialist Resource Bases in Norfolk, from 1 September 2020.

Introduction

This proposal is made by Norfolk County Council and Evolution Academy Trust, KWEST Academy Trust, Inspiration Academy Trust, Rightforsuccess Academy Trust and Wensum Academy Trust.

In 2018, Norfolk County Council announced it was to invest £120m in specialist school places and services, with up to four new special schools and 170 places in specialist bases at mainstream schools. One of our objectives through the Norfolk Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) and Alternative Provision Transformation Programme is to create more than 500 extra school places for children with special education needs and disabilities in Norfolk. Our proposal is part of this investment. Specialist Resource Bases are a key part of Norfolk's Local Offer for children with special educational needs and their families and has been identified in Norfolk's SEND Strategy as a priority for development.

What is a Specialist Resource Base (SRB)?

Specialist Resource Bases (SRB) are part of mainstream schools, whereby children access classes and whole school life as their individual needs allow. For the rest of the time they are taught in smaller groups with additional staffing.

For Autistic Spectrum Disorder SRBs children join the roll of the school, for other types of SRB, children stay on the roll of the home school and attend the SRB for anywhere between 2 and 4 terms and reintegrate back to home school full time on an agreed plan.

Our plans to develop the Specialist Resource Base provision in Norfolk

The Norfolk SEND Sufficiency Strategy has identified the following gaps in provision and priority areas for development:

- A new primary Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) SRB is required in West Norfolk.
- A new secondary Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) SRB is required in West Norfolk.
- A new primary Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) SRB is required in South Norfolk/Breckland
- A new secondary Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) SRB is required in South Norfolk/Breckland
- A new secondary Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) SRB is required in East Norfolk
- A new primary Learning and Cognition needs (LCN) SRB is required in West/North Norfolk.
- New primary Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) SRBs in Norwich
- A new primary Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) SRB in East Norfolk
- A new primary Social, Emotional Mental Health (SEMH) SRB in Breckland
- Expansion of the Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH) SRBs from 10 places to 16 with a Key Stage 2 offer where possible.

What are we proposing to change

To meet this need and demand for specialist resource base places, Norfolk County Council has been working with governors and senior leaders from schools across Norfolk, including local authority maintained schools and Academy Trusts. This is to establish the right provision in the right place to ensure improved access to SRB provision in Norfolk, for children, young people and their families.

Norfolk County Council is looking to establish new SRBs or expand existing SRBs in the following Local Authority maintained schools and Academy Trusts, from 1 September 2020;

Breckland

- New 16 place ASD SRB at Redcastle Family (Community) School, Thetford
- New 20 place ASD SRB at Thetford Academy, Inspiration Trust
- Change the existing 'POD' provision to a 16 place ASD SRB at Drake Primary (Community) School, Thetford

Norwich

- New 16 place SEMH SRB at Arden Grove Infant & Nursery School, Wensum Trust
- New 16 place SEMH SRB at Edith Cavell Academy & Nursery, Rightforsuccess Trust
- New 16 place SEMH SRB at Wensum Junior Academy, Evolution Academy

East Norfolk

- New 16 place SEMH SRB at Caister Infant & Nursery (Community) School and Caister Junior (Community) School Great Yarmouth

North Norfolk

- Expand the 10 place SEMH SRB at Mundesley Junior (Community) School by adding a further 6 places to the SRB at Mundesley Junior School

West Norfolk

- New 16 place ASD SRB at Greyfriars Academy, King's Lynn, KWEST Trust
- New 16 place LCN SRB at Hillcrest Primary (Community) School, Downham Market

We appreciate that the above proposals do not address all the gaps in provision or priority areas, but there are plans to address these and we will consult on these proposals in due course.

Please note:

The implementation date of 1st September 2020 is subject to the availability of suitable accommodation and recruitment of staff.

The SRB places will be allocated through Norfolk County Admissions processes and may not be full from 1 September 2020, but will grow up to full capacity through this admissions process. It is therefore expected that some SRBs will open with a lower number of places initially.

