

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S SERVICE

CORPORATE DIRECTOR MEETING WITH EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

12 March 2019

**PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE MOORSIDE INFANT SCHOOL AND MOORSIDE JUNIOR SCHOOL IN RIPON TO CREATE A SINGLE 3-11 PRIMARY SCHOOL ON THE JUNIOR SCHOOL SITE, AND TO CREATE SATELLITE SPECIALIST PROVISION FROM MOWBRAY SCHOOL ON THE MOORSIDE INFANT SCHOOL SITE**

**1 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To provide the Executive Members with information upon which to make a decision on the proposal to amalgamate Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon to create a single 3-11 Primary School on the Junior School site, and to create satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant School site.

**2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1 On 27 November 2018 the Executive approved the publication of statutory proposals to amalgamate Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon to create a single 3-11 Primary School on the Junior School site, and to create satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant School site.
- 2.2 This followed careful consideration of the responses to public consultation carried out by the Children and Young People's Service.
- 2.3 The statutory proposals were published on 11 January 2019, giving 4 weeks until 8 February 2019 for representations to be made.
- 2.4 This report is supported by a number of Appendices as listed below:

Annex A: Public Notice and Statutory Proposals

Appendix 1: Public Notice in accordance with sections 15(1) and 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006

Appendix 2: Statutory Proposals

Annex B: School Organisation Guidance for Decision-makers

**3 BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 The Education and Inspections Act 2006 sets out the procedures for making changes to maintained schools. These are detailed in School Organisation regulations and guidance<sup>1</sup>. The regulations and guidance apply to Local Authorities

<sup>1</sup> School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013 and School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013; Opening and closing maintained school: Statutory guidance for proposers and decision-makers (November 2018) and Making significant changes ('prescribed alterations') to maintained schools: Statutory guidance for proposers and decision-makers (October 2018).

and governing bodies proposing to make changes to schools, and to Local Authorities (including the County Council's Executive or Executive Members) acting as decision-makers.

## **4 PROPOSALS**

### 4.1 North Yorkshire County Council proposes:

To amalgamate Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon to create a single 3-11 Primary School on the Junior School site;

To create satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant School site.

- 4.2 The following school organisation proposals are required, which are all linked:
- Part 1 - Moorside Infant School – technical closure of the school as a separate entity
  - Part 2 - Moorside Junior School – enlargement and change of age range.
  - Part 3- Mowbray School - expansion onto an additional site and an increase in the number of places at the special school.
- The full statutory proposals are set out in Appendix 2.

- 4.3 Following further discussions with the headteacher and governors of Mowbray School, it is recommended that the specialist satellite provision opens from 1 January 2020 rather than 1 September 2019. This will allow additional time to recruit staff and make adaptations to the buildings.

## **5 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN AND RESPONSES**

- 5.1 The consultation period ran from 21 September 2018 to 9 November 2018. Consultation documents were distributed to a wide range of stakeholders. The consultation document and responses to the consultation are included in Annex A, Appendix 2.
- 5.2 The Executive met on 27 November 2018, considered the consultation responses, and resolved to proceed with publication of the statutory proposals.

## **6 STATUTORY PROPOSALS AND NOTICES**

- 6.1 The statutory proposals and public notices were published on 11 January 2019. The public notice, placed on the school gates and in the Ripon Gazette newspaper, invited written objections or comments to be submitted by 8 February 2019. A copy of the notice is attached as Annex A, Appendix 1. At the time of the publication of the notice, a copy of the complete proposal, including all the information required in the school organisation regulations and guidance, was published on the County Council's website. A copy of the proposal is attached as Annex A, Appendix 2.
- 6.2 Following the publication of the Statutory Notices, no responses were received by the end of the notice period.

## **7 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

### REVENUE

#### Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School

- 7.1 As set out in the report to Executive on 11 September 2018, the financial projection for the Infants School was a £59,830 in-year deficit for 2018/19.

- 7.2 The amalgamated budget assumes amalgamation (technical closure of Moorside Infant School) on 29 April 2019. There is a positive in- year position for 19/20 and 20/21 under the proposed new arrangements. There is a negative in-year position for 21/22 and 22/23 but it is felt this can be improved upon given the scope for increased pupil numbers and further cost efficiencies.

#### Mowbray School specialist satellite provision

- 7.3 There are ongoing finance discussions with the governors of Mowbray School and an update will be provided to Members at the meeting.

#### CAPITAL

- 7.5 A scheme of works to adapt the Junior School building for a 3-11 school, and to adapt the Infant School for a specialist provision is being developed. It is proposed to plan to use some of the Special Provision Capital Fund for works to create the specialist satellite provision, subject to approval by the Executive. Other capital funding required for works at the Junior School building is likely to be a call on the Schools Condition Grant, for which the next allocation will be made from central government to the County Council in spring 2019.

## **8 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

#### REGULATIONS AND GUIDANCE

- 8.1 The consideration and determination of school organisation proposals by the Local Authority is set out in regulations and in guidance produced by the Department for Education.<sup>2</sup> Careful regard has been had to these provisions.

#### PRELIMINARY CHECKS

- 8.2 The Decision Maker must consider, on receipt of each proposal:
- whether any information is missing;
  - whether the published notice of the proposal complies with statutory requirements;
  - whether the statutory consultation has been carried out prior to the publication of the notice;
  - and whether the proposal is related to other published proposals.

Having undertaken an audit of these preliminary checks, the Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services) advises that:

- all information required has been supplied;
- the published notice complies with statutory requirements;
- statutory consultation has been carried out prior to publication of the notice;
- and that the preliminary points for consideration have been dealt with sufficiently to permit the Executive or Executive Members to proceed to determine this proposal.

#### TYPES OF DECISION THAT CAN BE MADE

- 8.3 In considering proposals, the Executive (or the Executive Member for Schools, if there are no objections received during the representation period), as Decision Makers can decide to:
- reject the proposals;

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<sup>2</sup> See footnote 1.

- approve the proposals;
- approve the proposals with a modification;
- approve the proposals subject to them meeting a specific condition.

## **9 PROCEDURE FOR THE MEETING**

9.1 The Executive agreed on 25 September 2007 that in making a decision on school organisation proposals:

(a) The decision maker must have regard to the Decision Makers' Guidance and to the Executive Procedure Rules laid down in the North Yorkshire County Council Constitution.

(b) All decisions must give reasons for the decision, indicating the main factors/criteria for the decision.

## **10 REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATION**

### Education standards and diversity of provision

10.1 Moorside Infant School was last inspected in October 2018 and has moved from the previous judgement of inadequate to requires improvement. Inspectors noted that "Leaders have shown resilience and determination to overcome the many challenges that the school has faced. They know the school well and have a clear understanding of areas for further improvement."

The proposal to amalgamate the Infant and Junior Schools on a single site is supported by the governors and by responses made from parents and the public during the consultation process.

10.2 Should the Executive decide to approve the proposal to amalgamate Moorside Infant and Junior Schools, the Regional Schools Commissioner's Office has advised that they will write to revoke the Academy Order which was issued to Moorside Infants in April 2016 following the Ofsted inspection which judged the school to be inadequate.

10.3 Mowbray School is well-established and in its most recent Ofsted inspection was judged to be good. The school is over-subscribed on commissioned places. The proposal to use the Moorside Infant School to provide satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School will put into effect the aim set out in the County Council's Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision 2018 – 2023 which included proposals to create new special school provision through working towards the establishment of satellite specialist provision in the Ripon area during 2018/19. As noted above, it is now recommended that the satellite provision opens on 1 January 2020 rather than 1 September 2019.

## **11 HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no Human Rights issues in relation to this issue.

## **12 RECOMMENDATIONS**

12.1 That having undertaken the required preliminary checks, the Executive Members resolve that the four key issues listed above in paragraph 8.2 have been satisfied and there can be a determination of the proposals.

12.2 That the following proposal be determined:

To amalgamate Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon to create a single 3-11 Primary School on the Junior School site on 29 April 2019.

