

# School Organisation Review

**Building a world class education system for Suffolk**

**Public Consultation in Haverhill and the surrounding area**

29th October 2007 – 18th January 2008



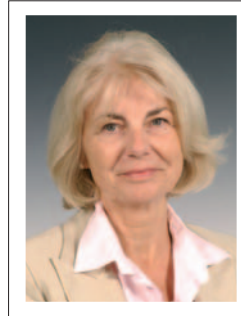
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Published by  
Suffolk County Council's  
Children and Young  
People's Services

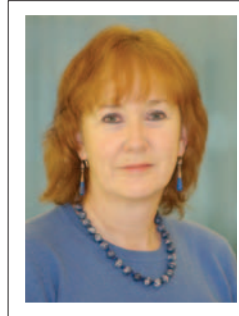
# A world class education system for Suffolk

**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,  
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**Rosalind Turner**  
*Director for  
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Schools are at the heart of delivering that vision. Outside of the family, nothing else offers greater opportunities and responsibilities 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.

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 to deliver 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.

We carried out a review of school organisation in 2006 which developed a policy framework and principles to deliver against the vision, aims and challenges for the future, as part of our overall "Transforming Learning with Communities" programme.

Based on these principles, which are set out in this leaflet, the County Council has adopted a preferred model of primary and secondary schools across the county, rather than the current mixed provision which includes middle schools. We are now testing these principles through area based reviews, starting in Haverhill and Lowestoft.

We have worked with local schools and other stakeholders to develop the options set out in this consultation document. Their views have been invaluable, and we now want to know what you think. Any change finally agreed will then be carefully planned over a number of years to ensure continuity of education and care for all children.

We hope that you will find the information in this leaflet useful and that you will be able to respond to the consultation. There will also be a series of meetings for each individual school. Please ensure you have your say.

**Thank you for taking the time to get involved.**

**October 2007**

## Why are we proposing change?

**During 2006, Suffolk County Council carefully examined the structure of schooling. The reasons that were discussed then still remain valid. These include:**

### **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. Also, we do not have 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 is part of our aim for world-class education within Suffolk. This will help ensure that our young people have the skills they need to compete in an increasingly global and competitive economy.

### **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 within learning from ages 16 to 18 within the next ten years. These changes require close collaboration between schools, colleges, and other organisations if they are to be implemented successfully. Suffolk County Council and the Learning and Skills Council in Suffolk are committed to meeting these challenges, including ensuring entitlement for people living in rural areas.

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 at the same time will enable us to get all these things right.

### **Every Child Matters**

Our priorities for Suffolk's children and young people are directly linked to our vision. They are grouped into five main areas based on the government's national initiative 'Every Child Matters'. These are:

- Be Healthy
- Stay Safe
- Enjoy and Achieve
- Make a Positive Contribution and,
- Achieve Economic Well Being.

'Every Child Matters' aims to bring together all the services needed to support children and their families. This includes education, social care, health 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 (known as extended schools). We are also building children's centres around the county, where a range of services for 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.

### **Population Changes**

Population changes in Suffolk mean in some areas, where the number of pupils is falling, we have more school places than we need. In other areas, particularly where a large number of new houses are being built, we do not have sufficient places.

## High Quality Staff

With very few middle schools now left in the country, we needed to decide whether we could successfully maintain the current arrangements in Suffolk. It was our view that we would find it increasingly difficult to continue to attract and keep highly qualified head teachers, teachers and other specialist staff.

## Building Schools for the Future

An investment of around £600 million could be available for Suffolk schools through the Building Schools for the Future programme. This is a significant, and possibly unique, programme of investment for secondary schools. We need to make sure we spend this money effectively. The money is for rebuilding and modernising school buildings. This will not only benefit young people but also parents and the wider community, as it will help to increase opportunities for extended activities in our secondary schools. Extra funding for primary schools is also being provided from 2009/10 onwards.

The Government will not give us this money unless we have a clear vision for the future and detailed plans about how we will improve our schools.

