

# School Organisation Review

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## Public Consultation in the Mildenhall and Brandon area

22nd September 2008 – 15th December 2008



Give your views at:  
[www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/group2](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/group2)

**This booklet contains important information about possible changes to schools in the Mildenhall and Brandon area. Please read it carefully and tell us what you think of the options. Your views will help us develop a pattern of schools in which children and young people can prepare for their future.**

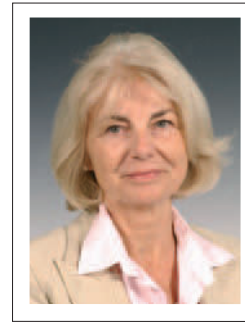
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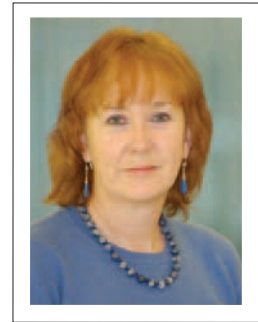
# 1. Introduction

**Our vision for children and young people is to:**

*“Enable all children and young people in Suffolk to aspire to, and achieve, their full potential, giving them the basis for a successful life as active members of the community.”*



**Patricia O'Brien**  
*Portfolio Holder,  
Children, Schools  
and Young People*



**Rosalind Turner**  
*Director for  
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Young People*

Schools are at the heart of delivering that vision. Outside of the family, nothing else offers greater opportunities or has greater responsibility for making sure children stay safe and healthy, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution to their communities, and are able to get the most out of life now, and into the future.

We want the very best for Suffolk's children, starting with early years through to their transition into adulthood. We are working with our partners in Suffolk's Children's Trust to ensure that all agencies and efforts are harnessed to that common aim. Achieving a great start in life for all our children will do a great deal to contribute to the wider aspirations for Suffolk to have a prosperous and sustainable economy and to ensure community well-being.

There are many challenges for schools and the local authority to ensure we can deliver the very best education now and into the future, to respond to the changes ahead of us, and to make the best use of the huge investment which will come to Suffolk over the next few years under the Building Schools for the Future programme (BSF).

Expectations of schools are high, both locally and nationally, to deliver a modern and relevant curriculum and to achieve even higher standards. There needs to be a thread of learning and continuity from when children first start school to when they leave. There will be more choices available from the age of 14, and schools are being encouraged to work together with colleges and others to ensure all young people remain within education or training up to the age of 18. Information technology offers new ways of learning and of delivering individual programmes tailored to the needs of each child.

Schools are also increasingly expected to provide a range of extended school opportunities for their children, their parents and the wider community, and to ensure there is support for every child to achieve their very best. Our school leaders, governors and staff are responding magnificently to these challenges. It is the local authority's role to support them and to ensure we have a school system, and structure, which can meet future needs.

Please read this booklet carefully so that you will be able to respond to the consultation. There will also be a series of meetings at each individual school where you can ask any questions you may have.

**Please ensure you have your say. Thank you for taking the time to get involved.**

**September 2008**

## 2. Summary of possible changes in the Mildenhall and Brandon area

Options for the future pattern of schools in the Mildenhall and Brandon area must follow the principles agreed by Suffolk County Council in March 2007. These are set out in section 5. Among other factors, the options must also take into account the number of children expected to be living in the area and the capacity of school buildings and sites. Options for each school are discussed in more detail in section 8.

### Number of pupils

In common with most parts of Suffolk and the rest of England the number of children starting school has been falling for some years. The county council is encouraged to reduce the number of surplus places in schools because money spent on maintaining empty classes can not be spent on books and other equipment directly related to learning.

Forecasts indicate that the number of children expected to start school in this area each year is unlikely to exceed 300 for the foreseeable future. The options set out in this booklet provide just over 300 places to allow for a degree of flexibility in meeting parental preference and for families moving into the area.

Should housing development in the area lead to the need for more school places, they will be provided when they are needed.

### Early years

Suffolk County Council is committed to ensuring effective and local early years services are provided. In the Mildenhall and Brandon area there is currently one children's centre. Another one is planned to open in the future. Two schools also have nursery classes and preschools on site. These proposals would maintain that provision. There are currently sufficient places to meet local demand.

### Summary of options

In accordance with the council's school organisation review principles, the options below set out a pattern of primary schools for children aged up to 11 and a single secondary school for young people aged 11–19. All village primary schools are retained as part of these options.