12.3 That the following proposal be determined:

To create satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant School site on 1 January 2020.

Stuart Carlton  
Corporate Director – Children and Young People’s Service

Report prepared by John Lee and Beth Latimer, Strategic Planning Team.

List of Appendices:

Annex A: Public Notice and Statutory Proposal

Appendix 1: Public Notice in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006

Appendix 2: Statutory Proposal for school closure

Annex B: School Organisation Guidance for Decision-makers

Background documents

Report to Executive, 27 November 2018

Report to Executive Members, 11 September 2018

Action Agreed .....Executive Member  
Date:  
Action Requested .....Corporate Director  
Date:

**NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**Amalgamation of Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon to create a single 3-11 primary school on the Moorside Junior School site, and expansion of Mowbray School onto an additional site and an increase in the number of places in the special school, using the Moorside Infant School site**

**Part 1 - Moorside Infant School – Discontinuance**

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, intends to discontinue Moorside Infant School, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 1SU on 29 April 2019.

**Part 2 - Moorside Junior School – Enlargement and Change of Age Range**

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, intends to enlarge and alter the age range of Moorside Junior School, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 1SU on 29 April 2019. The current capacity of the school is 162 and the proposed capacity will be 210. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 108. The current admission number for the school is 36 and the proposed admission number will be 30. The current age range of the school is 7-11 and the proposed age range will be 3-11.

**Part 3- Mowbray School – Expansion onto an additional site and an increase in the number of places in the special school**

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, intends to make a prescribed alteration to Mowbray School, Bedale, North Yorkshire, DL8 2SD on 1 September 2019.

This proposal is to permanently expand Mowbray School onto an additional site and an increase in the number of places in the special school, using a site at Moorside Infant School, Ripon, North Yorkshire, HG4 1SU. The satellite provision on the Moorside Infant School site will provide for up to 30 places for pupils aged 2-11 from 1 September 2019 and for up to 60 places for pupils aged 2-11 from 1 September 2021.

The proposals contained in Parts One, Two and Three of this notice are all related.

Copies of the complete proposals can be obtained from: Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE and are available on the County Council's website at [www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals in Parts One, Two and Three, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 8 February 2019.

Signed: B. Khan  
Assistant Chief Executive  
(Legal and Democratic  
Services)  
Publication Date: 11 January 2019

**Amalgamation of Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon to create a single 3-11 primary school on the Moorside Junior School site, and expansion of Mowbray School onto an additional site and an increase in the number of places in the special school using the Moorside Infant School site**

## **Part 1 - Moorside Infant School – Discontinuance**

### **Statutory proposals for school closures**

As set out in the Establishment and Discontinuance Regulations the information below **must** be included in a proposal to close a school:

#### **Contact details**

Proposal published by North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, to discontinue Moorside Infant School, Ripon, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG4 1SU from 29 April 2019.

Moorside Infant School is a 3-7 school in the Harrogate area.

#### **Implementation**

It is proposed to close the school from 29 April 2019.

#### **Reason for closure**

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The proposal is to close Moorside Infant School with effect from 29 April 2019. This proposal is related to proposals to enlarge and alter the age range of Moorside Junior School and the expansion of Mowbray School onto an additional site and an increase in the number of places in the special school using the Moorside Infant School site.

Moorside Infant and Junior Schools share the same site on the south side of Ripon and serve an area to the west of the Harrogate Road.

Moorside Infant School accommodates children aged 3-7, with Moorside Junior School accommodating children living in the same area from 7-11. Pupils transfer from the Infant to the Junior school at age 7. Parents are required to express a preference in advance of this transfer. The objective of the proposal, and a related proposal to enlarge and alter the age range of Moorside Junior School, is to create a single 3-11 school which will deliver an all-through primary education. The removal of transition at age 7 would allow an uninterrupted learning experience from age 3 through to 11, in keeping with the majority of pupils nationally. The single school would work on the existing Moorside Junior School site.

The removal of transition at age 7 would allow an uninterrupted learning experience from age 3 to 11.



Moorside Infant School was inspected by Ofsted in Spring 2016 which judged its overall effectiveness to be inadequate. The Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) issued a Directive Academy Order on 18 April 2016. Since then, however, no academy sponsor for Moorside Infant School has been forthcoming. Following discussion with the Regional Schools Commissioner's Office, it is now proposed to amalgamate Moorside Infant and Junior School through the closure of Moorside Infant School and the expansion of Moorside Junior School. The RSC are revoking the Directive Academy Order which will allow Moorside Infant School to amalgamate with Moorside Junior School. Moorside Junior School was inspected by Ofsted in May 2017 and was judged to be Good. Amalgamating the two schools together would enable the combined expertise of the staff to be deployed more efficiently and effectively for all pupils. These measures are expected to make improvements to standards more achievable and sustainable. Moorside Infant School was inspected again by Ofsted in October 2018; the results of this inspection will be published in late November.

## **Pupil numbers and admissions**

There are currently 69 pupils on roll at the school as of September 2018 (not including Nursery). 24 pupils in Reception, 20 in Year 1 and 25 in Year 2.

The school's age range is 3-7 years, and provision is available for boys and girls. There is no boarding provision. There are currently no pupils with statements of SEN. There are 8 pupils with Education, Health and Care plans at Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School. Total pupil numbers are significantly lower than the capacity of the school which is designed to accommodate up to 135 pupils.

## **Displaced pupils**

- a) No interim arrangements have been necessary.

If the proposal is approved, the area currently served by the school would be served by the enlarged Moorside Junior School from 29 April 2019. The related proposal includes the enlargement and change of age range of Moorside Junior School. Children currently on roll at Moorside Infant School would automatically be transferred to the roll of the new single primary school. Due to the related proposal in respect of the Junior School there is no additional need for school places in respect of displaced pupils.

It is proposed to reduce the Published Admission Number from 36 at Moorside Infant and Junior Schools to 30 at the amalgamated primary school, leading to a small overall reduction of 42 mainstream primary school places.

- b) Not applicable in this case
- c) Not applicable in this case

## **Impact on the community**

No impact on the community is anticipated.

The County Council's Strategic Plan for Special Educational Needs & Disability (SEND) Education Provision 2018 – 2023 includes proposals to create new special school provision through exploring the establishment of satellite specialist provision in the Ripon area during 2018/19. This would result in the current Moorside Infant school building being used by Mowbray School for specialist provision.

## **Rural primary schools**

Not applicable as none of the schools are designated as Rural primary school

## **Balance of denominational provision**

Not applicable.

## **Maintained nursery schools**

Not applicable

## **Sixth form provision**

Not applicable

## **Special educational needs provision**

The existing provision at Moorside Infant School is not reserved for pupils with special educational needs.

## **Travel**

NYCC and the schools are committed to ensuring that parents and pupils travel to school in sustainable way and are encouraged to walk or cycle to school where possible. The schools operate on adjacent sites. There would be no impact on home to school transport.

Where a child attends a school which is not their normal school or nearest school, parents are normally responsible for making transport arrangements.

Eligibility for home to school transport will be determined in line with the County Council's current home to school transport policy and procedures based on each child's home address and individual circumstances.

## **Consultation**

The decision to consult on amalgamation and closure was taken by the Executive Member for Schools following a request from governors on 11 September 2018. A

consultation paper setting out the proposal was sent to parents of pupils on roll, staff at the school as well as other interested parties and individuals. A copy of the consultation paper is attached as Appendix 1. A list of the consultees is attached as Appendix 2. The consultation period ran from 21 September 2018 to 9 November 2018. A public meeting was held at the school on 3 October 2018, a note of that meeting is attached as Appendix 3. There have been 9 consultation responses received (Appendix 4).

### **Procedure for making representations (objections and comments)**

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director-Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 8 February 2019.