# Suffolk County Council 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 document have been developed to meet these criteria. Cabinet will make a decision about proposals for the future, based on these principles and taking your views into account, when it meets in March 2008. 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 to 11 age range and secondary schools covering the 11 to 16 or 11 to 18 age range and it intends to:
  - 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:

**Phase 1: Lowestoft and Haverhill**

**Phase 2: Beccles, Bungay, Leiston, Mildenhall, Newmarket**

**Phase 3: Bury St Edmunds, Thurston, Sudbury, Stowmarket**

### **Special Education Needs Provision**

The County Council also decided that the opportunity should be taken to review special education provision at the second stage. This review is underway and will build on the County Council's vision for the future arrangements for special educational needs, in particular that:

- The majority of pupils with Special Educational Needs should continue to be educated in mainstream schools;
- All pupils should access some inclusive experience, some pupils having dual placements between mainstream and special settings;
- Special schools should be supported to become centres of excellent practice in special educational needs, operating outreach on a county, locality and cluster basis to support both individual pupils and staff; and
- The review should reflect the aim to co-locate all special schools on mainstream sites, wherever possible, by 2016.

There are currently no specialist facilities within Haverhill or the surrounding villages. We want to ensure local children with special needs can access a range of mainstream and specialist services according to their needs. If there are proposals to create new facilities they will be consulted on at a later date.

## **Local Priorities for Haverhill**

As well as the principles agreed by the County Council, the local stakeholder forum, headteachers and chairs of governors, also identified things that were important to them. These have informed the review at a local level. The Haverhill Stakeholder Forum wants to ensure the school organisation review will:

- Raise standards of attainment and aspirations for children in the locality
- Improve the perception of Haverhill and aim to attract children from out of the area to local schools
- Ensure that provision for pupils aged 14 to 19 is broad - vocational and academic

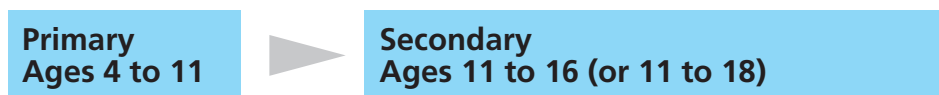
- Create and maintain choice and diversity of provision in the locality
- Continue support for faith schools, federations and consider other options e.g. all through models.
- Enhance and develop our schools as centres of the local community and support for the Every Child Matters agenda
- Engage more adults/parents in life long learning
- Integrate or improve links with pre-school provision
- Increase partnership and collaboration across all the schools in the locality, and include colleges, businesses and voluntary organisations
- Ensure that schools are inclusive for pupils with additional needs

**A complete list of the priorities identified by the Haverhill Local Stakeholder Forum can be found at: [www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/haverhill](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/haverhill)**

## 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 one and two at primary school before moving to secondary school for key stages three and four.

### What are three tier schools?



In the three tier structure pupils complete Key Stage one 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.

**The diagram below shows the four possible options following the review that meet the principles agreed by the County Council.**

KS1	KS2	KS3	KS4	KS5
Primary (ages 4 to 11)		Secondary school (ages 11 to 16 )		Post 16 provision
		Secondary (ages 11 to 18)		
All through school (ages 4 to 18)				
All through school (ages 4 to 16)				Post 16 provision

## When will the changes take place?

Until January 18, 2008 we will be consulting schools, their communities, and a wide range of other people, about possible changes to schools in Haverhill and the surrounding areas. We plan to present a report on these consultations to Cabinet in March 2008. Depending on Cabinet's decision, proposals will be published and a period of six weeks representation will follow. During this time comments or objections may be made. The final decision to proceed will rest with either the Cabinet or the Schools Adjudicator. If this happens we will plan the transition for pupils and staff and develop the necessary building projects during 2008/09 and 2009/10, leading up to the first changes in September 2010.

**The proposed timings of changes are given below.**

<b>September 2010</b>	The new Year 5 pupils (who are in Year 2 in 2007/08) remain in primary school rather than transferring to middle school
<b>September 2011</b>	The new Year 6 pupils remain in primary school, as do the new Year 5. Middle schools close. Pupils transfer to upper/high school and form the new Years 7, 8, and 9.

According to this timeframe, the current Year 2 pupils (age 6) will be the first year group to continue in primary school until the end of Year 6 and then transfer to upper/high school at the beginning of Year 7 (age 11).

More detailed information for each year group, including a timeline, is provided with this consultation document.

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 run 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.