## Public Consultation

School	Present			Proposed		
	Age Range (Y=Year) (R=Reception)	Pupils on Roll (Jan 2008)	PAN (Maximum number of pupils in each year group)	Age Range (Y=Year) (R=Reception)	Total number of pupils if full	PAN (Maximum number of pupils in each year group)
<b>Beck Row Primary School</b>	YR-Y4	171	36	YR-Y6	210	30
<b>Elveden CEVA Primary School</b>	YR-Y4	52	12	YR-Y6	70	10
<b>Forest Community Primary School</b>	YR-Y4*	202	45	YR-Y6*	315	45
<b>The Glade Community Primary School</b>	YR-Y4	168	40	YR-Y6	210	30
<b>Great Heath Primary School</b>	YR-Y4*	156	70	YR-Y6*	210	30
<b>Lakenheath Community Primary School</b>	YR-Y4	189	50	YR-Y6	315	45
<b>St Mary's CEVA Primary School</b>	YR-Y4	285	60	YR-Y6	420	60
<b>Tuddenham CEVC Primary School**</b>	YR-Y4	83	30	YR-Y6	210	30
<b>West Row Community Primary School</b>	YR-Y4	109	28	YR-Y6	210	30
<b>Breckland Middle School</b>	Y5-Y8	324	87	–	–	–
<b>College Heath Middle School</b>	Y5-Y8	333	105	–	–	–
<b>Riverside Middle School</b>	Y5-Y8	447	140	–	–	–
<b>Mildenhall College of Tehcnology</b>	Y9-Y13	762 (+215 6th Form)	270	Y7-Y13	1350 (excl. 6th Form)	270

\*The school also has a maintained nursery class  
\*\* We are proposing to relocate Tuddenham CEVCP to Red Lodge

## 3. Why are we proposing change?

As part of our overall 'Transforming Learning with Communities' programme we carried out a review of school organisation in 2006. This developed a policy framework and principles that meet the vision, aims and challenges for the future.

Based on these principles, which are set out in section 5, the county council has adopted a preferred model of primary and secondary schools across the Suffolk, rather than the current mixed provision that includes middle schools. We are now testing these principles through area based reviews. The first areas to be reviewed were Haverhill and Lowestoft. Work in these areas is progressing well.

### Pupil achievement

Children and young people in Suffolk generally perform well compared to national averages. However, the results for 11 year old pupils have been below the national average for a number of years. There are not enough young people staying on after the age of 16 and students in some of our sixth forms do not make the progress we would expect given their good GCSE results.

We need to improve performance for all age groups, but particularly at age 11 and after the age of 16. This will help ensure that our young people have the skills they need to compete in an increasingly global economy.

### Building Schools for the Future

Building Schools for the Future (BSF) is a national programme of investment in secondary schools (including special schools). This significant and possibly unique programme could mean investment of at least £600 million for Suffolk over the next 10 to 15 years. The programme aims to:

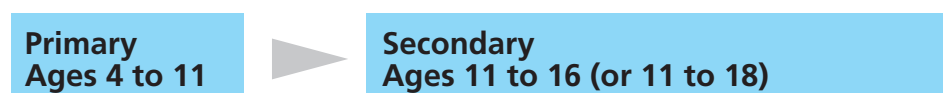
- Create learning environments which inspire young people to strive for the very best they can achieve
- Provide teachers with 21st Century work places and;
- Provide access to facilities that can be used by all members of the local community

The first areas to benefit from BSF investment are Felixstowe, and south and west Ipswich. Investment in those areas will be in the region of £150 million. We expect to hear when funding will be available in the Forest Heath area early in 2009.

### How are Suffolk schools currently organised?

Suffolk currently has two structures for its schools, two tier and three tier.

#### What are two tier schools?



In the two tier structure pupils complete Key Stages 1 and 2 at primary school before moving to secondary school for key stages 3 and 4.

## What are three tier schools?



In the three tier structure pupils complete Key Stage 1 at primary school and begin Key Stage 2. At middle school, pupils complete Key Stage 2 and begin Key Stage 3. Pupils complete Key Stage 3 at upper/high school, where they also complete Key Stages 4 and 5.

## 14 to 19 education and training

The government is introducing radical changes to the curriculum for pupils aged 14 to 19. This includes entitlements for young people to access a wider range of courses, including a greater emphasis upon vocational learning. It is also proposed to raise the age for compulsory participation in some form of learning or training from age 16 to 18 by 2015. These changes will require close collaboration between schools, colleges, and other organisations if they are to be implemented successfully. The county council and the Learning and Skills Council in Suffolk are committed to meeting these challenges.

To do this we need to think carefully about how we organise our schools because this will affect what our students can do after the age of 16. We have the opportunity to develop our schools and post-16 provision at the same time as developing a new university for Suffolk. Doing this together will enable us to get all these things right.

More information about the Learning and Skills Council and University Campus Suffolk can be found by visiting their websites [www.lsc.gov.uk](http://www.lsc.gov.uk) and [www.ucs.gov.uk](http://www.ucs.gov.uk)

## Local Government Review

The current consultation by the Boundary Committee concerning the future structure of local government has not altered Suffolk County Council's focus on providing an education system which helps to raise levels of achievement and encourages children and young people to reach their full potential. Views received during this consultation will inform planning for schools under any future local authority established by the Boundary Committee. All of the existing local authorities are very aware of the county council's plans for schools. For example, Suffolk Coastal District Council and Ipswich Borough Council are fully involved with our Building Schools for the Future plans.

You can find out more about the local government review by visiting the Boundary Committee's website, [www.boundarycommittee.org.uk](http://www.boundarycommittee.org.uk)

## 4. Vision for learning

Our aim, as set out in the Vision for Learning which was adopted by Suffolk County Council in March 2008 is for 'Suffolk's education to be amongst the best in the country, to be innovative and high achieving.'