Appendix 1a: Consultation Paper  
Appendix 2a: List of the Consultees  
Appendix 3a: Notes of the Public Meeting  
Appendix 4a: Consultation Responses



# ***Consultation Document***

**Proposal to amalgamate Moorside Infant School and  
Moorside Junior School in Ripon to create a single 3-  
11 primary school on the Junior School site**

**(to be known as  
Moorside Primary School & Nursery)**

**through the technical closure of Moorside Infant School as a  
separate entity and the enlargement and change of age range of  
Moorside Junior School**

**from 29 April 2019**

## Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School, Ripon

September 2018

This paper sets out proposals to amalgamate Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon. This would create a single 3-11 primary school on the Junior School site (to be known as Moorside Primary School & Nursery) through the technical closure of Moorside Infant School as a separate entity and the enlargement and change of age range of Moorside Junior School.

This proposal is linked to proposals set out in another consultation document to create satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant site (This Mowbray consultation document can be obtained from the school or on [www.northyorks.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/consultations)).

This paper gives the background to the amalgamation proposal. There will be a public meeting on:

**Wednesday 3 October 2018 at 6.30 pm**

**at Moorside Infant School, Harrogate Road, Ripon  
North Yorkshire HG4 1SU**

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### **The Current Position**

Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School share the same site on the south side of Ripon and serve an area to the west of the Harrogate Road.

Moorside Infant School accommodates children aged 3-7, with Moorside Junior School accommodating children living in the same area from 7-11. Pupils transfer from the Infant to the Junior school at age 7. Parents are required to express a preference in advance of this transfer.

Since September 2016, the schools have been led by an Executive leadership. This arrangement has ensured that the good practice in both schools is shared and children experience a consistent education throughout their time in both schools.

From September 2017, the Governing Boards have had the same members but there remains two separate Governing Boards.

The school governors and the County Council now feel that it is in the best interests of both schools to amalgamate.

### **Background**

In spring 2016, the Governing Bodies of both schools asked the County Council to consult on a proposal to bring the two schools together to form a single primary school through an amalgamation. Shortly afterwards, Moorside Infant School was inspected by Ofsted which judged its overall effectiveness to be inadequate. The Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) issued a Directive Academy Order on 18 April 2016 and the County Council was informed that it would not be appropriate to consult on a proposal to amalgamate the two schools.

Since then, however, no academy sponsor for Moorside Infant School has been forthcoming. Following discussion with the Regional Schools Commissioner's Office, it is now proposed to consult on the amalgamation of Moorside Infant and Junior School through the closure of Moorside Infant School and the expansion of Moorside Junior School. The RSC has

indicated that they will begin the process of revoking the Directive Academy Order which would allow Moorside Infant School to amalgamate with Moorside Junior School.

This amalgamation proposal now suggested therefore returns the schools to the original expected position, as proposed in spring 2016, although for financial and operational reasons, the intention is now to operate from the Moorside Junior building rather than across both schools' buildings. Moorside Junior School was inspected by Ofsted in May 2017 and was judged to be Good.

### **Pupil Numbers**

As at May 2018 there are 71 pupils of mainstream school age at Moorside Infants School and 107 pupils at Moorside Junior School.

It is proposed to reduce the Published Admission Number from 36 at Moorside Infant and Junior Schools to 30 at the amalgamated primary school, leading to a small overall reduction of 42 mainstream primary school places. It is considered that this is outweighed by the ability for an amalgamated Moorside school on a single site to deliver a balanced budget, while the Infant school site offers the potential to provide additional specialist school places created through a new satellite provision.

The reduction in mainstream school places at Moorside, should the amalgamation proceed, is unlikely to create a shortfall in the wider area.

Following amalgamation, there would be 1,412 primary places in the Ripon City area (including Sharow CE and Bishop Monkton CE), with a forecast 1,259 pupils in 2019/20 and 1,204 in 2022/23. Outstanding housing permissions could generate an additional 156 primary-aged pupils. These figures exclude housing proposals in the Local Plan as Harrogate Borough Council are yet to finalise their Local Plan site allocations. The main areas of housing development proposed in the city, however, are likely to

be on the Deverell and Claro Barracks, to the west of the city centre, and away from Moorside School, and which are likely to require a new primary school as part of that development.

### **The Financial Position**

The financial projection for the Infants School was a £59,830 in-year deficit for 2018/19.

An amalgamated budget has been approved by the Governing Bodies at their meeting on 27 June 2018. The budget assumes amalgamation (technical closure of Moorside Infants School) in September 2019. There is a positive in-year position for 19/20 and 20/21 under the proposed new arrangements. There is a negative in-year position for 21/22 and 22/23 but it is felt this can be improved upon given the scope for increased pupil numbers and further cost efficiencies.

### **The Proposal**

For the reasons above it is proposed to amalgamate Moorside Infant and Junior Schools in Ripon to create a single 3-11 primary school on the Junior School site (to be known as Moorside Primary School & Nursery) through the technical closure of Moorside Infant School as a separate entity and the enlargement and change of age range of Moorside Junior School.

### **Staff**

A separate consultation process, including a staff meeting, is running in parallel with this consultation.

### **The Buildings**

Works will be required to adapt the Junior School building for a 3-11 school, to adapt the Infant School for a specialist provision, and associated access works.

The scope of these works will need to include the conversion of junior

classrooms, cloaks and toilets for use by nursery and infant classes, provision of outdoor play areas for nursery and reception classes, provision of additional staff and toilet facilities, extending car parks and improving vehicular access, providing ramped access to buildings and enhancing boundary fencing.

A planning application will be submitted to the County Council's planning department for these works.

### What Happens Next?

Your views about this proposal are welcomed. You can either complete and return the attached response sheet, or submit an online response

Paper responses should be returned to North Yorkshire County Council at the address below:

FREEPOST RTKE-RKAY-CUJS  
Moorside Schools  
Strategic Planning  
North Yorkshire County Council  
County Hall

NORTHALLERTON  
DL7 8AE

Online responses may be submitted by following this link:

<https://consult.northyorks.gov.uk/snapweb/host/s.asp?k=153605637208>

**The closing date for responses is  
9 November 2018**

All responses to the consultation received by this date will be considered by the County Council's Executive on 27 November 2018.

If the County Council's Executive decides to proceed with the closure proposal, then statutory notices would be published in the local press on 11 January 2019. These notices provide a further four weeks for representations to be made. A final decision would then be made by North Yorkshire County Council's Executive on 19 February 2019. If agreed, the schools would amalgamate from 29 April 2019.

### Anticipated Key Dates

All dates are subject to approvals at each stage.

Consultation opens	21 September 2018
Public meeting at the school	3 October 2018 at 6:30pm
Consultation closes	9 November 2018
County Council's Executive considers consultation response	27 November 2018
Statutory Notices published (4 weeks for representations to be made)	11 January 2019 – 8 February 2019
Final decision by County Council's Executive	19 February 2019
Amalgamation	29 April 2019

The proposal to create satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant site will follow the same timescales, apart from the opening of the provision, which is proposed to be from 1 September 2019.

**Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior Schools, Ripon**  
**A consultation on whether the schools should be amalgamated**

Observations and/or suggestions:

Interest/Status .....

e.g. Parent/Governor/Teacher/Community

Name of School .....

Signed .....

Date: .....

Name (Block Capitals) .....



Address: .....  
.....  
.....  
Postcode: .....

To help us assess whether we have provided clear information, please let us know whether you found this consultation easy to understand? YES/NO

Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

.....

**Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, responses to the consultation may be published on the County Council's website where it may be accessed by members of the public. Your personal details will not be published.**

Please send this response sheet to the following "FREEPOST" address. You do not need to use a postage stamp.