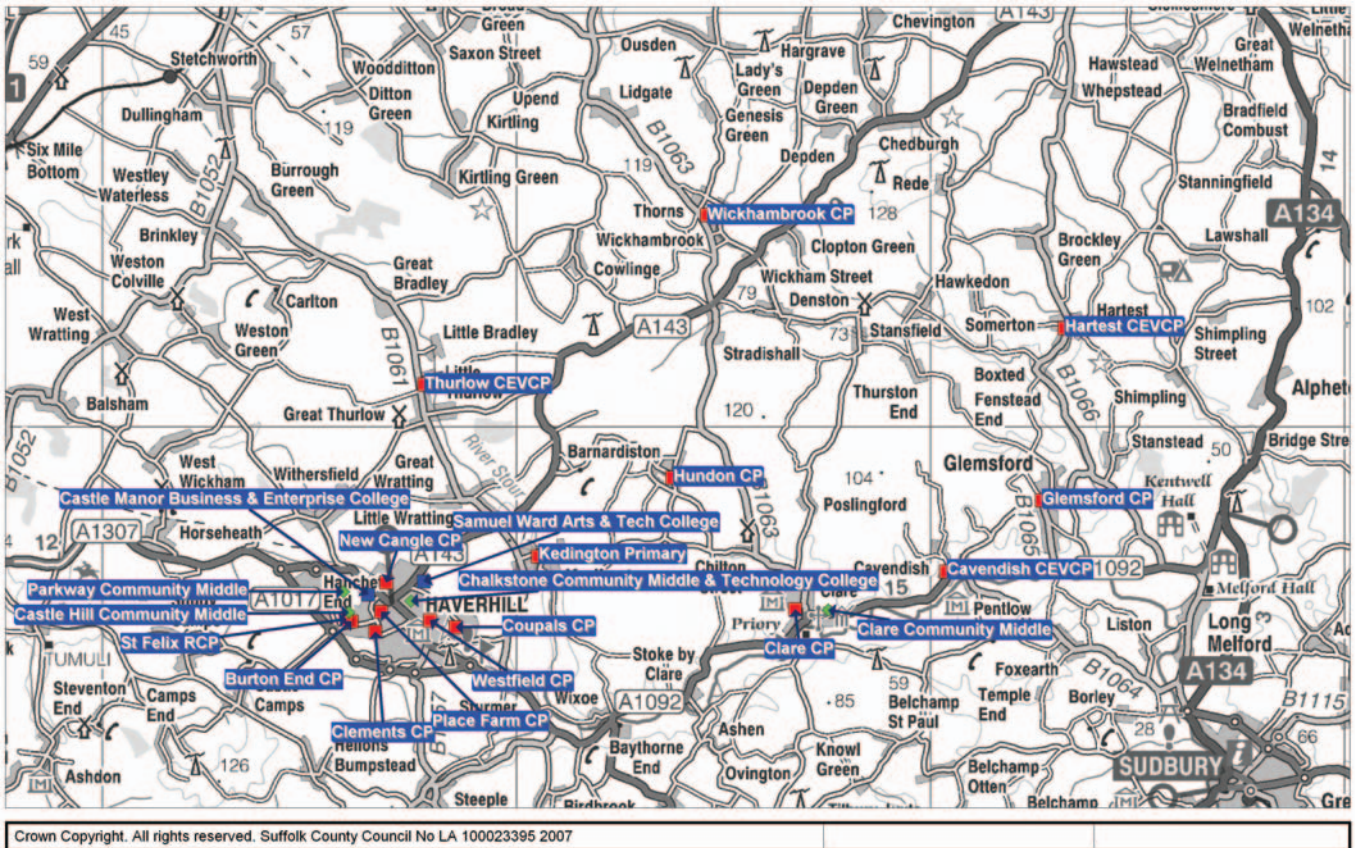
Schools and parents will be informed if any such issues arise.

### 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.

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.

# Haverhill and the surrounding area



The following sections provide you with information about all the schools currently being reviewed in your area. An overview of all the options is also included.

## Population Trends

There have been between 400 and 450 pupils starting school in recent years within the Haverhill area. The majority of expected new housing in the area will be part of Haverhill town rather than the villages. Taking account of trends in birth rates and forecasts for housing developments, we expect a future need for approximately 300 pupils a year entering Reception within the town, and 180 pupils a year within the surrounding villages (including Cavendish, Glemsford and Hartest). We will continue to monitor proposed housing developments and birth rates to ensure that our forecasts remain accurate.

