



# Developing Suffolk Talent



Issue No 73 ● 11 December 2020

**Welcome** to our e-bulletin which is designed to give you timely updates on the work of the Skills Team and key developments across the region and nationally. It is our plan to send you this bulletin at monthly intervals, so please feel free to give us feedback on what you would find useful.

If you would like further information on any of the projects or issues below you are welcome to email [skills@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:skills@suffolk.gov.uk) and we will get you in touch with the relevant staff member.



*Dear colleagues,*

We hope that you are continuing to keep safe and well.  
Welcome to the final edition of Developing Suffolk Talent in 2020.

*Our best wishes for a relaxing and enjoyable  
Festive Season  
and for a positive start into 2021.*

If you have any comments, observations or feedback you would like to share with us please feel free to let us know via [skill@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:skill@suffolk.gov.uk).

*The Skills Team*

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## Developing the new SEND Strategy 2021-23



In February 2020 SCC launched the “**Time to listen....about SEND**” campaign, to provide a way to work across Suffolk with everyone with an interest in SEND, to develop a new SEND strategy for 2020–2023. (More details can be found in the [attached](#) information page).

Unfortunately, in March the COVID pandemic meant we had to pause the development of the new strategy that we had made such a great start on.

Having reviewed the current situation, we believe that we should now re-start the work on the strategy, because we need to have a new shared plan to take forward our work on SEND in 2021, and we cannot be certain when the pandemic will end. The plan is to follow a very similar process to the work we started in early 2020. Obviously, this will need to be a more virtual process. We hope that you will want to contribute.

### How to collect feedback and be part of the strategy development during November, December, and January:

- Use the updated [infographic](#) to support conversations with your teams, colleagues, families, children and young people.
- Complete the feedback information included in the [infographic](#).

The feedback provided from across the SEND system will be used to develop a draft strategy document, that will then be shared via a wider public consultation process in February 2021. At the end of this process we will incorporate any additional feedback and produce a new SEND Strategy for 2021 – 2023, live in April 2021.

**Please follow the link below to further information.** In addition to the link on the infographic, you will also find the link to the survey feedback on this page:

[Suffolk SEND Strategy 2021-2023](#)

In addition, if you would like to discuss the SEND Strategy directly and offer some feedback please contact us as follows: [sendstrategy@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:sendstrategy@suffolk.gov.uk)

## English as additional language – Survey



**sendiass**

This is just a reminder that we would like to know how the service can reach and support families where English is an additional language.

Building on the exploratory work we did previously with some schools in the Ipswich area, we would like to gather views from schools and settings across the whole of Suffolk.

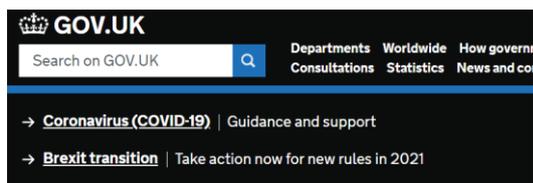
We would be very grateful if you could take the time to answer a few questions about barriers for these families and the best ways we can support them to access our service, and with the information we provide.

- [Read more about our EAL project](#) (opens PDF)
- [Complete the survey](#) (opens SmartSurvey link)

**The survey closes Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.**

## FUNDING

### Condition Improvement Fund opens for 2021-22



Home > [School and college funding and finance](#)

Guidance

#### Condition Improvement Fund

Information for eligible academies, sixth-form colleges and voluntary aided (VA) schools about the Condition Improvement Fund (CIF).

The Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) is provided by the Department for Education to improve school buildings and expand academies and sixth-form colleges rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted.

CIF's core priority is to support condition projects and the focus of the fund is to keep school and college buildings safe and in good working order. Most CIF funding aims to address building issues with significant consequences that revenue or Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) funding cannot meet. These include issues with poor building condition, building compliance, energy efficiency or health and safety.

The highest priority will be given to condition projects that address compliance and health and safety issues. These include fire protection systems, gas safety, electrical safety

or emergency asbestos removal. Priority will then be given to projects that ensure weather tight buildings and continuous heating and water supply. CIF also supports a small proportion of expansion projects where Ofsted has rated the school either good or outstanding.

To be eligible to apply for CIF funding, applicants must have been by 1 September 2020 either a:

- Stand-alone academy
- Multi-academy trust (MAT) with less than 5 academies or fewer than 3,000 pupils
- Sixth-form college
- Eligible voluntary-aided school
- School with a signed academy order as of 1 September 2020 that the department expects will convert by 1 April 2021.

An initial proposal can be submitted for works expected to cost more than £20,000 (for primary and special schools) and £50,000 (for Secondary and sixthform colleges) for initial approval prior to further development and final approval at a later stage. The maximum project cost for all schools is £4 million.

Further details can be found on the [Gov.uk website](#).

**Applications must be submitted by the deadline of 14 January 2021**

## UPDATES



**Work Well Suffolk** have now engaged with over 430 participants across the county which is 75% of the target Year To Date, this is an excellent number considering the current climate.

WWS Navigators Robyn, Wendy and Alan have been developing and maintaining relationships with contacts within ACS, DWP, Social Prescribing, Leaving Care Teams and other agencies to promote WWS and encourage referrals to the project.

<https://www.suffolk.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/work-well-suffolk/>



Apprenticeships Suffolk headline data | 1 June – 30 November 2020



The festive edition of the latest Newsletter can be found on the employers page of the Apprenticeships Suffolk website: <https://apprenticeshipssuffolk.org/employers/>

Adult Learning Spotlight Issue 8 | December 2020



Keeping you in touch with the latest Adult Learning news across the region and nationally. The latest issue is **attached**.

SEND Parent Carer Update November 2020



The latest issue of the SEND Parent Carer bulletin can be found [here](#)



Click [here](#) for the **Skills Team Who's Who** and **previous issues** of this bulletin.

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