

Developing a Norfolk Commitment Towards Inclusion

Information Pack and FAQs

Local First Inclusion

What is Local First Inclusion?

Local First Inclusion is a six-year Norfolk County Council special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) improvement programme focused on improving educational support for children and young people and their families and providing earlier help.

You can find out more about Local First Inclusion on the Norfolk Schools and Learning Providers website [here](#) and there is a short video clip [here](#).

What is a Norfolk Commitment?

As part of the Local First Inclusion Programme, workstream one focuses on mainstream inclusion, culture and practice, building on best practice in delivering high quality SEN support.

As a first step, we welcome active involvement from schools and settings across Norfolk to develop an ambitious shared commitment to what consistent, high quality and well supported SEN support and inclusive practice should look like across Norfolk.

A Norfolk Commitment will create a school system that holds the highest aspirations for all Norfolk children and young people, one that encourages and enables them to flourish, recognising that although success looks different for everyone, it is not less worthy of celebration.

How can schools and children and young people be involved?

Our ambition is to consult with those who have expertise and experience across a broad range of needs, including the voice of children and young people, families, schools and settings, to ensure we consider a wide range of perspectives. We aim to co-produce a set of agreed principles for Inclusion, to enable the development and spread of best practice throughout Norfolk, to secure a sustainable system that achieves long term success for Norfolk children.

We have developed a suite of resources that support your engagement (without exhausting your time!) These will include resources for pupil voice that support with work you will be planning around transitions.

Local First Inclusion

FAQs

1. I am busy! Why is it important to spend time supporting this consultation?

Creation of agreed principles for inclusion will secure all members of your school community, and the wider educational landscape across Norfolk, to be a more effective and enjoyable place to learn, work and live. They will ensure everyone feels welcome, safe, and included to secure the most positive outcomes possible.

Whilst the activities can be used in isolation, they have been designed to be easily embedded into a form group task, school council focus or as part of your transition activities supporting your class to get to know one another and you them! If used in any of these ways, they will save your planning time and not create additional work!

Engagement in the consultation activities will help your pupils to:

- Development of age and stage appropriate transferable interpersonal skills and values
- Foster understanding of rights and responsibilities to celebrate differences and promote inclusivity
- Active citizenship within school community and Norfolk's provision for inclusion

Engagement in the consultation will enable you to:

- Strengthen relationships with your class community
- Understand individual and whole class inclusion needs
- Promote equality, British Values, Citizenship and RSHE

2. How long will it take?

The consultation activity pack includes a flexible menu of activities that you can select from according to your preferred approaches and the needs of your class community. The activities are variable and range from 10 minutes to a full lesson depending on what method is realistically achievable. If you have your own alternative ideas, we are very happy for you to use these too!

3. How do I ensure my pupils engage effectively?

The consultation activity pack includes some helpful guidance to ensure you can secure an effective approach to maximise pupil engagement with the tasks. The activities can be differentiated to meet your pupil needs. If you would like any support to do this, please email inclusionandsend@norfolk.gov.uk.

Local First Inclusion

4. How do I capture and share my pupil's views?

We know you are busy, so we have made this as quick and easy as possible! Share the main themes arising from the pupil consultation activities via these short online forms:

Secondary schools: <https://forms.office.com/e/1MCjABPYtC>

Primary schools: <https://forms.office.com/e/W2RPQym9Hg>

You can also email us any photos, videos, or similar share visual findings. We would really value seeing anything your pupils create. If you have pictures you are willing to share please contact us directly via email – ellie.ward@norfolk.gov.uk

5. How do I share my views?

We know your views are important too and the surveys above include a section for you to share your views. This will take no more than 5 minutes of your time and will ensure you can also help to shape the Norfolk Commitment and have an important opportunity to identify the support you feel schools need to deliver the difference these will make for our schools and the communities they serve.

6. When do I need to do this by?

We collected some initial feedback in the summer term. This term, the consultation feedback window will stay open until October half term. Please make sure you have completed the online surveys with your feedback by Friday 20th October.

7. I have some questions/ideas, who should I ask?

Please do not hesitate to contact us via Ellie Ward who can respond to your query or pass it onto the right person - ellie.ward@norfolk.gov.uk

We welcome the opportunity to liaise with you and will provide support as required to enable you to complete the tasks and support our vitally important consultation.

Thank you in advance for your active participation in developing a Norfolk Commitment towards inclusion.