## Early Years

Suffolk County Council is committed to ensuring effective and local early years services are provided. Within Haverhill, there is already Cartwheel's Children's Centre on Norton Road, and another children's centre is due to open on Strasbourg Square in 2008. Several schools also have nursery classes, or pre-schools on their site. These proposals would maintain and enhance that provision. We would work with schools and pre-school providers when planning any necessary school building works.

## Extended Services

Schools within Haverhill and the surrounding villages are already being used by pupils before and after school, and by community groups. Our vision for the future is that this would continue to develop. We would work with schools to ensure we grasp opportunities to increase this provision.



## Education for pupils aged 14 to 19

Suffolk is committed to improving opportunities for young people aged 14 to 19. This will help to encourage more young people to choose to stay in education or training after they are 16. The options that are presented in this consultation reflect this aspiration.

### High Quality Staff

High quality staff are essential to realising our vision and to raising aspirations and the achievement of young people. Changes affecting staff will be dealt with fairly and sensitively. In partnership with Unions we have developed a Staffing Protocol that we are encouraging governing bodies to adopt. There will be opportunities during the consultation period for staff and governors to raise questions on employment matters. We will ensure that the appropriate level of support, professional development and training opportunities are available to staff throughout this process.

### School Sites

Some sites will stop being used for school purposes as a result of this review. Where land or buildings are potentially surplus, we will seek to maximise opportunities for investment within schools. Any sites that are sold will provide money to reinvest in schools to increase facilities for Suffolk's young people and the local community.

## The options for the Haverhill area

We have developed three options for the Haverhill area. These are explained in the following sections. These options have taken account of the work of the Haverhill Local Stakeholder Forum, which helped identify and test emerging options during the summer and autumn term this year. It also takes into account the work of the Haverhill Learning Partnership, which involves all of the local headteachers and other partners, which has been considering the future of learning within the town for the past two years.

**The three options are:**

### Option 1: Two secondary schools with federation:

Create a primary / secondary school (two-tier) educational structure, where pupils change school at age 11 (end of Year 6). The secondary schools would be Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College and Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College. We would encourage primary and secondary schools to form formal partnerships (known as federations). This would enable 'all-through' schooling.

### Option 2: Two all-through schools:

Create two 'all-through' schools which accommodate children from age 3/4 to 16 (Reception to Year 11). These would be formed by joining Burton End Primary and Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College for one school, and Westfield Primary and Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College for the other. All other primary schools would become 3/4 to 11 (Reception to Year 6). These pupils would transfer to the all-through schools at age 11 for their secondary education.

### Option 3: Three secondary schools:

Create a primary / secondary school (two-tier) educational structure, where pupils change school at age 11 (end of Year 6). The secondary schools would be Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College, Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College, and a new secondary school on the current Clare Middle School site.

## Option 1: two secondary schools with federation (The County Council's leading option)

The County Council's leading option for Haverhill is to create two secondary schools with federation. We wish to use this model to continue to improve collaboration between all schools as part of our commitment to improving opportunities and outcomes for young people. This option means that we would:

- Change the age range for all primary schools from Reception to Year 4 as they are currently (age 3/4 to 9), to Reception to Year 6 for the future (age 3/4 to 11). This includes all village primary schools.
- Change the age range of Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College and Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College from Year 9 to Year 13 as they are currently (age 13 to 18), to Year 7 to 11 for the future (age 11 to 16).
- Create a separate 16 to 19 centre in partnership with schools and other post-16 providers.
- Encourage the governing bodies of schools to form formal partnerships, known as federations. This could lead to the creation of a single governing body and the appointment of a single headteacher to manage a group of schools (this is known as a 'hard federation'). Each federation would accommodate pupils from Reception to Year 11 (age 3/4 to 16). These federations of primary and secondary schools would provide what is known as 'all-through' schooling.

### **Our leading option is that within Haverhill there would be two groups of schools.**

- Burton End Primary and Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College would be joined within one federation.
- Westfield Primary and Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College would be joined to establish the other federation.
- Burton End Primary and Westfield Primary would each accommodate 60 pupils per year from Reception, with an additional 150 pupils joining each of Castle Manor and Samuel Ward at the beginning of Year 7 from the other primary schools in the area.

As part of any option for the future, we would encourage all schools to explore opportunities to work effectively together to minimise the impact on pupils changing school at age 11.