Our Vision will inform developments across the 0 – 19 age range in all learning settings. We aim to make learning in Suffolk successful, enjoyable, accessible to all, inclusive and ethically-based, to ensure learners are confident and responsible citizens. The vision has been developed after listening to the views of children and young people, and consultation with parents and carers, teachers, support staff, head teachers and governors. Local authority officers, councillors, representatives of the dioceses, the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) and Further Education (FE) colleges have also been involved.

The full version of the vision is available at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor)

### Transforming learning

The major programmes that are helping us to deliver our vision for learning include:

- Building Schools for the Future
- The School Organisation Review
- The Development of special educational provision
- The Primary Capital Programme (government money for rebuilding and refurbishing primary schools)
- The developing strategy for 14-19 year olds
- The children's centre and extended schools programmes

Transformation is also taking place through curriculum development, improving teaching and learning and the use of new technologies.

### Every Child Matters

The vision for learning is directly linked with the overall priorities for Suffolk's children and young people set out in the Suffolk Children and Young People's Plan. They are grouped into five main areas based on the government's national initiative 'Every Child Matters'. 'Every Child Matters' aims to bring together all the services needed to support children and their families. This includes education, social care, health, police and young people's services.

We are looking at ways to use our school buildings better, to enable clubs and other activities to flourish for children and the wider community outside school hours. We are also building 48 children's centres around the county, where a range of services for the under 5's and their families will be based. To succeed, we need to plan where these services should be and we can only do this if we are clear about the way schools are organised.

### Review of Special Education Needs Provision

Our aim for the long-term is that children and young people with special educational needs should:

- Either be able to attend their local school;
- Or access specialist provision in their own community, co-located on a mainstream school site;
- Or, if they have complex needs that require intervention from more than one agency, they should be able to access a complex needs school where learning can take place and where young people can be supported by a range of multi-agency services.

This review is also underpinned by a set of principles, which can be found at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/sen](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sen). The county council has agreed that in the future special schools should serve children and young people with complex needs



and that there should be more local provision where it is needed. We also propose to increase provision for those students who have autism, dyslexia or social, emotional and behavioural difficulties.

## 5. Policy framework

During 2006, the county council carried out a review of school organisation in Suffolk. This review was focused on three key themes:

- How well pupils perform in school
- How well we use our resources
- How we can build a successful school system for the 21st Century.

At the end of this process, in March 2007, the county council agreed a series of principles and criteria for the future organisation of schools in Suffolk. The options within this booklet have been developed to meet these criteria. The principles are outlined below:

The county council has adopted a preferred option to move to a 2 tier system of primary schools covering the 4-11 age range and secondary schools covering the 11-6 or 11-18 age range. These schools will:

- Provide engaging and enjoyable learning experiences that deliver the highest possible standards for children and young people
- Ensure a single line of accountability for each Key Stage and minimise the number of points of transfer from one school to another within the statutory age range.
- Ensure all schools have the capacity, by working together with our key partners, to deliver a broad range of learning opportunities
- Develop Suffolk as a centre of professional excellence for all staff
- Ensure that schools provide suitable support for all children and young people, including those with additional educational needs
- Ensure that schools are able to develop a range of services, working together with our key partners that meet local needs, including where applicable, integrated early years and child care
- Ensure that all our schools promote social cohesion and harmony

### **The county council also intends that:**

- Priority be given to safeguarding the position of village schools, recognising their place at the heart of their communities, with the possibility of federation or other measures where their viability is at risk
- The preferred size for secondary schools should be in the range of 6 to 10 forms of entry, with an optimum size of 1200, excluding sixth form. The size of the sixth forms should be no less than 200 in number in 11 to 18 schools.
- Consideration should also be given, where there are compelling local reasons, to the option of all-through schools. This would be subject to the principles established for school structures, and a clear consensus of support within the local community arrived at by thorough local consultation. It may also require majority support from the governing bodies involved, and consideration of the effect on other schools.

The full list of principles can be found on our website at [www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor)

At their meeting in March 2007, the county council agreed to proceed to a second stage of the review. At this second stage, specific proposals for schools in the county would be considered in detail in the light of the principles referred to above. Because of the number of schools potentially affected, the county council decided to carry out the review in three phases:

### **Group 1: Lowestoft and Haverhill**

### **Group 2: Beccles, Bungay, Leiston and Mildenhall and Newmarket (Forest Heath area)**

### **Group 3: Bury St Edmunds, Thurston, Sudbury, Stowmarket**

## 6. Timetable for change

It is important that any changes to schools are the right ones and they are carried out carefully. Therefore, changing the pattern of schools is a long process.

### Step 1 – developing options

Schools in the Beccles, Bungay, Leiston and Forest Heath areas joined the review in 2008. Headteachers, school governors, parents, councillors and other stakeholders have been discussing options during the summer term. They have considered many factors and based on their discussions the options in this paper have been developed.

### Step 2 – public consultation

From September to December 2008, parents, teachers, young people and many other groups will have the opportunity to say what they think about the options. As well as this booklet, there will be meetings at schools in the area to explain what is being put forward.

Anyone will be able to send in their views using a questionnaire, by letter, on-line or by making comment at one of the meetings. This is not about voting, one well argued letter can have more effect than a petition.

All responses will be analysed and taken account of.

