

Building Communities of Specialist Provision; Together in Lincolnshire

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Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy

"Establish an integrated school system where children and young people get the right health, care and education, in the right place, at the right time, as close to home as possible."

"Provision without boundaries: where children feel they belong, are respected, hopeful and optimistic about their future."

Key Achievements

- 527 new special school places created and filled with all final additional places allocated from Sept 2025.
- Capital Programme – all schemes either complete or in progress
- Greater Lincolnshire Construction and Property Awards 2024 – Development Project of the Year (Over £5m)
- *All Complex Needs* agenda well-embedded in Lincolnshire's SEND services
- Effective Specialist Community Led Panels meeting termly to address hard to place/risk of exclusion
- Strong presence of Health Professionals in Special Schools
- Workforce Development Learning Platform live
 - Induction Tier launched to parents October 2023
 - Induction and Tier 1 live for special and mainstream settings
 - Over 10,000 modules completed, accessed by over 89% of all Lincolnshire school

SEND Capital Programme

Completed schemes

- Boston Endeavour Academy
- Bourne Willoughby Academy
- Spalding Tulip Academy
- Grantham Additional Needs Federation – Ambergate and Sandon sites
- Spilsby Eresby School
- Louth St Bernards School
- Lincoln St Christophers Primary School
- Horncastle St Lawrence School
- Lincoln St Christopher's Secondary School
- **Active**
- Lincoln St Francis School
- Gosberton House Academy



Boston Endeavour Academy



Grantham
Ambergate College & The Sandon School



Mr. Peter Brindley is accompanied by two young boys from Willoughby school sitting in the school's new kitchen and staff.

In a class of our own

£86m investment will help provide a better start to life for Lincolnshire children

A multi-million pound project creating new and improved facilities for children with special education needs and disabilities (SEND) is making good progress.

One of the nation's top priorities is ensuring all children get a great start in life, and a good education is vital to that. That's why the authority is investing around £86m in creating and upgrading 12 special schools over the next five years.

Work is currently well advanced on a new £33m special school - the Special Education Academy - which has space for 140 pupils, serving six teachers for the future. It will feature specialist teaching spaces for speech, learning, IT and art, and a hall.



Eight new schools have a hydrotherapy pool, sensory and A&E play rooms and specialist therapy rooms. Outside, there are plans for soft-landed play areas, as well as a sensory garden.

Other schools to benefit are St Bernard's School in Lincoln. These projects will create over 1,000 new jobs and will also see new developments of primary buildings.

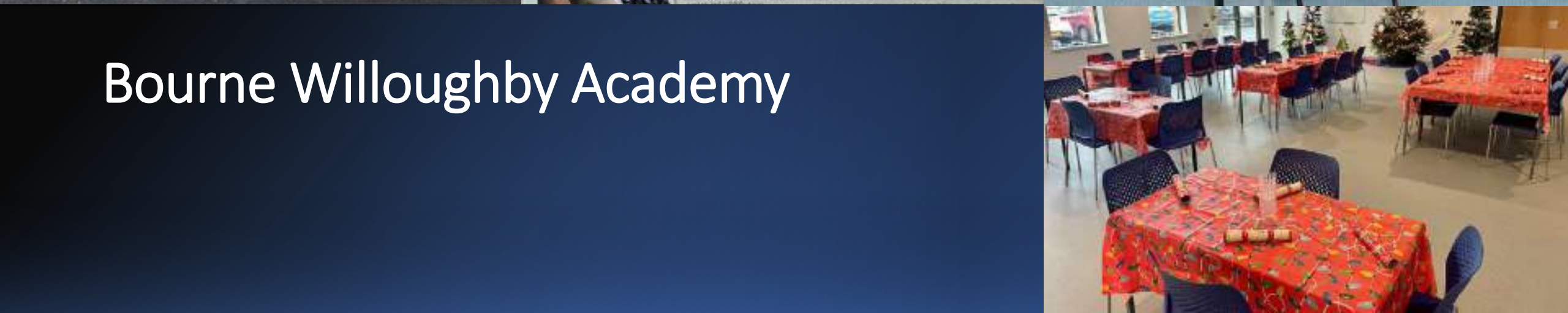
The work will also see improvements to new music places, an extension at the schools, but they will also mean that existing schools can focus their resources.

Chris Peacock (SEND), executive director for children's education, said: "We want to ensure that all children have access to high quality education, a start in their careers and that, eventually, a good life."

"So the council is investing £86m to improve the support for children with SEND, which will see an additional 100 special school places created over the next five years."

"These investments will prove more pupils with SEND can obtain a full education than being in care, help them to find employment and will be of great benefit to both the children and their families."

"Despite the challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic, the project is continuing to move forward, thanks to the hard work of all involved and the support of our partners and the community."



Bourne Willoughby Academy



Spilsby
The Eresby School





Louth St Bernard's School

Spalding Tulip Academy





Horncastle St Lawrence School





St Christopher's Primary School

The school has some great places for me to go to help

me feel calm.



St Christopher's Secondary School



Supporting Services

- Workforce Development Learning Platform Induction and Tier 1 phase for schools, professionals and parent carers. Commissioned for further 2 years. Evidence of reduced requests for EHC Needs Assessments from accessing schools.
- <https://safeguardinglincolnshire.vc-enable.co.uk/>
- Specialist Community Led Panels rolled out across all 4 localities. Evidence of effectively keeping children and young people in local special schools and avoidance of independent non-maintained special schools (Out of County)
- Health Offer - workstream to ensure children and young people who are long-term ventilated/ have complex medical needs can attend special schools close to home as possible
- Specialist Equipment contract two years in is evidencing substantial savings for special schools in both supply of equipment and servicing/maintenance.