This option is based on the County Council's general preference for 3/4 to 11 primary schools and 11 to 16/18 secondary schools. It reflects the principles agreed by the County Council. In particular:

- It would reduce the number of school transfers within the statutory school age.
- It would ensure clear accountability for pupils development and achievement during each Key Stage
- It would retain all current village primary schools and extend them all to Year 6
- It would support local aspirations for social and economic development

The implications of these proposals for each school are shown in the table below. We have also produced dedicated information for each individual school, which has been sent to all parents and is available on our website.

School (A-Z)	Current Arrangement	Future Arrangement
<b>Burton End CP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 60 places a year	Relocate to current Parkway Middle School site. Reception to Year 6 60 places a year (Encouraged to federate with Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College)
<b>Cavendish CP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 15 places a year	Reception to Year 6 15 places a year
<b>Clare CP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 27 places a year	Reception to Year 6 30 places a year
<b>Clements CP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 40 places a year	Reception to Year 6 30 places a year
<b>Coupals Primary School</b>	Reception to Year 4 48 places a year	Reception to Year 6 30 places a year
<b>Glemsford CP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 39 places a year	Reception to Year 6 30 places a year
<b>Hartest CEVCP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 18 places a year	Reception to Year 6 15 places a year
<b>Hundon CP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 15 places a year	Reception to Year 6 15 places a year
<b>Kedington Primary School</b>	Reception to Year 4 27 places a year	Reception to Year 6 30 places a year
<b>New Cangle CP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 45 places a year	Reception to Year 6 30 places a year
<b>Place Farm CP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 60 places a year	Reception to Year 6 60 places a year
<b>St Felix RCP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 44 places a year	Reception to Year 6 45 places a year
<b>Thurlow CEVCP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 18 places a year	Reception to Year 6 15 places a year
<b>Westfield CP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 30 places a year	Relocate to current Chalkstone Middle School site or to share the Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College site Reception to Year 6 60 places a year (Encouraged to federate with Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College)
<b>Wickhambrook CP School</b>	Reception to Year 4 27 places a year	Reception to Year 6 30 places a year
<b>Castle Hill Community Middle School</b>	Year 5 to Year 8 105 places a year	School closes

School (A-Z)	Current Arrangement	Future Arrangement
<b>Chalkstone Middle School</b>	Year 5 to Year 8 108 places a year	School closes. The site may be used to relocate Westfield
<b>Clare Middle School</b>	Year 5 to Year 8 120 places a year	School closes.
<b>Parkway Middle School</b>	Year 5 to Year 8 117 places a year	School closes. The site would be used to relocate Burton End
<b>Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College</b>	Year 9 to Year 13 200 places a year	Year 7 to Year 11 on site (16 to 19 provision on a separate site) 210 places a year (Encouraged to federate with Burton End Primary)
<b>Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College</b>	Year 9 to Year 13 220 places a year	Year 7 to Year 11 on site (16 to 19 provision on a separate site) 210 places a year (Encouraged to federate with Westfield Primary)

## Explanation of the leading option

The following sections provide an overview of the leading option in more detail.

### Primary Schools

All existing village primary schools would continue on their existing sites, and would expand their age range to include Years 5 and 6. In some cases this would mean changing the number of pupils admitted into Reception in the future – please check the table above for more information. We would welcome your views about some options regarding specific primary schools.

#### Westfield CP School

Westfield CP School would become a 3/4 to 11 primary school (Reception to Year 6). It would increase its intake from 30 to 60 children a year. The Westfield site would be vacated and the school would move to either the site of the current Chalkstone Middle School or to share the Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College site. This proposal would allow us to provide better facilities, and in a building which meets the needs of all children.

Before settling on this option, we considered the alternative of keeping Westfield on its current site with the same number of pupils per year group (30) and extending its age range to up to Year 6. Linked to this would be the expansion of Coupals and New Cangle to take the increased age range (up to Year 6), both at 45 pupils per year. This option would involve significant capital costs at the three schools.

The site and buildings at Westfield also present some barriers to expansion which would make an increase in the number of pupils in each year group to 60 difficult to achieve.

We therefore believe that relocating Westfield Primary School would achieve the best educational facilities for pupils. Whilst we are optimistic that this can be achieved, the proposal for relocation is subject to a detailed feasibility study and the availability of capital funds. We would encourage this school to become federated with Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College.

### **Coupals Primary School and New Cangle CP School**

The majority of pupils attending these two schools live in the north of the town. We propose to change the number of pupils entering these schools in future. Both schools would reduce from their current intake size to 30 pupils a year. This proposal is linked to the desire to relocate Westfield Primary.

