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7th January 2020

Dear Families

I am writing to consult with you regarding the proposed establishment of a Specialist Resource Base (SRB) at Thetford Academy in September 2020.

A Specialist Resource Base (SRB) provides places for children with special educational needs and disabilities within a mainstream school. Children are taught in smaller groups with additional staff within the SRB, but also have access to mainstream classes and wider school life as their individual needs allow. The SRB at Thetford Academy would be for children with Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and would have up to 20 places for children aged 11 to 16.

Norfolk County Council has identified that there is a gap in provision in this area and we agree that it is right that children with special educational needs and disabilities be educated in their local school and community. We believe that as a calm, orderly and inclusive school we are an ideal location for an SRB and that the provision will enhance our wider school community and the life chances of children with special needs and disabilities in the Thetford area.

We have a responsibility to consult with the wider community on any significant change to the organisation and structure of the school. Please find more specific details regarding the consultation attached to this letter.

We will be holding two consultation events at Thetford Academy about this proposed change that you are welcome to attend:

Wednesday 15th January 2020 - 3-4pm
Monday 20th January 2020 - 6-7pm

The deadline for response to the consultation is February 4th 2020. I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Mr Dan Carter
Principal