



**Frettenham Primary School**

**School Road**

**Frettenham**

**Norwich**

**NR12 7LL**

**Tel: 01603 737405**

**Email: [office@frettenham.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@frettenham.norfolk.sch.uk)**

**Website: [www.harnserfed.norfolk.sch.uk](http://www.harnserfed.norfolk.sch.uk)**

*Part of the Nebula Partnership*

1 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carers

### **Wrap-around Childcare**

We have had an enquiry from some of our parents about the possibility of providing wrap around childcare at Frettenham Primary. We know that the school is at the heart of the community and parents are worried that local children may be unable to attend their local school because there is not easily accessible, appropriate childcare for working parents. We are grateful for the concern of parents for our school.

I will explain the position on the issue of wrap around care below. More generally, though, I want to reassure parents that Frettenham Primary is a vibrant and viable school. Both the executive leadership of the Nebula Federation and our governing body are in no doubt of its ongoing sustainability. Frettenham is a special school, with its own character and culture. It has an excellent, dedicated and hard-working staff team and motivated and creative children. We are sure that it will continue to be at the heart of village life for many years.

The government has announced that it is their ambition to expand wraparound care for primary school children across England by increasing the number of places available, to support working families. It expects all parents who need it to have access to wraparound care, either from their school or from another provider in their local area, by September 2026.

As part of this ambition, the government is supporting local authorities to deliver the wraparound care expansion. To make more available wraparound care possible, our own local authority will receive a share of £289 million to help map out and accommodate the needs of parents in Norfolk.



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As a federation of schools, we are in contact with Norfolk County Council to see what can be put in place and in due course we will be using a survey they are producing for us to use to see if there is enough demand to run wraparound care.

If there is demand for wraparound care, it does not mean that the school will run it, particularly if it would potentially not be financially sustainable. Schools are required to use all their budget to provide high quality education and care for the children within the school day. It may be that a third party is invited to provide the care if there is sufficient interest across a number of schools, or if there isn't enough demand to sustain a club, then Norfolk County Council will support us in exploring childminders for example, or indeed seek other options.

We are acutely aware that so many providers are struggling to recruit staff at the moment to provide the childcare required. As the local authority works to find a solution to the needs of parents for wrap around care, we will work with them to encourage a solution that works well for children at Frettenham and indeed the other schools in the Nebula Federation. The outcomes and timescales of this work depend more on the local authority, and we will keep you informed of progress and opportunities to participate in the survey once it is launched.

We appreciate the desire of parents to help with this matter. One immediate step might be, if parents can help, to alert us to any local child minders and we can use this use this information to signpost parents.

Thank you for your continued support of your local school.

Kindest regards

Ashley Best-White  
Executive Headteacher  
Nebula Federation



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