SEND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INDUCTION TIER

FREE e-learning modules for all
Lincolnshire school parents and
carers, going live on
Monday 30th October

Modules:

- ✓ Types of SEND
- ✓ What is Inclusion?
- ✓ SEND Code of Practice
- ✓ Respecting Individuals
- ✓ Working with Professionals
- ✓ Awareness of a Neuro-Typical Child

How do I join?

1. Sign up to the [Lincolnshire Parent Carer Forum](#)
2. Indicate in the 'Additional Information' section that you are interested in SEND Workforce Development
3. An email will be sent to you with a prompt to set up a password & log in



The aim of the project is to bring together resources and training opportunities for people in Lincolnshire who support children and young people with SEND. It is written by schools, for school communities.

Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy Phase 2

- A new SEMH School for 154 pupils aged 5 to 16 years as part of the successful DfE Wave 4 Free School process.
- 8 Classroom expansion to a Grantham special school, providing an additional 96 places
- Mainstream SEND Hubs providing an additional 10 places per Hub for children and young people with EHC Plans, and LA Commissioned Alternative Provision providing 8 places per Hub. 11 Primaries, 3 Secondaries and 2 AP Hubs in progress.
- Further minor works at three special schools to create an additional six classrooms and 56 places
- Additional Investment of up to £41.868m

Building Communities of Specialist Provision Phase 2 Mainstream SEND Hubs

Consultations currently live for the following schools:

- Lincoln Ermine Primary Academy
- Gainsborough Castle Wood Primary Academy
- Gainsborough Parish
- Gainsborough St Georges Primary School
- Grantham Gonerby Hillfoot Primary School
- Grantham St Wulfrums Primary Academy
- Sleaford Church Lane Primary School
- Coningsby St Michaels Primary Academy
- Friskney All Saints Primary Academy
- Caistor Primary School
- The Gainsborough Academy
- North Kesteven Academy

Further development proposed for:

- 1 further secondary SEND Hub
- 3 Alternative Provision Hubs

www.letstalk.lincolnshire.gov.uk

Building Communities of Specialist Provision Phase 2

Mainstream SEND Hubs

- It is the Council's ambition to develop and implement mainstream SEND Hubs, which would provide enhanced educational provision for children and young people with SEND, enabling them to be educated and have their needs met in a mainstream school, with enhanced facilities, by knowledgeable and skilled staff.
- Wave 1 will develop mainstream SEND Hubs in 11 primary schools and 3 secondary schools across the county, though this is a long-term ambition for the Council, with plans to expand this offer further.
- It will belong to the school, be managed by the school and be staffed by the school – the LA's responsibility is to provide funding, place pupils and to support with quality assurance.
- A place for pupils with SEND to be educated, with access to all the benefits of a mainstream environment but with enhanced provision – smaller class sizes, specifically trained staff and differentiated curriculum.
- A maximum of 2 classrooms per SEND Hub, made up of 10 Local Authority commissioned places with 2-3 transitional places for the host school to use.
- Specially designed to ensure it has the space and resources required to meet the needs of pupils placed in the Hub.
- Hubs will begin opening from September 2025, through the academic year.

Building Communities of Specialist Provision Phase 2

Accessing Mainstream SEND Hubs

- **Access to the mainstream SEND Hub will be through the formal Education, Health and Care Plan process, in accordance with the SEND Code of Practice 2014.**
- As part of either the Needs Assessment or Annual Review process, children and young people will be assessed as needing either mainstream, mainstream with SEND Hub or specialist setting.
- If identified as requiring a mainstream SEND Hub, consultation with the nearest Hub will take place.
- We recognise that demand for places within the mainstream SEND Hub may be high and that capacity will be limited initially, as we roll out wave 1 of this initiative. Please be aware that places will not be guaranteed, and all places will be allocated within the existing formalised process.
- Mainstream SEND Hubs will be best placed to meet the needs of children and young people who could thrive in mainstream with enhanced support and interventions.
- They are not suitable for children and young people with complex needs who require specialist provision.
- Children and young people with a degree of speech, language and communication needs, and those with cognition and learning needs may be most suitable to the Mainstream SEND Hub
- The SEND Hubs will not be suitable for children and young people with behavior which significantly challenges.

Building Communities of Specialist Provision Phase 2

Accessing Mainstream SEND Hubs

- The Council will be funding all building and renovation works required in the identified area of the school.
- Schools will receive an allocation of funding for each pupil placed in the Hub.
- This funding ensures the Hub can provide the following
 - One Qualified Teacher
 - Two Teaching Assistants
 - One Intervention Worker Enhanced Leadership Time
 - Enhanced SENDCo Time (additional half a day per week)
 - Additional Midday Supervisor
 - Learning Resources
 - Staff funding at appropriate level for those with experience of teaching or supporting children and young people with SEND
- The Council are providing all host school with an intensive training package which will cover all areas of working with children and young people with SEND.
- This training is being developed by experts in the specialist sector and is part of the wider SEND Workforce Development Strategy which supports the county's special schools.

Happy to answer any questions...