### Step 3 – Statutory proposals

In February 2009, Suffolk County Council's Cabinet will review the options in the light of consultation responses. They will then begin the legal process of making changes to schools by publishing statutory notices. You will find these in the local paper and at schools and libraries. They will also be available on our website, [www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor)

There will be six weeks in which anyone can comment on the final proposals for each school.

### Step 4 – Decision making

In most cases the final decision on the proposals will be made by the county council. However, in some cases the Schools Adjudicator will be asked to make the final decision. The Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families appoints the Schools Adjudicator. Final decisions for the Bungay and Halesworth area are expected by the end of 2009.

### Step 5 – Implementation

Even before decisions are made, we will be working with schools to prepare the staff and buildings for their future role.

For children the first changes would happen in September 2011 when children currently in Y2 would not transfer to middle schools, but would stay as Y5 in their primary schools. The following year, September 2012, these pupils would become Y6 in their primary schools.

Middle schools would close at the end of the summer term 2012 and in September 2012 their pupils would transfer to secondary school. The diagram opposite shows this.

September	YR	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	Y7	Y8	Y9	Y10	Y11
2008	P	P	P	P	P	M	M	M	M	H	H	H
2009	P	P	P	P	P	M	M	M	M	H	H	H
2010	P	P	P	P	P	M	M	M	M	H	H	H
2011	P	P	P	P	P	P	M	M	M	H	H	H
2012	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	H	H	H	H	H
2013	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	H	H	H	H	H

**P –primary school M- middle school H- high school**

Pupils in Y5 and above in September 2008 will spend four years at middle school before transferring to high school in September 2012 aged 13.

Pupils in Y4 in September 2008 will transfer to middle school in September 2009 and after three years transfer to high school in September 2012 aged 12.

pupils in Y3 in September 2008 will transfer to middle school in September 2010 and after two years transfer to high school in September 2012 aged 11.

Pupils in Y2 and below in September 2008 will spend seven years in their first school before transferring to high school in September 2013 aged 11.

We intend to keep to this timeframe. It will be kept under continual review in the light of consultation responses and implementation planning. Issues that may affect the timeframe could include:

a)If a new school is required, Government rules are likely to require us to run a competition to determine who will set up the school. This process may take up to nine months. Where this is also followed by the need to build new accommodation, the combined impact could be a delay to the timeframes set out above.

b)Some options may require phased implementation to minimise disruption to pupils, to enable building projects to be completed or to coordinate with implementation in neighbouring areas. This may cause some changes to the published timeframes. Schools and parents will be informed if any such issues arise.

