

# SEN Strategy Update

Update 6: September 2008

The SEN Strategy will improve the range of specialist provision across Norfolk for children and young people. In future all special schools will be called **complex needs schools** and provide for children and young people aged 2-19 years. The Strategy will also increase the number of specialist units in mainstream schools to 59 **specialist resource bases** and each will have an area of specialism.

## What has happened recently?

The results of our feasibility studies were considered by county councillors at the following meetings:

- 18th July 08 - Children's Services Review Panel
- 29th July 08 - Cabinet Scrutiny
- 11th August - Cabinet



The Cabinet outcome was that the recommendations of the SEN Strategy report were agreed. In particular, agreement included:

- 59 Specialist Resource Bases and 13 Complex Needs School locations.
- Specialist Resource Bases will be set up over a 2 year period beginning in September 08.
- Change of designation process for the current special schools to become complex needs schools will begin from September 2008 for an anticipated start date of September 2009.

To view the full reports go to  
[www.norfolk.gov.uk/senstrategy](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/senstrategy)

## Parent involvement

Thank you to those of you who contacted us to express an interest in attending meetings about the SEN Strategy. Unfortunately due to a very low response it is not viable for the meetings to go ahead. However, we are always keen to hear your views. If you would like to raise any issues, please either contact us directly or complete the comments form on our website



[www.norfolk.gov.uk/senstrategy](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/senstrategy)

or contact Norfolk Family Voice or Norfolk Parent Partnership:

Norfolk Family Voice  
Email: [secretary@familyvoice.org.uk](mailto:secretary@familyvoice.org.uk)  
Tel: (07950) 302937

Norfolk Parent Partnership  
Email: [parent.partnership@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:parent.partnership@norfolk.gov.uk)  
Tel: (01603) 704070

## What the SEN Strategy Team will be involved in next...

- Specialist Resource Bases
  - Establish specialisms & service level agreements with schools
  - Roll out staff training
  - Prioritise each Specialist Resource Base building works /open date
- Development of Human Resources Strategy for Specialist Resource Bases & Complex Needs Schools
- Complex Needs Schools
  - Establish specialisms
  - Plan training & development for staff
  - Plan improvements to residential provision
  - Create links with Specialist Resource Bases
- Analysis of Complex Special Educational Needs Incidence to be reported to Children's Services Review Panel in January 2009



The change from the current moderate learning difficulty (MLD) and severe learning difficulty (SLD) special schools to Complex Needs Schools will be a slow and carefully managed process to ensure that the already high standard of our special schools is maintained and continues to improve. Therefore, the change of designation in September 2009 will not mean that special schools change immediately.

## Churchill Park Complex Needs School

The Alderman Jackson and Ethel Tipple Special Schools in King's Lynn will combine to become Churchill Park Complex Needs School, opening in September 2009. The new school building is a phased development currently being built on the existing Ethel Tipple School site.

Our thanks to all the children and staff who have coped very well during the construction so far. Recruitment of a Headteacher for the new school is underway.

What will the new school look like in 2010 ?



## Update on the review of Statement Funding



Focus Groups were held during the summer to ensure we are aware of stakeholder perceptions of the strengths / weakness of the current funding scheme. The groups included:

- SEN Caseworkers and Area Service Managers (Inclusion)
- Parent Partnership
- Norfolk Family Voice
- School Support Teams
- Norfolk SEN Network
- Special School Headteachers
- High School Special Educational Needs Coordinators (SENCOs)
- Primary Schools Headteachers

## For further information and feedback, please contact:



### The SEN Strategy Team

**By phone:** (0844) 800 8001

**By email:** [senstrategy@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:senstrategy@norfolk.gov.uk)

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*We'll keep you updated as we have more information.*

*Thank you for your support*