**FREEPOST RTKE-RKAY-CUJS**

**Moorside Schools**

**Strategic Planning**

**North Yorkshire County Council**

**County Hall**

**NORTHALLERTON**

**DL7 8AE**

**Or go to:**

<https://consult.northyorks.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=153605637208>

**and submit your response there**

**To be received by no later than 9 November 2018**

*We are collecting this information for the purpose of gathering views on the proposal. Your personal data will not be published or passed to any other organisation unless a legal obligation compels us to do so. We may contact you to discuss your views further. For more information about how your personal data is handled at North Yorkshire County Council please visit: [www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacy](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacy)*

**List of Consultees**

Parents of pupils of Moorside Infant and Moorside Junior  
Staff of Moorside Infant and Moorside Junior  
Local Authority – North Yorkshire County Council  
Governing Bodies of other local primary and secondary schools  
Local Primary & Secondary Schools  
Unions and Professional Associations  
Any Interest / user groups nominated by the school  
Diocese  
Local County Councillors  
District Councillor  
Local District: Harrogate Borough Council  
City Council  
Local Early Years providers  
RSC  
Secretary of State

## **Moorside and Mowbray Public Consultation**

### **Record of public meeting on 3 October 2018**

#### **6.30pm at Moorside Infant School**

##### Present

Chair – Cllr Patrick Mulligan (Executive Member for Schools)

NYCC Officers – John Lee (JL) (Strategic Planning Officer), Beth Latimer (BL) (Strategic Planning Support Officer), Jane Harvey (JH) (Strategic Planning and Development Officer, Inclusion), Christine Windwood (CW) (School Improvement Adviser), Karen Butler (KB) (School Improvement Adviser)

School representatives – Claire Rowett (CR) (Acting Headteacher at Moorside Infant & Junior School), Jonathan Tearle (JT) (Headteacher at Mowbray), Mary Kelly (MK) (Chair of Governors at Moorside), Chris Lea (CL) (Governor at Moorside)

There were approximately 32 people present.

##### Opening and Introduction by Cllr Patrick Mulligan

Cllr Mulligan explained the meeting was part of the formal consultation process. He explained the format of the evening and introduced the panel.

##### Presentation by John Lee

JL outlined the purpose of the meeting and the consultation process, the detail and rationale of the proposals.

It is proposed that Moorside School would operate as a single 3-11 primary school on the Moorside Junior School site. It is proposed that the buildings on this site would be refurbished to provide new classrooms, cloaks and toilets for nursery and infant pupils, additional staff facilities, and extended car parking. The Moorside Infant School site would be adapted for use as a satellite specialist provision.

Admissions to reception would be unaffected, other than there will be a reduction of the school's published admission number from 36 to 30. There would no longer be a requirement for parents to apply for places in Year 3.

JL informed that change was being proposed for the following reasons:

- Existing shared Leadership at Moorside Infant and Junior Schools – long-standing ambition of both schools. Since September 2016, the schools have been led by an Executive leadership. Since September 2017, the Governing Boards have had the same members, although there remain two separate boards.
- Moorside Infant School Directive Academy Order – Issued by Regional Schools Commissioner following Ofsted inspected which judged the overall effectiveness to be inadequate. Since then, though, no academy sponsor for Moorside Infant School has come forward. Following discussion with the Regional Schools Commissioner, it is now proposed to consult on the amalgamation of Moorside Infant and Junior School through the closure of Moorside Infant School and the expansion of Moorside Junior School.
- Need for financial efficiencies – across the county, an increasing number of schools are facing cost pressures. School funding is driven by pupil numbers. Pupil numbers at Moorside Schools have fallen. The amalgamation on a single site will enable the school to operate more efficiently, with only one set of premises costs for heating, lighting etc.
- NYCC SEND Strategic Plan – Mowbray – The County Council's Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision includes proposals to create new special school provision. This includes exploring establishing satellite specialist provision in Ripon.

#### Presentation by Claire Rowett

CR provided an update on how Moorside Infant and Junior schools currently operate and the benefits of the proposed amalgamation. Since 2016 the school has been progressing with improved pupil outcomes at the end of Reception and KS1 results in July 2018. CR informed that Moorside children currently enter the Infant school in Nursery then need to apply to attend and transition into Reception followed by KS1, parents then need to apply for a place at Moorside Junior school for KS2. It was highlighted the process of the transition in supporting pupils can be stressful for both pupils and parents and requires a huge amount of work. A benefit of amalgamation would allow pupils to remain in the same setting and environment.

The Junior school playgrounds, fields and Forest School will be retained, there will be a new outdoor area for Foundation and KS1, and 3 out of the 4 entrances will be retained. The Junior site works will dramatically improve and upgrade the facilities and space. There will also be a parent meeting room, a nurture room, group working areas and offices for the school to run efficiently.

There are many benefits of amalgamating such as improving outcomes for all pupils, shared leadership and expectations, improved and consistent learning environments, modern school fit for purpose, continuous curriculum and efficient use of funding and resources.

#### Presentation by Jane Harvey

JH provided an overview of the SEND strategic plan in North Yorkshire. JH encouraged all to read the new document online or collect a hardcopy. The SEND Strategic Plan includes proposals to increase the number of specialist day places in North Yorkshire special schools to ensure that children requiring these places can be educated locally, and to work towards establishing specialist provision in the Ripon area.

#### Presentation by Jonathan Tearle

Overview of current Mowbray School which educates pupils aged between 3 and 16 years with a variety of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. JT provided background of Mowbray School and how their provision and facilities have expanded due to increased need from 125 to 215. The proposal is to set up a satellite provision on the site of Moorside Infant School, Ripon, to educate primary aged pupils with an Education Health Care Plan for special educational needs. This will be for pupils with learning needs, who predominantly have difficulties with communication and interaction. It will not be for pupils who have severe or more profound learning difficulties. It is proposed to start with approximately 30 pupils and over the course of the following two years increase this to 60 pupils. It is anticipated that the number of staff will start at around 16 and rise to approximately 30 staff. It is expected that some of the current staff will work in the Ripon site and additional staff will need to be recruited in advance of the provision opening. The new provision will simply be an extension to Mowbray School. Pupils will not be moved from Mowbray School to the satellite provision in Ripon, unless requested by parents.

#### Questions and Answer Session chaired by Cllr Mulligan

<b>Question/Comment</b>	<b>Response by</b>	<b>Response</b>
A Ripon City Council Member for the Moorside Ward asked with planning approval for over 500 new homes on 2 sites what provision is being made for the additional pupils?	JL	All planning permissions have been reviewed in the current pupil forecast. Numbers at Moorside across both schools have dropped over last few years. The proposal is for a slight reduction of 42 places overall with a proposed school capacity of 210 places. Housing and pupil numbers will continue to be monitored.
Will Moorside and Mowbray satellite school operate separately?	CR, JT	It was confirmed that Moorside and Mowbray would be separate institutions and operate on their own. The sites will be

		<p>separated with secured fencing to keep pupils safe.</p> <p>There would be the potential to collaborate on certain occasions or aspects e.g. sharing knowledge and resources but this would be discussed at a later point if the proposal is approved.</p>
Would there be dual places available at Moorside and Mowbray?	JT, JH	<p>There are no dual placements currently at Mowbray.</p> <p>JH confirmed this would only happen based on needs of the individual child not just because of the proximity of the schools.</p>
If the proposals are approved how long would the work go on at the schools?	JL	<p>JL confirmed the building programme is still being outlined. A planning application would need to be submitted for the proposed building work which could take up to 3 months, there would also be a procurement and tender process. The summer holidays has been marked as the ideal time to do main bulk of building work if possible but due to the amount of work some would carry on into Autumn term.</p>
The proposed satellite provision for Mowbray is for Primary pupils, where would the children progress to for secondary school?	JT, JH	<p>JT and JH confirmed that this has been flagged as an issue to address and initial discussions have taken place to look at SEND secondary provision.</p> <p>JH stated that as part of the SEND Strategic Plan work is taking place at other special schools such as The Forest School and Springwater School in order to add capacity. The County Council is currently preparing a bid to the Government for a Special Free School in the Selby area which currently has no specialist provision. It was agreed that a similar satellite provision for secondary pupils needs to be considered.</p>
What would be the effect on staffing levels at Moorside if the schools amalgamate?	CR	<p>CR confirmed there is no anticipated change to staffing. There are currently a number of staff on supply or fixed term contracts at the Junior school. Staff at the Infant school will assist in the transition for younger pupils to the Junior site. There will be a separate consultation for staff with HR.</p>

### Close

Cllr Mulligan thanked all attendees and panel members for their questions, comments and input. Attendees were encouraged to make their views known and reminded of how they could respond to the consultation and of the closing date of 9 November 2018.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm.

