



## **Briefing Note for Children's Scrutiny Meeting Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2025**

### **SEND Provision**

This briefing note provides summary information on the latest position in relation to SENDAP provision. This briefing note focuses on provision being developed through the High Needs Capital Grant and the Department for Education Free School Programme. In addition to the provision, there is a range of work that is also being undertaken alongside this programme to develop and strengthen the workforce and associated services to support children from the earliest point of their education.

### **SEMH Free School:**

The SEMH Free School project continues to progress, with the Local Authority securing the land off Freeman Street. Whilst this has come at an additional cost, the overall costs laid out by the Local Authority are estimated to be a fraction of the ongoing revenue costs that are related to children attending Independent Non Maintained Specialist provision and associated transport costs.

### **Humberston Park Academy:**

In June, agreement was sought from cabinet to explore options for an additional site. This exploration is ongoing, to enable Humberston Park to safely accommodate a growing number of children with profound, multiple learning disabilities. The current site off Thomas Close in Humberston is landlocked. Officers continue to work diligently to secure a second site and begin works as soon as possible.

### **Cambridge Park Academy extension:**

On schedule to complete end of August for the first three children to transition in at the start of the academic year. The overall numbers will grow to between 8 and 12 children aged 14-19 years of age. This extension to the existing provision will avoid children having to attend specialist provision, which is often residential out of area. As a worked example, all three children starting in September had places in out of area settings ready to start that were on average £40,000 each more expensive (without transport costs) than a place at Cambridge Park within the new accommodation. This is therefore a cost avoidance from this September of approximately £120,000 that the LA has avoided spending on three children's provision.

### **Resource Specialist Provision:**

Provision	School / Trust	Opening	Current numbers	Fully opened numbers
The Launchpad	Littlecoates / Wellspring	September 2023	12	12

N.E.S.T	Yarborough Academy / SAT	April 2025	8	24
The Hive	Healing Secondary / Harbour Learning Trust	September 2025	6	12
The Nest	Waltham Gateway	September 2025	6	12
TBC	Scartho Gateway	September 2025	6	12
The Gatehouse	Waltham Tollbar / Lincolnshire Gateway Academy Trust	January 2026	6	8
Emerald Room	Fairfield / DRET	January 2026	6	20
The Lighthouse	Waltham Tollbar / Lincolnshire Gateway Academy Trust	September 2026	6	12
TBC	Bursar Academy / Humber Education Trust	September 2026	6	12 (Possibly 18)
TBC	Welholme Academy / Enquire Academy Trust	September 2026	6	12
TOTALS			66	134 (poss 140) (e)

#### Alternative Provision:

Transformation of the alternative provision offer across the borough was also agreed at cabinet in June. Next steps:

- Recruit a project lead
- Recruit an AP project support role

Work with providers, using learning from Delivering Better Value in SEND insights to develop a robust alternative provision offer for North East Lincolnshire.

#### Overall summary and growth of numbers of available places:

Provision	School / Trust	Opening	Current numbers	Fully opened numbers
Cambridge Park	Humber Education Trust	September 2025	3	12

Humberston Park	Humberston Park Single Academy Trust	September 2026		40
Springwell Grimsby	Wellspring Academy Trust	September 2027		150
TOTAL new places by 2027 (a)			3	102
Cambridge Park Academy current capacity (b)				204
Humberston Park Academy current capacity (c)				117
Grand total of special school places by end of 2028 (a) + (b) + (c)				<b>423 (d)</b>
<b><u>Total high needs places RSPs and SS (d) + (e)</u></b>				<b><u>557 (possible 563)</u></b>
<b><i>Growth since 2021 is 73.5% more places in NEL by 2028</i></b>				

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