What are the benefits of this proposal

Norfolk County Council and the governors and senior leaders of the schools and Academy Trusts involved in these proposals, feel these changes would benefit children and young people because it will;

- Support children with special education needs and disabilities to be educated in their local school and community
- It provides consistency of and access to Specialist Resource Base provision for children and young people and families across Norfolk
- It ensures that needs can be met locally avoiding the need for children to spend unnecessary time travelling to an appropriate school further away. This is better for children and young people and saves the tax payer money in transport costs.
- There is an increase of places to meet the needs of children with SEND
- These SRBs would be part of a county wide network of SRBs providing opportunities for partnership working, professional development and training.
- It addresses identified geographical and age and phase gaps in SRB provision as identified in Norfolk's SEND Strategy
- It will increase inclusion and enhance education for all pupils at these schools.

Norfolk County Council takes into account several considerations when proposing changes to the organisation of schools. This includes 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 that any change is in the best interest of children's education and achievement.

Capital costs

All capital costs for refurbishment and/or new builds will be funded from the SEND and Alternative Provision Transformation Programme to ensure there is the appropriate accommodation.

How can you have your say

Individual schools and academy trusts will be holding drop-in events where you can come and find out more about these proposals. Please see the dates overleaf for each proposal. If you unable to attend these events but would like to comment on our proposals you can have your say by;

- Accessing our online survey <https://norfolk.citizenspace.com/childrens-services/srbprovision>
- Writing to School Organisation Team, FREEPOST IH 2076, Floor 8 (Bay 34), County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich NR1 2DH
- Emailing schoolreview@norfolk.gov.uk

We need all responses by Tuesday 4 February 2020.

What happens next

For LA maintained schools, Norfolk County Council will review the results of the consultation and present the findings to the Executive Director of Children's Services who will decide whether to proceed to the statutory public notice stage with these proposals.

For Academy Trusts, each Trust will complete a business case and send it to the Regional Schools Commissioner for a decision.

Consultation Events

Breckland

School/Academy Trust	Consultation event details
Drake Primary School , Fairfields, Thetford IP24 1JW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday 10 January 2020, 9 – 10am at Drake Primary School • Thursday 16 January 2020, 5 – 6pm at Drake Primary School
Redcastle Family School , St Martins Way, Thetford, IP24 3PU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday 10 January 2020, 2.30 – 3.30pm at Redcastle Family School • Wednesday 15 January 2020, 5.30 – 6.30pm, Redcastle Family School
Thetford Academy , (Inspiration Trust) Croxton Road, Thetford IP24 1LH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 15 January 2020, 3 – 4pm, Thetford Academy • Monday 20 January 2020, 6 – 7pm, Thetford Academy

East Norfolk

School/Academy Trust	Consultation event details
Caister Infant & Nursery School, Caister Junior School , Kingston Avenue, Caister-on-sea Great Yarmouth NR30 5ET	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 16 January 2020, 2.30 – 3.30pm at Caister Infant School • Tuesday 21 January 2020, 6 – 7pm, Caister Junior School

Norwich

School/Academy Trust	Consultation event details
Arden Grove Infant & Nursery School , (Wensum Trust), Arden Grove, Hellesdon NR6 6QA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 16 January 2020, 6 -7pm at Arden Grove Infant & Nursery School • Friday 17 January 2020, 9 – 10am, Arden Grove Infant & Nursery School
Edith Cavell Academy & Nursery (Rightforsuccess Trust) Duckett Close, Norwich NR1 2LR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday 13 January 2020, 9 – 10am, Edith Cavell Academy • Wednesday 22 January 2020, 3 – 4pm, Edith Cavell Academy
Wensum Junior Academy (Evolution Academy Trust), Turner Road Norwich NR2 4HB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thursday 16 January 2020, 9 – 10am, Wensum Junior Academy • Thursday 23 January 2020, 6 – 7pm, Wensum Junior Academy

