

Potential relocation of Chapel Road Complex Needs School to Old Buckenham – October 2013

This leaflet is to outline our proposal to relocate and expand Chapel Road Complex Needs School. There is the potential to move to a site in Old Buckenham.

Background

Chapel Road Complex Needs School is currently based in Attleborough and provides 60 places for children and young people aged three to 19. It has been consistently judged outstanding by Ofsted. The school buildings need modernising and it needs a larger site.

The school therefore needs to be rebuilt if it is to meet the future needs of its pupils, who have a range of complex needs. We also want to ensure that it can educate as many children with special educational needs as possible from the south of the County, reducing travel times and costs.

We have been working alongside the governing body and headteacher for a number of years to try to make the new school a reality. In July, we heard that a bid to the Department for Education (DfE) for funding to provide 47 new places had been successful. We have since been advised that we will receive £3.83m. The County Council is proposing to commit £6m of capital funding to make a new 110-pupil school a reality.

Identifying a site for the new school

A key requirement has always been to locate the new building close to a high school and if possible a primary school so it can develop as part of a wider educational campus. This would offer the opportunity to share resources and for students and staff to work alongside different groups of learners.

Few locations would offer such an opportunity, but a good location has emerged in Old Buckenham. We have identified a large piece of land close to the primary school and opposite the high school. We are currently in informal negotiations with the owner of the site.

Maintaining links with Attleborough

A new school would not fully open until 2016, but if it were to be built in Old Buckenham, it would still allow the strong relationship which the school has developed over the years with the Attleborough community to continue. The school is looking to develop ideas to maintain the links and would like to hear any ideas that you may have. We will look to provide you with regular updates by holding drop in events and writing to let you know how things are progressing.

What will happen next?

Educational legislation requires statutory consultation and a Public Notice where schools are relocated more than two miles – this process will begin in the Autumn.

If the move from Chapel Road does go ahead the County Council will look at options for the future use of the current school site. We will keep you updated when we have information to share but this will not be until some time in the future.

How you can let us have your views

If you have any views at this stage you can email schoolsitesreview@norfolk.gov.uk or there are other ways overleaf.

You can use our Freepost address:

School Sites Review, Freepost, IH2076, County Hall, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2BR
or you can telephone us on **0344 800 8020**

The work of Chapel Road Complex Needs School

You can find out more about the work of the Chapel Road Complex Needs School by visiting their web-site <http://www.chapelroad.norfolk.sch.uk>

You can view this online at www.norfolk.gov.uk/schoolsitesreview

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