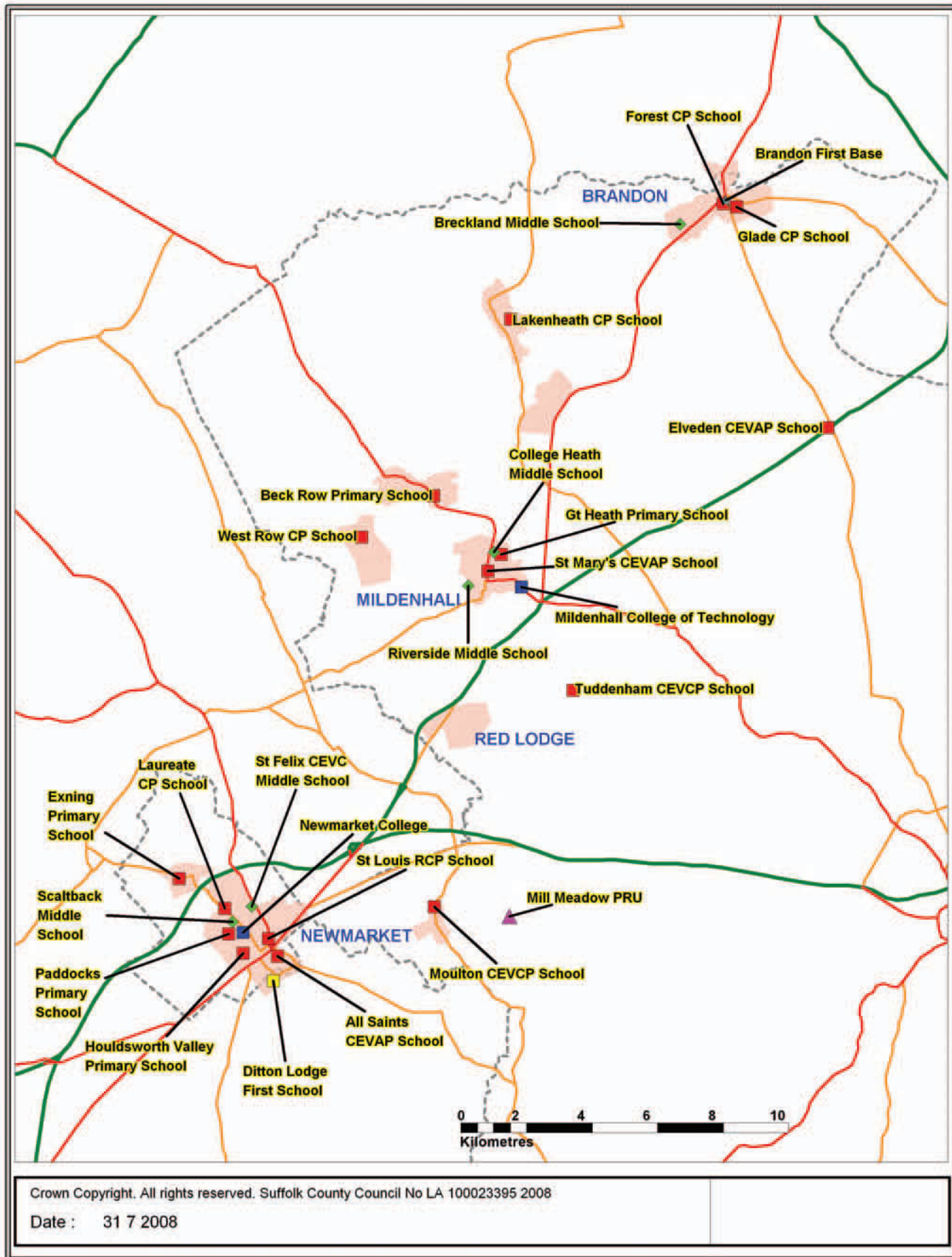
## Managing change

We are committed to managing change carefully and well, to minimise disruption and to ensure continuity of education and support for all children and young people. We have included a two-year period during which the changes can be planned with schools. Schools in this area are already planning together for change.

## High quality staff

To manage change successfully we need support and commitment from high quality staff. Change can be unsettling for all those involved so we are working with trade unions, staff representatives, head teachers and governors on employment stability and professional development programmes. The county council has developed a staffing protocol which encourages primary and secondary schools to consider appointing staff from middle schools first before advertising more widely. The protocol also sets out details of salary protection. The protocol can be viewed on the School Organisation Review web pages [www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor).

# 7. Map of area



## 8. Options for schools in the Mildenhall and Brandon area

As well as the principles agreed by the county council, a local stakeholder forum consisting of headteachers, governors, parents, councillors and others from across the Forest Heath area also identified things that were important to them. These have informed the review at a local level. In Forest Heath, the local priorities were identified as:

### Learning

1. High quality vocational and academic post-16 provision in the locality
2. Outstanding early years' provision: continuity of provision 0-11 years
3. Fit for purpose SEN provision in the locality
4. Inspirational and creative learning in the primary years
5. Extended services and multi-agency engagement with schools

### Structures

6. A commitment to excellence: well-staffed and well-led schools across all ages
7. Diversity of provision maintained in the locality
8. A flexible infrastructure designed to facilitate learning: learning environments which are fit for purpose and for the future
9. Collaborative structures to support learning and extended services including multi-agency engagement
10. Sustainable, environmentally sensitive provision which addresses the challenges of pupil transport in the locality
11. A smooth transition: well managed and well communicated

### Aspirations

12. Happy and successful children
13. Raised aspirations, improved standards and participation for all children and young people in the locality
14. An education system able to provide the workforce and learners of the future

Alongside these broad aims local headteachers have worked together to develop a vision for a new learning community covering the schools within the Mildenhall pyramid. At its core is the aim to establish a truly collaborative structure where the schools:

- support each other informally or through more formal, federated arrangements
- work towards achieving common policies
- have access to a range of shared specialist facilities
- take advantage of opportunities to integrate early years' provision and services for children, young people and their families and, where possible, community and leisure facilities.

The options for the Mildenhall and Brandon area should be seen in the context of these longer term aspirations.

## School Organisation Review

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### Great Heath Community Primary School

The option for Great Heath Community Primary School would be to extend its age range to include Y5 and Y 6. This will give the school accountability for all of Key Stage 2 and retain the pupils at the local school for two more years.

Currently the school could admit up to 70 children into each year group. A little under half of these places are usually taken up. Reducing this to 30 is expected to be sufficient to meet forecast local demand and allow a degree of parental preference to be met for children living outside of the area. An admission number of 30 helps effective classroom organisation and relates to the way school places are planned .

The school buildings would be able to accommodate the two additional year groups and there may be an opportunity to relocate and/or rebuild the primary school in the near future.

All pupils who have started Y3 and Y 4 in September 2008 would transfer to middle school at the end of Y4 - exactly as they would do if there was no change.

Pupils in Y2 and below would continue at Great Heath Community Primary School until the end of Y6, when they would transfer to a secondary school. Pupils living in the Great Heath Primary School catchment area would also be in the catchment area for Mildenhall College of Technology.

### St Mary's Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School (CEVAP)

The option for St. Mary's Primary School would be to extend its age range to include Y5 and Y6. This will give the school accountability for all of Key Stage 2 and retain the pupils at their local school for two more years.

St.Mary's CEVAP School currently admits up to 60 children in each year group. We propose to retain this number of places as it meets local needs.

As a result of the changes the school would require additional accommodation. Feasibility studies suggest that the site is large enough for this to be possible. Any building work needed will be planned in partnership with the school.

All pupils who have started Y3 and Y4 in September 2008 would transfer to middle school at the end of Y4 - exactly as they would do if there was no change.

Pupils in Y2 and below would continue at St.Mary's CEVAP School until the end of Y6, when they would transfer to a secondary school. Pupils living in the St.Mary's CEVAP School catchment area would also be in the catchment area for Mildenhall College of Technology.