### **Clements CP School**

The site of Clements CP School is not able to accommodate the two additional year groups if it continues to admit up to 40 pupils a year. In recent years the number of pupils entering the Reception class at Clements has been between 25 and 35. We are currently investigating the possibility of relocating the school to a bigger site locally. If that is not possible we propose to extend the age-range of the school so that pupils would attend from Reception to year 6, reduce the intake number to 30 and keep the school on its current site.

### **Burton End CP School**

We propose to move Burton End CP School to the current Parkway Middle School site and buildings. Burton End CP School would become a 3/4 to 11 primary school (Reception to Year 6). We would encourage this school to become federated with Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College.

### **St Felix RCVAP School**

Pupils who attend St Felix RCVAP School currently go on to attend Haverhill Middle schools or St Louis Catholic Middle School in Bury St Edmunds. In recent years, approximately 60% of St Felix pupils have subsequently attended Haverhill middle schools. The proposal is to extend the age range of St Felix to Reception to Year 6 (it is currently Reception to Year 4). We would welcome your views regarding whether St Felix should change its age range at the same time as other Haverhill primary schools or at the same time as other Catholic schools within west Suffolk.

### **Cavendish CP School, Glemsford CP School, and Hartest CEVCP Schools**

In general pupils who attend these three schools subsequently attend Clare Middle School and then Sudbury Upper School. We therefore need to consider these schools at the same time as Clare Middle School. The table on page 11 indicates our proposal for the future of these schools. We believe that we need to make the decision regarding these schools at the same time as the decision is made about Clare Middle School.

Schools within Sudbury are due to be reviewed in two years time, with their implementation also two years behind Haverhill. We could implement the changes for Cavendish, Glemsford, and Hartest at the same time as Haverhill schools, Sudbury schools, or develop a specific local solution. We would welcome your views about when we would implement the changes for these three schools.

## **Middle Schools**

All middle schools would close as part of these proposals. Some of the sites would continue to be used for relocated primary schools or as part of an all-through school.

## **Secondary Schools**

We propose to keep the Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College and Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College sites as the location for secondary provision, serving Haverhill and the surrounding villages. These schools would accommodate pupils aged 11 to 16 (Years 7 to 11).

## **16 – 19 provision**

All stakeholders are agreed that we want to improve the range and quality of choices for pupils from age 14 onwards, and ensure that there is clear accountability for student performance. We believe that this

will help to improve the number of people choosing to stay in learning within Haverhill once they reach 16. This supports the government agenda of reform for learners aged 14 to 19.

We propose that a dedicated building for 16 to 19 provision would be developed on a new site within the town. This is likely to be either in the town centre, or within the proposed Hales Barn development in the north-west of the town. This facility would provide academic and vocational provision and would allow the development of new specialist facilities. It would also be possible to support some vocational learning on this site for young people aged 14 to 16.

The management and governance of this centre is yet to be determined. It would be likely to involve a range of partners and providers, including local schools. We would welcome views on 16 to 19 provision.

## Option 2: The creation of two 'all-through' schools

An extension of our leading option would be to create two 'all-through' schools. Within this option we would:

- Change the age range for primary schools from Reception to Year 4 as they are currently (age 3/4 to 9), to Reception to Year 6 for the future (age 3/4 to 11). This includes all village primary schools.
- Create two 'all-through' schools within Haverhill that will accommodate pupils from Reception to Year 11 (age 3/4 to 16). These will be formed by joining Burton End Primary and Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College for one school, and Westfield Primary and Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College for the other. These schools would each accommodate 60 pupils per year from Reception, with an additional 150 pupils joining each school at the beginning of Year 7 from the other primary schools.
- Create a separate 16 to 19 centre in partnership with schools and other post-16 providers

To achieve this option we would close all four schools that would become part of the all-through schools (Burton End, Westfield, Castle Manor and Samuel Ward). We would then open two new all-through schools for pupils from 3/4 to 16 (Reception to Year 11). Under current Government rules, we would have to run public competitions, where potential providers are asked for their proposals to explain how they would run and support the new schools to ensure the best possible outcomes for children and young people.

All-through schools would deliver education, without any transfer between schools, for children aged from 4 to 16 years (Reception to Year 11) for up to 120 pupils a year. This proposal would ensure that one headteacher and one governing body has accountability for pupil progress and pastoral care. Staff would have opportunities to teach and assume responsibilities across the full age range. Other pupils would join the school at age 11 (the beginning of Year 7) for their secondary education from all of the other primary schools.

