

A one-stop website for all the information you need about special educational needs or disability (SEND) in Norfolk
Visit your [Local Offer website](http://norfolk.gov.uk/send) at norfolk.gov.uk/send

£120m special school places plan approved

On Tuesday 29th October, the Policy and Resources committee backed plans to create more than 500 extra school places, in four new special schools plus specialist bases at mainstream schools.

As part of a consultation parent/carers and professionals were asked for views about where we need more specialist school places in Norfolk. We used these views to write a SEND sufficiency strategy, which was discussed by the Policy and Resources Committee on the 29 October 2018.

The strategy set out a broad and ambitious plan for specialist provision for children and young people with SEN and disabilities.

Chairman of the Children's Services committee, Councillor Stuart Dark, said:

"Our special schools are among the best in the country but they are at capacity and we want to create more spaces in Norfolk for our children, so that they can be taught near to their homes and don't have to travel long distances to school. This is the right thing for children and the right thing for Norfolk - investing in education so that we reduce high cost placements and travel costs in the years ahead."

The Council also wants to develop more outreach support for children who can be supported in mainstream schools. This will help more children to be taught near to their homes, improve the quality of education for many children and address growing demand for places.

The policy and resources committee approved an initial investment of £4.8 million in the current

financial year, to allow the first phase of work to begin as quickly as possible.

The list of priority projects to increase the number of local school places for children with SEN:

- We have begun early feasibility on the re-use of former Alderman Swindell Infant School. We will explore the possibility of a state funded all through school, for children with social, emotional and mental health difficulties
- Secondary school projects to establish Specialist Resource Base (SRB) places for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) in the east and west of the county
- Primary school project to establish SRB places for children with ASD in the south of the county
- Special school projects to increase the capacity at existing special schools across the county.

For more information visit the [Local Offer website](http://norfolk.gov.uk/send)

Dates for your diary

[Sample from Support Events](#)

- Confidence in caring (Dec.)
- Dyslexia Awareness for Parents (Dec.)
- PECS (Pyramid Educational Consultants) training (Dec.)
- Safer Handling training (Dec.)

[Sample from Things to do](#)

- Inclusive cycling hub club (Nov to Apr.)
- DAN.CE.IN Project (Dec.)
- Trip to Cromer Pier Christmas Show (Dec.)