

New SEND provision for SET Beccles School

Our School is working alongside Suffolk County Council to develop additional specialist education places. Across Suffolk there is a shortfall of specialist places available. This can mean that some pupils have to be educated away from their local communities.

As part of a SEND capital programme SET Beccles School is creating additional specialist placements which will be available for children and their families across Suffolk from September 2021. Suffolk County Council has undertaken a commissioning process, where by schools who were interested, provided information on how the centre would be run and supported by the School. Schools who were successful in this process, like ours, are currently working with the council to ensure the appropriate infrastructure and support is in place to enable these new centres to be open in September 2021. This proposal gives children the opportunity to be educated in their community, closer to home. The funding for capital works to our School is being provided by Suffolk County Council.

SET Beccles School will be offering 18 places to support children who require support with Cognition and Learning. These places will be in addition to our current PAN (Planned Admission Number). This means that there will not be a reduction in the number of places available in the usual admissions round. Allocation of specialist places will follow a separate admissions process.

As you know, our vision is to meet the needs of each and every student and we recognise that, across the county and particularly in North Suffolk, there needs to be an increase in specialist education provision to meet the rising demand of students with special educational and disability needs (SEND). We have received additional funding from Suffolk Council to set up and staff this new centre, which will be situated within the main school building. It is very much our plan that students in the bespoke centre will be a part of our main school and will join in with activities where appropriate, providing a positive experience for all of our students.

The new SEND centre brings an exciting opportunity to further enhance our current provision for all students with additional needs at SET Beccles School, as well as supporting our staff with professional development opportunities. Our sister schools, SET Ixworth and SET Maidstone and Causton, have already opened similar centres.

Consultation question:

1. Do you support of the School's plans to create a Cognition and Learning Centre?

Yes

No

Reasons why

2. Do you have any additional comments to make?