

North Kesteven Academy / 20 January, 2025

CONSULTATION

MAINSTREAM SEND HUBS

WHAT IS A MAINSTREAM SEND HUB?

- Mainstream SEND Hubs are defined as “special provisions within a mainstream school where the children are taught within separate classes.”
- They are aimed at supporting children and young people with additional needs to be educated and have their needs met in a mainstream school, with enhanced facilities, by knowledgeable and skilled staff.
- You can read more about Mainstream SEND Hubs on the County Council’s consultation pages under the FAQ section. <https://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/support-education/mainstream-send-hubs>

WHAT WILL THE MAINSTREAM SEND HUB BE LIKE?

- The SEND Hub will be an integral part of the mainstream school, physically and culturally, with inclusivity and belonging at its core.
- It will be a place for young people with SEND to be educated, with access to all of the benefits of a mainstream environment but with enhanced provision – smaller class sizes, specifically trained staff and a bespoke curriculum.
- The Hub will consist of two classrooms, alongside other specially designed spaces, to ensure it has the space and resources required to meet the needs of the young people placed in the Hub.
- It will belong to the school, be managed by the school and be staffed by the school.
- The Local Authority will be responsible for providing funding, making placements, and supporting with quality assurance of the provision.

North Kesteven Academy / 20 January, 2025

CONSULTATION

MAINSTREAM SEND HUBS

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF THE MAINSTREAM SEND HUB FOR THE STUDENTS AND THE COMMUNITY?

The hubs will strengthen the local community by enabling young people to remain in their local school, fostering inclusive values and relationships.

EDUCATION: Personalised curriculum delivery by trained staff with specialist expertise meeting the needs of pupils with SEND in their local community.

ACCESSIBILITY:

Pupils with an EHCP can access high-quality education close to home, reducing travel time and maintaining connections with their local area.

INCLUSION: Integration into mainstream school activities promotes socialisation and a sense of belonging. The reduction in out-of-area placements, fostering a sense of belonging for young people within their local communities.

EMPOWERMENT: Tailored interventions and a bespoke curriculum equip young people with the skills, confidence, and independence needed to thrive and reach their full potential.

North Kesteven Academy / 20 January, 2025

CONSULTATION

MAINSTREAM SEND HUBS

WHEN WILL THE MAINSTREAM SEND HUB BE OPEN AND ACCEPTING STUDENTS?

- Our ambition is to have the Hub open by September 2025.
- We are expecting the Department for Education to make their decision about whether we can have a SEND Hub by the end of the spring term 2025.
- If formal approval is granted we will commence recruitment for the SEND Hub immediately.
- We anticipate that we would have staff in position during the summer term so they can access the specialised training offer and begin transition support for those young people joining the provision.
- Any building or capital works required will then be completed during the school holidays to ensure minimum impact on our students and academy.

WHO IS THE MAINSTREAM HUB FOR AND HOW IS IT ACCESSED?

- 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.

North Kesteven Academy / 20 January, 2025

CONSULTATION

MAINSTREAM SEND HUBS

- 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 behaviour which significantly challenges.
- The Council are developing a profile of suitability for mainstream SEND Hubs which will inform the Needs Assessment and Annual Review process, where Hub is identified as a possible option.

HOW IS THE MAINSTREAM HUB FUNDED AND STAFFED?

- The Council will be funding all building and renovation works required in the identified area of the school.
- The Council will also be funding the cost of “kitting out” the Hub with appropriate resources and supporting the cost of recruitment.
- 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

We have received reassurance from the Local Authority that our school will not be detrimentally impacted financially with the implementation of the SEND Hubs, nor will they impact the school’s ability or financial capacity to meet the needs of children and young people educated in the wider school.

North Kesteven Academy / 20 January, 2025

CONSULTATION

MAINSTREAM SEND HUBS

HOW WILL YOU ENSURE STAFF ARE APPROPRIATELY TRAINED?

- Lincolnshire County Council are providing all host schools 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.
- Specialised training will not just be for those working in the Hub, it will be for all involved in running of our school – Trust Boards, Governors, Senior Leadership, SENDCo's and Hub staff.
- All school staff will also commit to completing the SEND Workforce Development Learning Platform modules to enhance knowledge and skills across the provision.
- In addition, a further 8 modules per year will be added to the SEND Workforce Development Learning Platform, aimed at enhancing skills of those involved with the SEND Hubs.

HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT OUR PROPOSED MAINSTREAM SEND HUB?

If you have further questions and would like to discuss Mainstream SEND Hubs in more detail, please submit your questions via email to the Headteacher by emailing headteacher@nkacademy.co.uk.

If you wish to submit a response to the proposal, please complete this form, https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=YhVycTNj706y5_aLKp8oRcIQUkE2TP9JuVQ4KtEuXsRURVITWDBDTjJGTUIMQ1U0Q1dLWVpYWlFPMS4u by 5pm **Monday 10th February 2025**. These will be forwarded to the Department for Education who will consider all responses as part of our request to make this addition to the school.

North Kesteven Academy / 20 January, 2025

CONSULTATION

MAINSTREAM SEND HUBS

LINCOLNSHIRE'S VISION FOR INCLUSION

Since 2019, Lincolnshire County Council has been implementing the “Building Communities of Specialist Provision Strategy”, which has provided major improvements to educational provision for the very small cohort of children and young people with special additional needs and disabilities that require special school provision. However, for the majority of children and young people with SEND, mainstream schools offer a high-quality education in an inclusive and encouraging environment, where pupils can achieve the best outcomes possible, with access to a rich and wide curriculum. For most children and young people with SEND, being educated in a mainstream setting with enhanced support is the right type of education and therefore we are keen to develop provision that can meet this ambition.

Lincolnshire County Council have asked our school to develop, in partnership, a new type of provision called “Mainstream SEND Hub”. These provisions will be aimed at supporting children and young people with additional needs to be educated and have their needs met in a mainstream school, with enhanced facilities, by knowledgeable and skilled staff. The Mainstream SEND Hub will be part of the mainstream school, providing an enhanced educational offer for pupils with SEND in the mainstream setting.

Working in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council on this project there are 7 other academies and 5 LA maintained schools embarking on this inclusive journey across Lincolnshire. Please also support their consultation process.

Academies

- LAAT have 4 schools – Grantham St Wulfrums, Coningsby St Michaels, Friskney All Saints and Gainsborough Parish
- Ermine Academy
- Gainsborough Castle Wood
- Gainsborough Academy

LA maintained

- Gonerby Hill Foot Church of England Primary School
- Meadows Primary School, Lincoln
- St George's Church of England Community Primary School, Gainsborough
- Caistor C of E and Methodist Primary School
- Church Lane Primary School & Nursery, Sleaford