### Beck Row Primary School

The option for Beck Row Primary School would be to extend its age range to include Y5 and Y 6. This will give the school accountability for all of Key Stage 2 and retain the pupils at their local school for two more years.

Beck Row currently can admit up to 36 children in each year group. We propose to reduce the number of places offered in each year group to 30. This number will meet local needs including those from the American Air Force Base. The school receives a large proportion of children from the base for Reception, Y1 and Y2 classes, at which point many pupils transfer to the elementary school on the base

As a result of the changes the school would require additional accommodation. Feasibility studies suggest that the site is large enough for this to be possible. Any building work needed will be planned in partnership with the school.

All pupils who have started Y3 and Y 4 in September 2008 would transfer to middle school at the end of Y4 - exactly as they would do if there were not was no change.

Pupils in Y2 and below would continue at Beck Row Primary School until the end of Y6, when they would transfer to a secondary school. Pupils living in the Beck Row Primary School catchment area would also be in the catchment area for Mildenhall College of Technology.

## West Row Community Primary School

The option for West Row Community Primary School would be to extend its age range to include Y5 and Y6. This will give the school accountability for all of Key Stage 2 and retain the pupils at their local school for two more years

West Row Community Primary School currently admits up to 28 children in each year group. We propose to increase this number to 30 places per year group. This is expected to be sufficient to meet forecast local demand and allow a degree of parental preference to be met for children living outside of the area. An admission number of 30 helps effective classroom organisation and relates to the way school places are planned.

As a result of the changes the school would require additional accommodation. Feasibility studies suggest that the site is large enough for this to be possible. Any building work needed will be planned in partnership with the school.

All pupils who have started Y3 and Y4 in September 2008 would transfer to middle school at the end of Y4 - exactly as they would do if there were no change.

Pupils in Y2 and below would continue at West Row Primary School until the end of Y6, when they would transfer to a secondary school. Pupils living in the West Row Community Primary School catchment area would also be in the catchment area for Mildenhall College of Technology.

## Lakenheath Community Primary School

The option for Lakenheath Community Primary School would be to extend its age range to include Y5 and Y6. This will give the school accountability for all of Key Stage 2 and retain the pupils at their local school for two more years

Lakenheath currently admits up to 50 children in each year group, but rarely does so. We propose to reduce this number to 45 which will be enough to meet local needs. An admission number of 45 helps effective classroom organisation and relates to the way school places are planned .

As a result of the changes the school would require additional accommodation. Feasibility studies suggest that the site is large enough for this to be possible, however it would be more difficult to expand the school if 50 places per year were offered. Any building work needed will be planned in partnership with the school.

All pupils who have started Y3 and Y4 in September 2008 would transfer to middle school at the end of Y4 - exactly as they would do if there were no change.

Pupils in Y2 and below would continue at Lakenheath Community Primary School until the end of Y6, when they would transfer to a secondary school. Pupils living in the Lakenheath Community Primary School catchment area would also be in the catchment area for Mildenhall College of Technology.

## Elveden Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School (CEVAP)

The option for Elveden CEVAP School would be to extend its age range to include Y5 and Y6. This will give the school accountability for all of Key Stage 2 and retain the pupils at their local school for two more years

Elveden CEVAP School is one of our smaller primary schools. It currently admits up to 12 children in each year group, but rarely does so. We propose to reduce the number of places to 10 per year group which will meet demand from the local area. An admission number of 10 helps effective classroom organisation and relates to the way school places are planned .

As a result of the changes the school buildings may require some minor adaptation. Any building work needed will be planned in partnership with the school.

All pupils who have started Y3 and Y4 in September 2008 would transfer to middle school at the end of Y4 - exactly as they would do if there were no change.

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Pupils in Y2 and below would continue at Elveden CEVAP School until the end of Y6, when they would transfer to a secondary school. Pupils living in the Elveden CEVAP School catchment area would also be in the catchment area for Mildenhall College of Technology.

### Forest Community Primary School

The option for Forest Community Primary School would be to extend its age range to include Y5 and Y6. This will give the school accountability for all of Key Stage 2 and retain the pupils at their local school for two more years

Forest Community Primary School currently works closely together with The Glade Community Primary School to offer provision to children in Brandon. Currently up to 45 children are admitted to Forest Community Primary each year we propose to keep to this admission limit. Together with the proposal for The Glade Community Primary School this will meet the forecast need in Brandon. An admission number of 45 helps effective classroom organisation and relates to the way school places are planned.

As a result of the changes the school would require additional accommodation. Feasibility studies suggest that the site is large enough for this to be possible. Any building work needed will be planned in partnership with the school.

All pupils who have started Y3 and Y4 in September 2008 would transfer to middle school at the end of Y4 - exactly as they would do if there was no change.

Pupils in Y2 and below would continue at Forest Community Primary School until the end of Y6, when they would transfer to a secondary school. Pupils living in the Forest Primary Community School catchment area would also be in the catchment area for Mildenhall College of Technology.

Amalgamation of Forest and The Glade Community primary schools on the Breckland Middle School site has been considered. This was rejected on the grounds that it would reduce parental choice in the town and that the Breckland site is located away from the centre of the existing school communities and would mean greater travel for pupils.