This option reflects the principles agreed by the County Council. In particular:

- It would reduce the number of school transfers within the statutory school age. The majority of pupils will only change school once, while some (up to 120 a year) would not change school at all.
- It would ensure clear accountability for pupil development and achievement during each Key Stage.
- It would retain all current village primary schools and extend them all to Year 6.
- It would support local aspirations for social and economic development.

The County Council agreed to the consideration of all-through schools where there are “compelling local reasons.” It stated that any all-through proposals would need to “have a clear consensus of support within the local community arrived at by thorough local consultation”. This consultation will establish whether governing bodies and local communities believe that all-through schools would benefit learners.

For most schools, this option has the same implications as the leading option outlined above. However, there are some important differences:

- Burton End Primary School and Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College – these schools would both close, and a new all-through school would be created to replace them. This school would be situated on the combined sites of Castle Manor and Parkway Middle School. The primary phase provision would move from the Burton End site to the Parkway Middle School site.
- Westfield CP School and Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College – these schools would both close, and a new all-through school would be created to replace them. The provision for children aged 11 – 16 (Years 7 – 11) would be on the Samuel Ward site. The buildings for the primary phase (pupils in Reception to Year 6) may be either on the Samuel Ward site or the current Chalkstone Middle School site, with a preference for co-location on the Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College site.
- Coupals and New Cangle would reduce their intake to 30 pupils a year (from the current 45) to enable the all-through school formed from Westfield Primary and Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College to admit up to 60 pupils a year

This is not the County Council's leading option as we believe effective federations between schools can achieve similar benefits for young people, with less disruption.

## Option 3: Three secondary schools

This option would create a new secondary school in Clare for pupils aged 11 to 16 (Year 7 to Year 11), in addition to the two secondary schools within Haverhill town. This new school would be on the site of the existing Clare Middle School and would admit up to 180 pupils a year.

This option would:

- Change the age range for all primary schools from their current age range of Reception to Year 4, to Reception to Year 6.
- Change the age range for Castle Manor and Samuel Ward so that they admit pupils from the beginning of Year 7 until Year 11. Each school would admit up to 165 pupils a year
- Create a new secondary school in Clare for pupils from Year 7 to Year 11 (age 11 to 16). This would admit up to 180 pupils a year.

This option reflects the principles agreed by the County Council. In particular:

- It would reduce the number of school transfers within the statutory school age. All pupils would only change school once.
- It would ensure clear accountability for pupil development during each Key Stage
- It would retain all village primary schools and extends them all to Year 6

For most schools, this option has the same implications as the leading option outlined above. However, there are some important differences:

- Castle Manor and Samuel Ward would both admit up to 165 pupils a year rather than 210 pupils a year
- The options for Westfield, New Cangle, and Coupals remain as outlined for the leading option
- The implementation of the age-range changes to Cavendish, Glemsford, and Hartest would be as part of the Haverhill process. This would recognise the likely pupil progress through schools from these primary schools to the new Clare secondary school.

The creation of a new secondary school in Clare is not Suffolk County Council's leading option because:

- We believe that the proposed size of the new secondary school in Clare (180 pupils a year, 900 pupils in total) would mean expanding the catchment area and involve pupils traveling to this school to the detriment of more local provision. For example, pupils within Kedington would become part of the likely catchment area despite being considerably closer to Haverhill than Clare. This could also mean that pupils potentially further east towards Sudbury might be affected.
- We believe that this option would have significant implications for the provision of secondary age schooling within Haverhill and Sudbury towns. If a new school was created within Clare, both Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College and Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College would reduce in size so that each took up to 165 pupils a year (from current admission numbers of 200 and 220 respectively). 165 pupils a year would be below the County Council's preferred size for a secondary school.
- This option would have significantly higher capital cost implications than either the leading option or option 2.

If this option is taken forward, it would be achieved by formally proposing to close the existing Clare Middle School and then establishing a new 11 to 16 secondary school. This new secondary school would be established through a competition where potential providers are asked for their proposals explaining how they would run and support the school to ensure the best possible outcomes for young people.



## Alternative Options/Scenarios we considered

As part of the development of options, we considered a range of other models. These were then tested against the principles and criteria agreed by the County Council in March 2007. Below we have outline some options that were considered by the Local Stakeholder Forum.

