



## SEN Review Update

*“Putting children with SEN at the heart of their local learning community”*

### SEN Strategy - Have your say!

Since the first issue of the SEN Review Update in September a lot has happened. The project groups have developed proposed models of provision and a consultation process is about to get underway. The consultation process will last for 12 weeks and will begin on 22nd May. As well as written consultation we will be holding a number of events across Norfolk in each of the five areas. Details of these events can be found to the right.

We want to make sure we have high quality inclusive provision and services for all our children and young people in Norfolk, whatever their needs. As we develop the plan to do this, we want to hear what you think about our proposals.

The proposals are about the development of specialist provision in both our special and mainstream schools for a range of children with SEN, including the remodelling of existing learning support centres and development of new specialist resource bases.



**John Lane, pupil at Sheringham Woodfields School**

In the last edition we told you about the Area SEN Partnership model, which is all about bringing together local resources in an area to better meet the needs of children and young people with SEN. At the heart of our proposals is the aim of ensuring that there is a continuum of flexible provision available to children with SEN and their families. These developments should mean that in the future children and young people will have access to provision closer to their home, alongside their peers, without having to travel long distances.

### Thank you

We would like to say a big thank you to those people who gave up their time to either lead or be involved in the project groups. The project groups were represented by a wide range of stakeholders including colleagues from the voluntary sector and other agencies, school staff, staff from the early years and further education sectors, parents and carers, governors and trade unions as well as staff from

Children’s Services. Everyone who has been involved has worked really hard and this is reflected in the quality of the models of provision that were produced by project groups. Extra special thanks go to each of the project leads - without their continued dedication and commitment we would not have been able to get this far.

### Events in your area

The 5 Area Directors will be crucial to the implementation of the SEN strategy as they are responsible for bringing together all of the services provided by different teams and agencies in their areas. They will be at each of the consultation events in their areas:

**Northern area:** Wednesday 7th June at the Fakenham Racecourse

**Southern area:** Monday 19th June at the Park Farm Hotel in Hethersett

**Western area:** Thursday 22nd June at the Knights Hill Hotel in Kings Lynn

**Eastern area:** Wednesday 5th July at the Kings Centre in Great Yarmouth

**Central area:** Thursday 6th July at the Quality Hotel in Bowthorpe, Norwich

Anyone who is interested can come to one of our consultation events.



## Inclusion in Action Day!

06-06-06 will be a memorable day for us in Norfolk County Council Children's Services, as it is 'Inclusion in Action' day. For years adults have been talking about inclusion, and at times, misunderstanding each other! So this year we are formally involving our children and young people in this discussion.

Our definition states that:

**Inclusion is the process of taking necessary steps to ensure that every young person is given an equality of opportunity to develop socially, to learn and to enjoy community life.**

But what do our children and young people think inclusion means to them?

On June 6th 2006, a range of activities involving children and young people will take place across the Eastern Region. The purpose is to elicit the **words, feelings and pictures** that children and young people associate with 'inclusion in action'.

If you would like to participate in this day, or require further information then please contact Judith Carter (Senior Educational Psychologist) or Terry Cook (Principal Adviser) on 01603 433276. Or email: [judith.carter@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:judith.carter@norfolk.gov.uk)

## New complex needs school in King's Lynn

We have just finished the first phase of the ongoing consultation on our plans to build a new complex needs school in King's Lynn. As well as written consultation we held an open day in King's Lynn on 31st January where anyone who was interested had the opportunity to come along and get more information and talk to local authority officers or independent parental supporters.

Children from both the Alderman Jackson and Ethel Tipple schools have also been thinking about what they would like to see in the new school. They have provided us with some excellent artwork illustrating their ideas about what the new school might look like. Overall the response to the consultation was very positive and we received some good suggestions and comments which will be taken into account throughout the planning and design process.

It is expected that building will begin on the new

school in 2007 and that it will open in September 2008. This is an exciting project and we have a wide range of people involved including trade unions, staff from both the schools, health, social care and Children's Services staff.



**The children at the Ethel Tipple and Alderman Jackson special schools have their own ideas about what the new school might look like!**

## For further information and feedback:

If you have any comments or questions, or would like more information, please contact Suzy Ladd, Project Co-ordinator by Telephone: 0844 800 8001 or by Email: [SENstrategy@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:SENstrategy@norfolk.gov.uk)

Or by post to: Room 24, Children's Services, Norfolk County Council, Martineau Lane, Norwich, NR1 2DL