### Moorside Consultation Responses

	<b>Observations and/or suggestions</b>	<b>Interest</b>
1	Good. Should have been done years ago.	Community
2	<p>I have looked through the consultations for the amalgamation of the infant and junior school and also the plans for the use of the old primary school building. I feel the following points need to be considered- School amalgamation : I don't see any reason why the infants and juniors shouldn't be combined, many other schools do it . It makes the transition into the junior's easier for many children because there is no significant change to routine. I do not ,however, think that any school admission places should be lost as a result of the change and feel alteration need to be made to the plans so ensure there are sufficient classrooms/ space to continue with current pupil numbers. I'm sure you are aware that planning permission has been granted for a large number of houses both at the top of Whitcliffe lane and where the old choir school used to stand. Moorside is obviously the nearest school and will be the first choice/ most convenient for many of those families. My second concern would be parking. I live round the corner from the school and Whitcliffe Drive is already dangerous on a morning. As a childminder I often can't get the pushchair down the path because of inconsiderate parking. My own car was hit by a parent who parked right on the junction and then just pulled out without indicating or warning. If the entrance to the school is moved this way I feel parents who parked nearer the infant school will also move this way and the situation will be even worse. Consideration should be given to local residents and parents parking. With regards to the plans for the old primary school- I fully agree that Ripon needs a unit for children with special needs. I volunteer at Ohana group on Saturdays and many of the children have to travel out of town for school. Many struggle with transport , both the journey it's self and changing drivers/ transport companies. I think there is definitely a need for Mowbray school to have a provision in Ripon .</p>	Community
3	<p>Is there a projection as to how this would impact on the admission numbers of other local schools prior, if it actually happens, to the creation of an additional school? Other local schools need to be protected from unplanned increases in numbers as their budgets are already suffering.</p> <p>A meeting of other local headteachers and chairs of governors would have been very helpful, inclusive and I believe appropriate. Thank you.</p>	Headteacher at local school
4	I believe that this is the best thing for the schools viability and improvement. We currently work as one team. This amalgamation can only strengthen what we offer at Moorside and ensure consistency for all children. I know that the temporary inconvenience will be far outweighed by the gains of this amalgamation	Teacher at Moorside Infant school
5	I agree in principle - but - initial impression is that loss of Infant School to Mowbray is only just compensated by some new building on Junior School. You have clearly not evaluated the impact of the recent Planning Approvals for over 500 new homes in the Moorside Ward and the resultant increased demand for school places. It is essential that these new children are catered for locally and not	Ripon City Council Member

	required to travel to other schools, which I believe do not have spare capacity.	
6	This is a great idea. Having had a child move from infants to juniors at another local split school recently I felt that the administrative process was a complete waste of time and money and actually introduced a level of anxiety for our daughter as it was sold and perceived as “moving schools” rather than just going into the next year group. I also feel that the educational benefits of primary schools are better. Operating under the same leadership ensures the same ethos to learning is deployed and prevents children having to “get up to speed” at a new school. I expect that there are also financial benefits such as only requiring one head, and admin teams.	Community
7	I think this will be a positive step for the people of Ripon. It allows parents of children with additional needs the opportunity to remain at school close to home. It also gives them the opportunity to access the excellent experience of staff at Mowbray School. As a parent of a child who currently goes to Moorside, we look forward to the changes and the ongoing improvements that are being made.	Parent of pupil at Moorside
8	I understand both sides that the school will run better on one site and money put into the school but I feel all the traffic at one end bad enough now down whole street and then the kids how much disruption will they get building work and change of classes till all built my child is now in year 5 and next year is an important year for education and development I also would hope if one school the staggered intakes will stop as this is a disadvantage to children born in the summer months	Parent of pupil at Moorside
9	I would be interested to find out what the plans are for these students and their transition to secondary school. Specialist provision places at secondary are already stretched within the area, will the increased number of places at primary level be equally reflected within the secondary specialist provision in NY?	Principal at local school

**Amalgamation of Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon to create a single 3-11 primary school on the Moorside Junior School site, and expansion of Mowbray School onto an additional site and an increase in the number of places, using the Moorside Infant School site**

**Part 2 - Moorside Junior School – Enlargement and Change of Age Range**

## **Statutory proposals for Prescribed Alterations – Change of Age Range and Enlargement**

### **Contact details**

Proposal published by North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, to make prescribed alterations to Moorside Junior School, Ripon, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG4 1SU from 29 April 2019.

Moorside Junior School is a 7-11 community school in the Harrogate area.

### **Implementation**

It is proposed to change the age range and enlarge Moorside Junior School from 29 April 2019. The current capacity of the school is 162 and the proposed capacity will be 210. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 108. The current admission number for the school is 36 and the proposed admission number will be 30. The current age range of the school is 7-11 and the proposed age range will be 3-11.

### **Description of alteration**

The proposal is to enlarge Moorside Junior School and alter its lower age limit with effect from 29 April 2019. The enlarged school would have a capacity of 210 places plus 26 place nursery provision. This proposal is related to the closure of Moorside Infant School.

### **Objective**

The objective of the proposal, and the related proposal to close Moorside Infant School, is to create a 3-11 school which will deliver an all-through primary education across the existing Moorside Junior site. The removal of transition at age 7 would allow an uninterrupted learning experience from age 3 to 11.

Moorside Infant School was inspected by Ofsted in Spring 2016 which judged its overall effectiveness to be inadequate. The Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) issued a Directive Academy Order on 18 April 2016. Since then, however, no academy sponsor for Moorside Infant School has been forthcoming. Following discussion with the Regional Schools Commissioner's Office, it is now proposed to amalgamate



Moorside Infant and Junior School through the closure of Moorside Infant School and the expansion of Moorside Junior School. The RSC are revoking the Directive Academy Order which will allow Moorside Infant School to amalgamate with Moorside Junior School. Moorside Junior School was inspected by Ofsted in May 2017 and was judged to be Good. Amalgamating the two schools together would enable the combined expertise of the staff to be deployed more efficiently and effectively for all pupils. These measures are expected to make improvements to standards more achievable and sustainable. Moorside Infant School was inspected again by Ofsted in October 2018; the results of this inspection will be published in late November.

### **Effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions**

There is not expected to be any effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions, other than those covered by these proposals. Whilst there is a slight reduction in the admission numbers for the amalgamated school, and there are planning permission granted for new developments within Ripon, it is the view that there will be sufficient places within Moorside and the local area.

### **Project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved.**

Moorside Infant and Junior schools are adjacent. The Local Authority is working with the schools to develop a proposal which would bring the schools together in the current Junior building and intends to make a capital provision to fund any agreed work. Works will be required to adapt the Junior School building for a 3-11 school, to adapt the Infant School for a specialist provision, and associated access works. It is proposed to plan to use some of the Special Provision Capital Fund (from the Department for Education) for works to create the specialist satellite provision. Consultation on the use of this funding is likely to run from January to mid-February 2019. Other capital funding required for works at the Junior School building is likely to be a call on the Schools Condition Grant, for which the next allocation will be made from central government to the County Council in spring 2019.

### **Consultation**

The decision to consult on amalgamation and closure was taken by the Executive Member for Schools following a request from the governors of Moorside Infants and Moorside Juniors on 11 September 2018. A consultation paper setting out the proposal was sent to parents of pupils on roll, staff at the school as well as other interested parties and individuals. A copy of the consultation paper is attached as Appendix 1. A list of the consultees is attached as Appendix 2. The consultation period ran from 21 September 2018 to 9 November 2018. A public meeting was held at the school on 3 October 2018, a note of that meeting is attached as Appendix 3. There have been 9 consultation responses received (Appendix 4).