- 1) The option of all high schools retaining their post 16 provision was discussed with stakeholders. The option of post 16 provision being provided separately, but in close collaboration with the high schools, was preferred by stakeholders. It was felt that this would provide a chance to re-launch provision within the town, provide a wider range of opportunities and courses, and increase the number of people choosing to stay within learning after they reach 16.
- 2) We considered a model that had primary schools including Reception to Year 9 (age 3/4 to 14) and an upper school providing provision for Years 10 to 13 (age 14 to 18/19). We believe that this model would be difficult to implement because many current primary school sites would be unable to accommodate the additional pupils (they would need to add 5 year groups). We also believe that we would be unable to provide the range of specialist facilities for pupils aged 11 to 14 across the large number of primary schools. In addition, students who wish to transfer to post –16 provision outside Haverhill would join the 14 to 19 school in year 10 (aged 14) and stay for just two years.
- 3) The option of relocating Clements Primary to Burton End Primary was rejected on the basis that we wish to retain the school within its current community.
- 4) The option of closing Westfield Primary (and expanding New Cangle and Coupals to compensate) was considered. This would remove a popular school from the heart of a community with significant needs. In addition, we believe that Coupals Primary could not be expanded to accommodate the additional pupil numbers.
- 5) The 3 to 7 and 7 to 16 model was rejected on the grounds that it would create two large secondary schools with total pupil numbers of between 1620 and 2160. The Key Stage 2 provision in particular would be very large. Creating separate Key Stage 2 schools is not in accordance with the principles governing the review.
- 6) The current three tier system does not meet the principles adopted by the County Council in March 2007. In particular it does not provide a single line accountability for Key Stages or reduce the number of school transfers for pupils within the statutory age range.

# Consultation – Have your say!

It is important that we have the views of as many people as possible. Your views will help to inform the County Council's decision on the future provision of education in Haverhill and the surrounding area. We want you to consider the information included within this booklet and the separate page which contains specific information about your school.

We have put together a specific set of questions. These questions are designed to help you give us a clear indication of what you think will work best at your local school and in your local area. It is important to remember that the County Council will make the final decision. What we need is your views to help inform the decision making process.

## How can I have my say?

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

- Complete a paper questionnaire or,
- Log onto [www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/haverhill](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/haverhill) and complete the questionnaire on line or
- Attend one of the public meetings.

Details of public meetings are on the back cover 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 Dioceses, 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/haverhill](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/haverhill). 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 29 October 2007 to 18 January 2008.

## What happens after the consultation finishes?

In March 2008 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 representation. If the Cabinet cannot agree the proposals, they will be referred to the Schools Adjudicator.

We expect a final decision during summer term 2008. Detailed planning for implementation will then be finalised for the agreed proposals.

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 કોલ કરો.

**Gujarati**

بەم زانیاریەشینی ئێ بە ت گەهیەتی هە یارمەر ب و سرتی بەگەیه  
بکە. وە ی خوارم ژمارەندی بەیوه بەزمان کێ تر تکیایە

**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 or large print, please call **08456 066 067**.

## Public Meetings

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

### **Haverhill and the surrounding area**

All meetings will run from 19:30 – 21:00 unless otherwise stated \*

\*Monday 12 November Hundon CP School (16:00)  
Monday 12 November Thurlow CEVCP School  
Tuesday 13 November Westfield CP School  
Tuesday 13 November Place Farm CP School  
Thursday 15 November Coupals Primary School  
Thursday 15 November Castle Manor Business and Enterprise College

Monday 19 November Kedington Primary School  
Monday 19 November Clare Middle School  
Tuesday 20 November Burton End CP School  
Tuesday 20 November Samuel Ward Arts and Technology College

Thursday 22 November Clare CP School  
Thursday 22 November Parkway Middle School

Monday 26 November Wickhambrook CP School  
Wednesday 28 November New Cangle CP School  
Wednesday 28 November St Felix RCP School  
Thursday 29 November Castle Hill Community Middle School  
Thursday 29 November Glemsford CP School

\*Tuesday 4 December Clements CP School (18:30)  
Wednesday 5 December Chalkstone Middle School  
Wednesday 5 December Cavendish CEVCP School  
Wednesday 12 December Hartest CEVCP School

**For more information about these meetings**

**[www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/haverhill](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/sor/haverhill)  
or call 01284 352902**