### The Glade Community Primary School

The option for The Glade Community Primary School would be to extend its age range to include Y5 and Y6. This will give the school accountability for all of Key Stage 2 and retain the pupils at their local school for two more years.

The Glade Community Primary School currently works closely together with Forest Community Primary School to offer provision to children in Brandon. Currently up to 40 children are admitted to The Glade Community Primary School each year. We propose to reduce this to 30. Together with the proposal for Forest Community Primary School this will meet the forecast need in Brandon. An admission number of 30 helps effective classroom organisation and relates to the way school places are planned.

As a result of the changes the school may require additional accommodation. Feasibility studies suggest that the site is large enough for this to be possible. Any building work needed will be planned in partnership with the school.

All pupils who have started Y3 and Y4 in September 2008 would transfer to middle school at the end of Y4 - exactly as they would do if there was no change.

Pupils in Y2 and below would continue at The Glade Primary School until the end of Y6, when they would transfer to a secondary school. Pupils living in The Glade Primary School catchment area would also be in the catchment area for Mildenhall College of Technology.

Amalgamation of Forest Community and The Glade Community primary schools on the Breckland Middle School site has been considered. This was, however, rejected on the grounds that it would reduce parental choice in the town and that the Breckland site is located away from the centre of the existing school communities and would mean greater travel for pupils.



## Tuddenham Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School (CEVCP)

The option for Tuddenham CEVCP School would be to extend its age range to include Y5 and Y6. This will give the school accountability for all of Key Stage 2 and retain the pupils at the local school for two more years.

Currently up to 30 children are admitted to Tuddenham CEVCP School each year. The majority of these children live in Red Lodge where a substantial number of new houses are being built. Based on the number of houses planned for the new community, there is an acknowledged need to provide more school places in the area. Developing an additional school in Red Lodge would lead to the number of children attending Tuddenham falling to a level where the viability of the school would be called into question. As an alternative to establishing a new school, we are seeking views on whether we should relocate Tuddenham CEVCP School to new buildings on the Red Lodge site. This option has the advantages of:

- Building on an existing school, not destabilising it
- Maintaining consistency of schooling for pupils already at school in the area
- Providing new school buildings for all pupils in the area

In the first instance, we would propose that the number of places be kept at 30 per year group with future expansion in line with the rate of demand from the new housing.

All pupils who have started Y3 and Y4 in September 2008 would transfer to middle school at the end of Y4 - exactly as they would do if there was no change.

Pupils in Y2 and below would continue at Tuddenham CEVCP School until the end of Y6, when they would transfer to a secondary school. Currently children living in the Tuddenham catchment area are in the catchment area for Mildenhall College of Technology.

In the longer term, it may be necessary to consider changing the secondary school catchment area to Newmarket College to provide a better balance between the sizes of the Mildenhall and Newmarket Colleges. However, until the full impact of the new housing on the school population is known, this would be inappropriate. We will consult parents on this issue at a later date if the present arrangements are reviewed.

## College Heath Middle School

The county council has adopted a preferred option to move to a two tier system of primary schools covering the 4–11 age range and secondary schools covering the 11–16/19 age range. This would require the closure of middle schools.

The pattern of primary schools set out above would lead to there being no admissions to College Heath Middle School in September 2011 when Y5 pupils would remain in their primary schools.

In September 2011 College Heath Middle School would teach Y6, Y7 and Y8.

In September 2012, all year groups still remaining at the middle school would transfer to secondary school and College Heath Middle School would close.

## Riverside Middle School

The county council has adopted a preferred option to move to a two tier system of primary schools covering the 4–11 age range and secondary schools covering the 11–16/19 age range. This would require the closure of middle schools.

The pattern of primary schools set out above would lead to there being no admissions to Riverside Middle School in September 2011 when Y5 pupils would remain in their primary schools.

In September 2011 Riverside Middle School would teach Y6, Y7 and Y8.

In September 2012, all year groups still remaining at the middle school would transfer to secondary school and Riverside Middle School would close.

## School Organisation Review

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### Breckland Middle School

The county council has adopted a preferred option to move to a two tier system of primary schools covering the 4–11 age range and secondary schools covering the 11–16/19 age range. This would require the closure of middle schools.

The pattern of primary schools set out above would lead to there being no admissions to Breckland Middle School in September 2011 when Y5 pupils would remain in their primary schools.

In September 2011 Breckland School would teach Y6, Y7 and Y8.

In September 2012, all year groups still remaining at the middle school would transfer to secondary school and Breckland School would close.

We are working with Mildenhall College of Technology and Forest Heath District Council to determine how we can continue to offer extended school and other community activities to pupils and the local community in Brandon once the middle school closes.

### Mildenhall College of Technology

The option for Mildenhall College of Technology would be to extend its age range to include Y7 and Y8. This allows students complete Key Stage 3 studies in one school.

Currently up to 270 students are admitted to the College each year. We propose to retain the size of the year groups as it meets local needs and recent patterns of parental preference. This size meets the Council's principles for school organisation where the preferred size of secondary schools is from 6 to 10 forms of entry or 180 to 300 places each year.