## **Related Proposals**

This proposal is related to proposals for the closure of Moorside Infant School and the expansion of Mowbray School onto an additional site and an increase in the number of places in the special school, using the Moorside Infant School site.

## **Procedure for making representations (objections and comments)**

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director-Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 8 February 2019.

Appendix 1b: Consultation Paper

Appendix 2b: List of the Consultees

Appendix 3b: Notes of the Public Meeting

Appendix 4b: Consultation Responses



# ***Consultation Document***

**Proposal to amalgamate Moorside Infant School and  
Moorside Junior School in Ripon to create a single 3-  
11 primary school on the Junior School site**

**(to be known as  
Moorside Primary School & Nursery)**

**through the technical closure of Moorside Infant School as a  
separate entity and the enlargement and change of age range of  
Moorside Junior School**

**from 29 April 2019**

## Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School, Ripon

September 2018

This paper sets out proposals to amalgamate Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon. This would create a single 3-11 primary school on the Junior School site (to be known as Moorside Primary School & Nursery) through the technical closure of Moorside Infant School as a separate entity and the enlargement and change of age range of Moorside Junior School.

This proposal is linked to proposals set out in another consultation document to create satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant site (This Mowbray consultation document can be obtained from the school or on [www.northyorks.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/consultations)).

This paper gives the background to the amalgamation proposal. There will be a public meeting on:

**Wednesday 3 October 2018 at 6.30 pm**

**at Moorside Infant School, Harrogate Road, Ripon  
North Yorkshire HG4 1SU**

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### **The Current Position**

Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School share the same site on the south side of Ripon and serve an area to the west of the Harrogate Road.

Moorside Infant School accommodates children aged 3-7, with Moorside Junior School accommodating children living in the same area from 7-11. Pupils transfer from the Infant to the Junior school at age 7. Parents are required to express a preference in advance of this transfer.

Since September 2016, the schools have been led by an Executive leadership. This arrangement has ensured that the good practice in both schools is shared and children experience a consistent education throughout their time in both schools.

From September 2017, the Governing Boards have had the same members but there remains two separate Governing Boards.

The school governors and the County Council now feel that it is in the best interests of both schools to amalgamate.

### **Background**

In spring 2016, the Governing Bodies of both schools asked the County Council to consult on a proposal to bring the two schools together to form a single primary school through an amalgamation. Shortly afterwards, Moorside Infant School was inspected by Ofsted which judged its overall effectiveness to be inadequate. The Regional Schools Commissioner (RSC) issued a Directive Academy Order on 18 April 2016 and the County Council was informed that it would not be appropriate to consult on a proposal to amalgamate the two schools.

Since then, however, no academy sponsor for Moorside Infant School has been forthcoming. Following discussion with the Regional Schools Commissioner's Office, it is now proposed to consult on the amalgamation of Moorside Infant and Junior School through the closure of Moorside Infant School and the expansion of Moorside Junior School. The RSC has

indicated that they will begin the process of revoking the Directive Academy Order which would allow Moorside Infant School to amalgamate with Moorside Junior School.

This amalgamation proposal now suggested therefore returns the schools to the original expected position, as proposed in spring 2016, although for financial and operational reasons, the intention is now to operate from the Moorside Junior building rather than across both schools' buildings. Moorside Junior School was inspected by Ofsted in May 2017 and was judged to be Good.

### **Pupil Numbers**

As at May 2018 there are 71 pupils of mainstream school age at Moorside Infants School and 107 pupils at Moorside Junior School.

It is proposed to reduce the Published Admission Number from 36 at Moorside Infant and Junior Schools to 30 at the amalgamated primary school, leading to a small overall reduction of 42 mainstream primary school places. It is considered that this is outweighed by the ability for an amalgamated Moorside school on a single site to deliver a balanced budget, while the Infant school site offers the potential to provide additional specialist school places created through a new satellite provision.

The reduction in mainstream school places at Moorside, should the amalgamation proceed, is unlikely to create a shortfall in the wider area.

Following amalgamation, there would be 1,412 primary places in the Ripon City area (including Sharow CE and Bishop Monkton CE), with a forecast 1,259 pupils in 2019/20 and 1,204 in 2022/23. Outstanding housing permissions could generate an additional 156 primary-aged pupils. These figures exclude housing proposals in the Local Plan as Harrogate Borough Council are yet to finalise their Local Plan site allocations. The main areas of housing development proposed in the city, however, are likely to

be on the Deverell and Claro Barracks, to the west of the city centre, and away from Moorside School, and which are likely to require a new primary school as part of that development.

### **The Financial Position**

The financial projection for the Infants School was a £59,830 in-year deficit for 2018/19.

An amalgamated budget has been approved by the Governing Bodies at their meeting on 27 June 2018. The budget assumes amalgamation (technical closure of Moorside Infants School) in September 2019. There is a positive in-year position for 19/20 and 20/21 under the proposed new arrangements. There is a negative in-year position for 21/22 and 22/23 but it is felt this can be improved upon given the scope for increased pupil numbers and further cost efficiencies.

### **The Proposal**

For the reasons above it is proposed to amalgamate Moorside Infant and Junior Schools in Ripon to create a single 3-11 primary school on the Junior School site (to be known as Moorside Primary School & Nursery) through the technical closure of Moorside Infant School as a separate entity and the enlargement and change of age range of Moorside Junior School.

### **Staff**

A separate consultation process, including a staff meeting, is running in parallel with this consultation.

### **The Buildings**

Works will be required to adapt the Junior School building for a 3-11 school, to adapt the Infant School for a specialist provision, and associated access works.

The scope of these works will need to include the conversion of junior

classrooms, cloaks and toilets for use by nursery and infant classes, provision of outdoor play areas for nursery and reception classes, provision of additional staff and toilet facilities, extending car parks and improving vehicular access, providing ramped access to buildings and enhancing boundary fencing.

A planning application will be submitted to the County Council's planning department for these works.

### What Happens Next?

Your views about this proposal are welcomed. You can either complete and return the attached response sheet, or submit an online response

Paper responses should be returned to North Yorkshire County Council at the address below:

FREEPOST RTKE-RKAY-CUJS  
Moorside Schools  
Strategic Planning  
North Yorkshire County Council  
County Hall

NORTHALLERTON  
DL7 8AE

Online responses may be submitted by following this link:

<https://consult.northyorks.gov.uk/snapweb/host/s.asp?k=153605637208>

**The closing date for responses is  
9 November 2018**

All responses to the consultation received by this date will be considered by the County Council's Executive on 27 November 2018.

If the County Council's Executive decides to proceed with the closure proposal, then statutory notices would be published in the local press on 11 January 2019. These notices provide a further four weeks for representations to be made. A final decision would then be made by North Yorkshire County Council's Executive on 19 February 2019. If agreed, the schools would amalgamate from 29 April 2019.

### Anticipated Key Dates

All dates are subject to approvals at each stage.

Consultation opens	21 September 2018
Public meeting at the school	3 October 2018 at 6:30pm
Consultation closes	9 November 2018
County Council's Executive considers consultation response	27 November 2018
Statutory Notices published (4 weeks for representations to be made)	11 January 2019 – 8 February 2019
Final decision by County Council's Executive	19 February 2019
Amalgamation	29 April 2019

The proposal to create satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant site will follow the same timescales, apart from the opening of the provision, which is proposed to be from 1 September 2019.

**Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior Schools, Ripon**  
**A consultation on whether the schools should be amalgamated**

Observations and/or suggestions:

Interest/Status .....

e.g. Parent/Governor/Teacher/Community

Name of School .....

Signed .....

Date: .....

Name (Block Capitals) .....

Address: .....  
.....  
.....  
Postcode: .....

To help us assess whether we have provided clear information, please let us know whether you found this consultation easy to understand? YES/NO

Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

.....

**Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, responses to the consultation may be published on the County Council's website where it may be accessed by members of the public. Your personal details will not be published.**

Please send this response sheet to the following "FREEPOST" address. You do not need to use a postage stamp.

