



# New school to be built on farmland in Somerset village

The land was originally used for grazing

SHARE 1

By **Heather Pickstock** North Somerset reporter 00:00, 21 SEP 2023

Bookmark

▶ See news near you

In YourArea

Enter your postcode





Farmland once used for grazing in a Somerset village is to be clawed back by the council as part of its plans to build a new special needs school. North Somerset Council is to "re-appropriate" land it owns at Ladymead Lane in Churchill as part of plans to build a [new school](#) for children with social, emotional and mental health needs in the village.

The new school would be a permanent base for the Lime Hills Academy, part of the Cabot Learning Federation, which is currently based on a temporary site in Nailsea. It will offer up to 65 places for [children](#) and young people in years one to 11 with social, emotional and mental health (SEMH) needs.

The one hectare site was previously part of Churchill Park Farm which the council sold to the tenant in March 2011. The grazing land was retained by the [council](#) and leased to the purchaser who was given notice to terminate occupation last year.

**READ MORE:** [Somerset school closes 22 classrooms amid structural safety concerns](#)

**READ MORE:** [Historic Somerset pub could be transformed into new homes and farm shop](#)

Currently, there is no special school provision for pupils with a primary diagnosis of SEMH needs within [North Somerset](#) and 19 per cent of local children with an EHCP (education, health and care plan) have to travel outside of the area to school.

Lime Hills Academy is currently supporting 22 pupils at its temporary accommodation in Nailsea. Across the district, North Somerset Council is increasing the number of special [school](#) places from 368 prior to September 2022 to 498 places by September 2024.

The council is working with the Department for Education (DfE) on plans for the new school. A North Somerset Council spokesman said: "North Somerset Council has a statutory duty to provide sufficient high quality school spaces for its children and young people, and has particular duties of care for its most vulnerable children, including those with Special [Educational](#) Needs (SEND).

**READ MORE:** [Anger as razor blades found strewn across Somerset park known for dog walking](#)

"Demand for provision for pupils with SEND has grown significantly across North Somerset, in part because of new housing which has increased the size of the pupil population and in part because of the changing needs of children and young people. Despite the council investing almost £20 million within the last two years to create additional places by expanding existing [specialist](#) provisions and creating a new school site, the need continues to outstrip supply. Local schools are full, and demand continues to rise.

"The specific rise in the need for places for young people with the district requires the establishment of this new school." Parish leaders say the site is not suitable for a new [school](#) due to the extra traffic it would bring to Ladymead Lane and Pudding Pie Lane.

## SIMILAR ARTICLES TO THIS

Powered by  mantis

**Reach**  
Advertisement

**Reach**  
Advertisement

**Reach**  
Advertisement



**READ MORE:** [Rescue crews pluck windsurfer from Somerset coast](#)

They also say the site is too small for a new **school**. The parish council says it has identified an alternative, bigger brown field site in Langford which it claims would be more suitable for the development.

Churchill and Langford Residents Action Group (CALRAG) has also raised concerns about the development.

**READ NEXT:**

- [Tourists slam West Country beach as 'out of control dogs' ruin trip](#)
- [Five people stuck in mud near West Country riverside pub](#)
- [Somerset school closes 22 classrooms amid structural safety concerns](#)
- [Water pollution alert issued in Somerset after heavy downpours](#)
- [Homes could be built along wooded lane in small village](#)

Share this on **nextdoor**

Follow SomersetLive

Facebook

Twitter

Comment



more on

North Somerset Council

Education

Somerset

NEWS ALL

## TOP STORIES >

**The Somerset pub serving meals cooked by the best chef in the UK**

PUBS

**The food hygiene ratings of every McDonald's in Somerset**

FOOD AND DRINK

**Live: M5 traffic chaos in Somerset after crash shuts lane**

M5



FOOD AND DRINK

**Stunning town house with 'breathtaking views' of Somerset coast for sale**

PROPERTY NEWS

**'Significantly harmful' campsite near M5 in Somerset refused**

M5

**Poet calls out council in rant over Somerset seafront scheme**

SOMERSET



---

FOOD AND DRINK

**Missing person 999 appeal for 'Kiwi' last seen in Wells**

WELLS

**'Severe' M5 delays after serious lorry crash**

M5

**Laid off staff at Somerset wedding venue had one hour to remove belongings**

SOMERSET



IN THE NEWS

---

---

NEWS

SPORT

WHAT'S ON

---

FOLLOW US



---

[InYourArea](#) | [MemoryLane](#) | [Discount Codes](#) | [Mirror Bingo](#) | [Beauty Box Subscription](#) | [Public Notices](#) | [Buy a photo](#) | [Marketplace](#) | [Contact Us](#) | [About Us](#) | [Work for us](#) | [Advertise with Us](#) | [Competition Rules](#) | [How to Complain](#) | [Corrections and Clarifications](#) | [Terms and Conditions](#) | [Privacy Notice](#) | [Cookie Notice](#) | [Newsletter Signup](#) | [Syndication & Licensing](#) | [RSS feeds](#) | © 2023 Local World |