The college will take its new year groups (Y7 and Y 8) in September 2012, when three year groups (Y7, Y8 and Y9), transfer to high school from the middle schools.

There would be a need for some additional accommodation for the two additional year groups. It is possible that this will be provided by the use of one of the middle school sites. Providing either permanent or temporary accommodation on the College site at this time may compromise future development options for the school when the Building Schools for the Future programme provides the opportunity for major investment.

As the size of the college is near the upper end of the preferred range, we have considered assigning the catchment area for Tuddenham CEVCP School to Newmarket in order to balance the numbers of pupils attending each of the secondary schools in the area. However, no change is being proposed at this time but it can be reviewed as the impact of the new housing at Red Lodge becomes clear.

A proposal for an 11-16 secondary school in Brandon has been considered, but there are not enough young people living in the town to enable the school to offer the full range of opportunity that they would deserve.

### Post 16 provision

At 215 pupils (January 2008), the number on roll in the 6th form at Mildenhall College of Technology is just above the recommended lower limit for size of 6th form. To ensure this will be sustainable and complement other provision, the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) is currently undertaking a needs analysis of post-16 provision in the area. We will be grateful to receive views during this consultation about the future of post-16 provision to be considered alongside the data collected by the LSC.

## 9. How to have your say

Consultation in other areas of Suffolk has influenced the pattern of schools being proposed for the future. Your views will be carefully considered as we move to the next stage in the process.

To help as many people as possible to be involved we are using a variety of methods:

- A paper questionnaire
- An online questionnaire (log onto [www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/group2](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/group2))
- Public meetings.

You can also write to the School Organisation Review team at: Suffolk County Council FREEPOST NAT18364 Ipswich IP1 2BR

**Details of public meetings are on page 23 of this booklet. Posters will also be displayed in your local school and adverts will appear in local papers.**

### Who are we consulting?

Copies of this booklet have been sent to all parents of pupils within local schools, to staff, and to every school governing body. We are also seeking views from unions, professional associations, Catholic and Church of England Diocese, parish, town and district councils, and neighbouring local authorities. We have sent copies to local playgroups and other early years providers.

### How can I find out more?

If you want more information about the review you can log onto our website [www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/group2](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/group2). Further copies of this booklet and other material can be found at your local library, school, or by calling 08456 031 842.

### When does consultation finish?

The consultation period lasts twelve weeks, running from 22 September 2008 to 15 December 2008.

### What happens after the consultation finishes?

In February 2009 the county council's cabinet will carefully consider the responses to the consultation before making a decision about the options it wants to take forward.

Once a decision is made we will publish statutory notices detailing the changes we want to make to schools. You will be able to make representations about these notices during the six-week period after they are published. The notices will explain how you can comment on them.

Cabinet will then consider the options and the responses from the six-week statutory consultation. If the cabinet cannot agree the proposals, they will be referred to the Schools Adjudicator.

We expect a final decision before the end of 2009. Detailed planning for implementation will then be finalised for the agreed proposals.

# Notes

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## Notes

# Notes

## Public Meetings

**Education is changing –  
make sure you have your say.**

### **Mildenhall and Brandon area**

**All meetings will run from 18:30 – 20:00 unless otherwise stated**

Monday 13 October	Lakenheath CP School
Tuesday 14 October	Forest CP School
Thursday 16 October	West Row CP School
Monday 20 October	Beck Row Primary School
Monday 20 October	Breckland Middle School (19:30–21:00)
Wednesday 22 October	Riverside Middle School (19:30–21:00)
Thursday 23 October	Mildenhall College
Monday 03 November	St Mary's CEVA Primary School
Tuesday 04 November	College Heath Middle School (19:30–21:00)
Thursday 06 November	Elveden CEVA Primary School
Monday 10 November	Tuddenham CEVC Primary School
Tuesday 11 November	Great Heath Primary School
Wednesday 12 November	Red Lodge Community meeting (at the Millennium Centre)
Thursday 13 November	Glade CP School

**For more information about these meetings  
[www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/group2](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/group2) or call 01284 352902**

If you need help to understand this information in another language please call the number below.

إذا تحتاج إلى مساعدة لفهم هذه المعلومات في أي لغة أخرى فالرجاء الاتصال على الرقم التالي.

Arabic

এই লেখাটি যদি অন্য ভাষাতে বুঝতে চান তাহলে নিচের নম্বরে ফোন করুন

Bengali

如果你需要其他語言來幫助你了解這些資訊，請撥以下電話。

Chinese

જો તમારે આ માહિતી બીજી ભાષામાં જાણવા મદદ જોઈતી હોય, તો કૃપા કરી નીચેના નંબર પર કૉલ કરો.

Gujarati

بەم زانیاری هێشتنێ یه بێ تێگهێهتی ده یارمهت پێویستی بگهیه  
بکە. وهی خواهم ژماره زانی بهیوه به زمان کسی تر شکایه

Kurdish

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tych informacji w swoim języku zadzwoń na podany poniżej numer.

Polish

Se precisar de ajuda para ler estas informações em outra língua, por favor telefone para o número abaixo.

Portuguese

If you would like this information in another format, including audio tape, large print or easy read, please call **08456 066 067.**