North Norfolk

School/Academy Trust	Consultation event details
Mundesley Junior School , Trunch Road, Mundesley NR11 8LE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 14 January 2020, 2.15 – 3.15pm at Mundesley Junior School • Monday 20 January 2020, 5 – 6pm, Mundesley Junior School

West Norfolk

School/Academy Trust	Consultation event details
Greyfriars Academy (KWEST Trust) London Road, King's Lynn PE30 5PY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday 14 January 2020, 2.30 – 3.30pm at Greyfriars Academy • Wednesday 29 January 2020, 5.30 – 6.30pm at Greyfriars Academy
Hillcrest Primary School , Hillcrest Downham Market PE38 9ND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 15 January 2020, 3 – 4pm, Hillcrest Primary School • Thursday 30 January 2020, 5 - 6pm, Hillcrest Primary School

Appendix B

Summary notes from local authority maintained school consultation events

Date	School	Numbers attended	Comments raised
10/1/20	Drake Primary School	2	Support the proposal Location of the SRB within the school, how it will be staffed Referral process for children to have a place in the SRB ADHD Norfolk offer courses for school champions; every school should have one.
10/1/20	Redcastle Family School	2	Support the proposal; important to keep children in mainstream school Clarification on the difference between a specialist school and a SRB Referral process for children to have a place in the SRB and details on the Panel, including the school representative Review process for children in SRB, as part of annual SEN Review Need for a protocol where placements may break down and clarity on what happens next Process for Panel in Summer 2020, ahead of SRB starting in September 2020 Important that support with families is included in SRB work
14/1/20	Mundesley Junior School	1	SRB proposal will give more children support within the school Clarity on the location of the SRB at the school
15/1/20	Hillcrest Primary School	3	Supportive of proposal Opportunity to bring extra expertise into the school Location of the SRB at the school and when it will be open. Information on the LCN SRB model and way of working
15/1/20	Redcastle Family School	0	
16/1/20	Caister Infant School	2	Supportive of proposal for the area Location of the SRB at the school Information on the SRB model and likely staff structure
16/1/20	Drake Primary School	2	Support the proposal Like the SRB provision proposed at both primary and secondary phases Transition arrangements between primary and secondary SRB

20/1/20	Mundesley Junior School	1	Support the proposal Concerned about the lack of secondary SRB provision Location of the SRB at the school
21/1/20	Caister Junior School	0	
30/1/20	Hillcrest Primary School	1	Support for the proposal Location of the SRB at the school Information on the LCN SRB and how it works and how a child is allocated a place Clarification on 8 places for KS1 and 8 places for KS2

Appendix C

Summary of responses to local authority maintained school

Drake Primary School

Summary analysis of responses									
Total number of responses = 8									
Method of response									
Online			Letter				Email		
8			0				0		
Respondent*									
*Please note respondents could tick all categories that apply									
Pupil	Parent/ Guardian	Member PTA	Staff	Governor	Local resident	Local business	Local sports group	Local community group	Other
	6		2		1	2			
Response Analysis – How far to you agree or disagree with our proposal to establish a permanent 16 place Specialist Resource Base for Austistic Spectrum Disorder at Drake Primary School?									
*please note respondents could tick all categories that apply									
		Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree or disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know		
Total		7				1			
Pupil									
Parent/Guardian		5				1			
Member of the PTA									
Member of Staff		2							
Governor									
Local resident		1							
Local business		2							
Local sports group									
Local community group									
Other									
Comment by key themes – 8 respondents									
There is a high need for this provision in the Local Area. There are many children in Thetford who need additional educational support.								7/8	
Excellent provision already - would be great for more children.								2/8	
Concern that the changes needed to make the 20 place provision would have a disruptive and detrimental effect on the pupils currently within the main school.								1/8	
Managed well, this could be great for all parents and show that Drake is a truly inclusive school.								1/8	