**FREEPOST RTKE-RKAY-CUJS**

**Moorside Schools**

**Strategic Planning**

**North Yorkshire County Council**

**County Hall**

**NORTHALLERTON**

**DL7 8AE**

**Or go to:**

<https://consult.northyorks.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=153605637208>

**and submit your response there**

**To be received by no later than 9 November 2018**

*We are collecting this information for the purpose of gathering views on the proposal. Your personal data will not be published or passed to any other organisation unless a legal obligation compels us to do so. We may contact you to discuss your views further. For more information about how your personal data is handled at North Yorkshire County Council please visit: [www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacy](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacy)*



**List of Consultees**

Parents of pupils of Moorside Infant and Moorside Junior

Staff of Moorside Infant and Moorside Junior

Local Authority – North Yorkshire County Council

Governing Bodies of other local primary and secondary schools

Local Primary & Secondary Schools:

Unions and Professional Associations

Any Interest / user groups nominated by the school

Diocese

Local County Councillors

District Councillor

Local District: Harrogate Borough Council

City Council

Local MP: Julian Smith

Local Early Years providers

RSC:

Secretary of State

## **Moorside and Mowbray Public Consultation**

### **Record of public meeting on 3 October 2018**

#### **6.30pm at Moorside Infant School**

##### Present

Chair – Cllr Patrick Mulligan (Executive Member for Schools)

NYCC Officers – John Lee (JL) (Strategic Planning Officer), Beth Latimer (BL) (Strategic Planning Support Officer), Jane Harvey (JH) (Strategic Planning and Development Officer, Inclusion), Christine Windwood (CW) (School Improvement Adviser), Karen Butler (KB) (School Improvement Adviser)

School representatives – Claire Rowett (CR) (Acting Headteacher at Moorside Infant & Junior School), Jonathan Tearle (JT) (Headteacher at Mowbray), Mary Kelly (MK) (Chair of Governors at Moorside), Chris Lea (CL) (Governor at Moorside)

There were approximately 32 people present.

##### Opening and Introduction by Cllr Patrick Mulligan

Cllr Mulligan explained the meeting was part of the formal consultation process. He explained the format of the evening and introduced the panel.

##### Presentation by John Lee

JL outlined the purpose of the meeting and the consultation process, the detail and rationale of the proposals.

It is proposed that Moorside School would operate as a single 3-11 primary school on the Moorside Junior School site. It is proposed that the buildings on this site would be refurbished to provide new classrooms, cloaks and toilets for nursery and infant pupils, additional staff facilities, and extended car parking. The Moorside Infant School site would be adapted for use as a satellite specialist provision.

Admissions to reception would be unaffected, other than there will be a reduction of the school's published admission number from 36 to 30. There would no longer be a requirement for parents to apply for places in Year 3.

JL informed that change was being proposed for the following reasons:

- Existing shared Leadership at Moorside Infant and Junior Schools – long-standing ambition of both schools. Since September 2016, the schools have been led by an Executive leadership. Since September 2017, the Governing Boards have had the same members, although there remain two separate boards.
- Moorside Infant School Directive Academy Order – Issued by Regional Schools Commissioner following Ofsted inspected which judged the overall effectiveness to be inadequate. Since then, though, no academy sponsor for Moorside Infant School has come forward. Following discussion with the Regional Schools Commissioner, it is now proposed to consult on the amalgamation of Moorside Infant and Junior School through the closure of Moorside Infant School and the expansion of Moorside Junior School.
- Need for financial efficiencies – across the county, an increasing number of schools are facing cost pressures. School funding is driven by pupil numbers. Pupil numbers at Moorside Schools have fallen. The amalgamation on a single site will enable the school to operate more efficiently, with only one set of premises costs for heating, lighting etc.
- NYCC SEND Strategic Plan – Mowbray – The County Council's Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision includes proposals to create new special school provision. This includes exploring establishing satellite specialist provision in Ripon.

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CR provided an update on how Moorside Infant and Junior schools currently operate and the benefits of the proposed amalgamation. Since 2016 the school has been progressing with improved pupil outcomes at the end of Reception and KS1 results in July 2018. CR informed that Moorside children currently enter the Infant school in Nursery then need to apply to attend and transition into Reception followed by KS1, parents then need to apply for a place at Moorside Junior school for KS2. It was highlighted the process of the transition in supporting pupils can be stressful for both pupils and parents and requires a huge amount of work. A benefit of amalgamation would allow pupils to remain in the same setting and environment.

The Junior school playgrounds, fields and Forest School will be retained, there will be a new outdoor area for Foundation and KS1, and 3 out of the 4 entrances will be retained. The Junior site works will dramatically improve and upgrade the facilities and space. There will also be a parent meeting room, a nurture room, group working areas and offices for the school to run efficiently.

There are many benefits of amalgamating such as improving outcomes for all pupils, shared leadership and expectations, improved and consistent learning environments, modern school fit for purpose, continuous curriculum and efficient use of funding and resources.

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#### Questions and Answer Session chaired by Cllr Mulligan

<b>Question/Comment</b>	<b>Response by</b>	<b>Response</b>
A Ripon City Council Member for the Moorside Ward asked with planning approval for over 500 new homes on 2 sites what provision is being made for the additional pupils?	JL	All planning permissions have been reviewed in the current pupil forecast. Numbers at Moorside across both schools have dropped over last few years. The proposal is for a slight reduction of 42 places overall with a proposed school capacity of 210 places. Housing and pupil numbers will continue to be monitored.
Will Moorside and Mowbray satellite school operate separately?	CR, JT	It was confirmed that Moorside and Mowbray would be separate institutions and operate on their own. The sites will be

		<p>separated with secured fencing to keep pupils safe.</p> <p>There would be the potential to collaborate on certain occasions or aspects e.g. sharing knowledge and resources but this would be discussed at a later point if the proposal is approved.</p>
<p>Would there be dual places available at Moorside and Mowbray?</p>	JT, JH	<p>There are no dual placements currently at Mowbray.</p> <p>JH confirmed this would only happen based on needs of the individual child not just because of the proximity of the schools.</p>
<p>If the proposals are approved how long would the work go on at the schools?</p>	JL	<p>JL confirmed the building programme is still being outlined. A planning application would need to be submitted for the proposed building work which could take up to 3 months, there would also be a procurement and tender process. The summer holidays has been marked as the ideal time to do main bulk of building work if possible but due to the amount of work some would carry on into Autumn term.</p>
<p>The proposed satellite provision for Mowbray is for Primary pupils, where would the children progress to for secondary school?</p>	JT, JH	<p>JT and JH confirmed that this has been flagged as an issue to address and initial discussions have taken place to look at SEND secondary provision.</p> <p>JH stated that as part of the SEND Strategic Plan work is taking place at other special schools such as The Forest School and Springwater School in order to add capacity. The County Council is currently preparing a bid to the Government for a Special Free School in the Selby area which currently has no specialist provision. It was agreed that a similar satellite provision for secondary pupils needs to be considered.</p>
<p>What would be the effect on staffing levels at Moorside if the schools amalgamate?</p>	CR	<p>CR confirmed there is no anticipated change to staffing. There are currently a number of staff on supply or fixed term contracts at the Junior school. Staff at the Infant school will assist in the transition for younger pupils to the Junior site. There will be a separate consultation for staff with HR.</p>

### Close

Cllr Mulligan thanked all attendees and panel members for their questions, comments and input. Attendees were encouraged to make their views known and reminded of how they could respond to the consultation and of the closing date of 9 November 2018.

The meeting closed at 7.15pm.

