

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. We would like to hear your early views on the proposal.

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 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 (see overleaf). We are currently in informal negotiations with the owner of the site.

Chapel Road School already works closely with the Old Buckenham schools so this presents an excellent opportunity for those links to be developed further.

A new school would not fully open until 2016, but if it were to be built in Old Buckenham, now is a good time to consider how the facilities might benefit the whole community as well as the three schools.

How you can let us have your views

We have arranged the first of a series of drop-in sessions so you can come and discuss the proposed way forward with representatives from Norfolk County Council, the three schools and NPS Property Consultants Ltd:

**Old Buckenham Community Primary School (in the hall),
Tuesday 22 October between 3pm and 7.30pm**

We want to show you displays of how the site might be used, listen to your ideas of how the proposed new school could integrate in the village and discuss the opportunities it could present. If you cannot come along but would still like to tell us your views there are various ways that you can do this overleaf.

You can email us: schoolsitesreview@norfolk.gov.uk or 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>

Proposed site for relocation



Site context plan

What will happen next?

We will look to provide you with regular updates. The next stage would be for NPS Property Consultants Ltd to develop a design for the building and wider site and for negotiations on the acquisition of the site to continue. We would look to hold further events to share their ideas and get your views before submitting a planning application. We would plan to hold another event sometime in January/February.

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

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

If you need this leaflet in large print audio, Braille, Alternative format or a different language please call 01603 222246 or minicom on 0344 8008011 And we will do our best to help.