### Moorside Consultation Responses

	<b>Observations and/or suggestions</b>	<b>Interest</b>
1	Good. Should have been done years ago.	Community
2	<p>I have looked through the consultations for the amalgamation of the infant and junior school and also the plans for the use of the old primary school building. I feel the following points need to be considered- School amalgamation : I don't see any reason why the infants and juniors shouldn't be combined, many other schools do it . It makes the transition into the junior's easier for many children because there is no significant change to routine. I do not ,however, think that any school admission places should be lost as a result of the change and feel alteration need to be made to the plans so ensure there are sufficient classrooms/ space to continue with current pupil numbers. I'm sure you are aware that planning permission has been granted for a large number of houses both at the top of Whitcliffe lane and where the old choir school used to stand. Moorside is obviously the nearest school and will be the first choice/ most convenient for many of those families. My second concern would be parking. I live round the corner from the school and Whitcliffe Drive is already dangerous on a morning. As a childminder I often can't get the pushchair down the path because of inconsiderate parking. My own car was hit by a parent who parked right on the junction and then just pulled out without indicating or warning. If the entrance to the school is moved this way I feel parents who parked nearer the infant school will also move this way and the situation will be even worse. Consideration should be given to local residents and parents parking. With regards to the plans for the old primary school- I fully agree that Ripon needs a unit for children with special needs. I volunteer at Ohana group on Saturdays and many of the children have to travel out of town for school. Many struggle with transport , both the journey it's self and changing drivers/ transport companies. I think there is definitely a need for Mowbray school to have a provision in Ripon .</p>	Community
3	<p>Is there a projection as to how this would impact on the admission numbers of other local schools prior, if it actually happens, to the creation of an additional school? Other local schools need to be protected from unplanned increases in numbers as their budgets are already suffering.</p> <p>A meeting of other local headteachers and chairs of governors would have been very helpful, inclusive and I believe appropriate. Thank you.</p>	Headteacher at local school
4	I believe that this is the best thing for the schools viability and improvement. We currently work as one team. This amalgamation can only strengthen what we offer at Moorside and ensure consistency for all children. I know that the temporary inconvenience will be far outweighed by the gains of this amalgamation	Teacher at Moorside Infant school
5	I agree in principle - but - initial impression is that loss of Infant School to Mowbray is only just compensated by some new building on Junior School. You have clearly not evaluated the impact of the recent Planning Approvals for over 500 new homes in the Moorside Ward and the resultant increased demand for school places. It is essential that these new children are catered for locally and not	Ripon City Council Member

	required to travel to other schools, which I believe do not have spare capacity.	
6	This is a great idea. Having had a child move from infants to juniors at another local split school recently I felt that the administrative process was a complete waste of time and money and actually introduced a level of anxiety for our daughter as it was sold and perceived as “moving schools” rather than just going into the next year group. I also feel that the educational benefits of primary schools are better. Operating under the same leadership ensures the same ethos to learning is deployed and prevents children having to “get up to speed” at a new school. I expect that there are also financial benefits such as only requiring one head, and admin teams.	Community
7	I think this will be a positive step for the people of Ripon. It allows parents of children with additional needs the opportunity to remain at school close to home. It also gives them the opportunity to access the excellent experience of staff at Mowbray School. As a parent of a child who currently goes to Moorside, we look forward to the changes and the ongoing improvements that are being made.	Parent of pupil at Moorside
8	I understand both sides that the school will run better on one site and money put into the school but I feel all the traffic at one end bad enough now down whole street and then the kids how much disruption will they get building work and change of classes till all built my child is now in year 5 and next year is an important year for education and development I also would hope if one school the staggered intakes will stop as this is a disadvantage to children born in the summer months	Parent of pupil at Moorside
9	I would be interested to find out what the plans are for these students and their transition to secondary school. Specialist provision places at secondary are already stretched within the area, will the increased number of places at primary level be equally reflected within the secondary specialist provision in NY?	Principal at local school

**Amalgamation of Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon to create a single 3-11 primary school on the Moorside Junior School site, and expansion of Mowbray School onto an additional site and an increase in the number of places in the special school, using the Moorside Infant School site**

**Part 3 - Mowbray School – Expansion onto an additional site and an increase in the number of places in the special school**

## **Statutory proposals for Prescribed Alterations – Expansion onto an Additional Site and an increase in the number of places**

### **Contact details**

Proposal published by North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, to make prescribed alterations to Mowbray School, Masham Road, Bedale North Yorkshire, DL8 2SD from 1 September 2019.

### **Implementation**

It is proposed to expand Mowbray School onto an additional site from 1 September 2019.

### **Description of alteration**

The proposal is to expand Mowbray School through the creation of Specialist satellite provision on the Moorside Infant School site in Ripon with effect from 1 September 2019. The satellite school is initially proposed to have up to 30 places in 2019/20. This will then rise up to 60 places by 2021/22. This proposal is related to the proposals for the closure of Moorside Infant School and the change of age range and enlargement of Moorside Junior School from 29 April 2019.

### **The reasons for the expansion**

The County Council's Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision 2018 – 2023 includes proposals to create new special school provision through exploring the establishment of satellite specialist provision in the Ripon area during 2018/19. It is proposed to use the Moorside Infant school to provide satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School. Demand for this type of provision is increasing in North Yorkshire and it is expected that this will continue into the future in line with local and national trends. Mapping of the current cohort of children and young people attending Mowbray School shows a number live in the Ripon area and potentially could benefit from this provision in addition to those requiring this type of provision into the future.

This would also reduce costs associated with transport.

Pressure on current capacity across specialist provision in North Yorkshire is a significant contributory factor to the projected overspend on the High Needs Block budget. Developing a satellite provision on the Moorside site would create additional special school capacity and in turn create more local provision for children and families in line with the Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision 2018-2023.

### **Effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions**

There is not expected to be an effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions.

### **Project costs and indication of how these will be met, including how long term value for money will be achieved.**

It is expected that the satellite provision place costs will be comparable to that of Mowbray School. The proposed provision will deliver a more efficient use of resources both in terms of place costs and transport in comparison to provision being sought from the independent sector.

Mowbray School is well-established and in its most recent Ofsted inspection was judged to be good. The school has a stable budget and is over-subscribed on commissioned places. The Head Teacher of Mowbray School, in partnership with the Local Authority, has produced a detailed budget forecast demonstrating a surplus budget is possible and sustainable from year 3 based on current funding models for special schools.

It is proposed to use some of the Special Provision Capital Funding for works to create the specialist satellite provision. Works will be required to adapt Moorside Infant School for specialist provision and associated access works. A planning application will be submitted to the County Council's planning department for these works.

### **Admission and curriculum arrangements**

It is proposed to use the Moorside Infant School to provide satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School. Mowbray is a special school at Bedale making provision for a wide range of complex SEN. It serves a large catchment area from Stockton-on-Tees to Harrogate. The School accommodates children aged 3-16 who all have an Education Health Care Plan.

The initial proposal is to establish up to 30 places in 2019/20 for pupils aged 2-11. This will then rise to up to 60 places by 2021/22. Demand for this type of provision is increasing in North Yorkshire and it is expected that this will continue into the future in line with local and national trends. Mapping of the current cohort of children and young people attending Mowbray School shows a number live in the Ripon area and potentially could benefit from this provision in addition to those requiring this type of provision into the future. This would also reduce cost associated with transport.



Admission arrangements would be in line with current national guidance and local processes. Children would only access the provision following a statutory assessment of their SEND resulting in issuance of an Education and Health Care Plan and formal consultation between the LA and School regarding the schools ability to meet individual needs.

Pressure on current capacity across specialist provision in North Yorkshire is a significant contributory factor to the projected overspend on the High Needs Block budget. Developing a satellite provision on the Moorside site would create additional capacity and in turn reduce the need for higher cost Independent and Non-Maintained provision.

### **Governance and administration**

As an extension of Mowbray School the satellite provision will be managed under the same Senior Leadership and Governing Body structures already in existence. Any new staff employed would therefore be contracted under Mowbray School and deployed across the school and satellite at the discretion of the Head Teacher of the school.

### **Physical characteristics of the school**

It is intended that the provision in Ripon will serve the local community and extend the provision Mowbray School offers to wider geographical area, meeting expected increased future demand. Although a standalone provision, it is possible that some young people could access activities on either site should it be determined that this would meet individual needs.

### **Consultation**

The decision to consult on enlargement of Mowbray School through the use of Specialist satellite provision on the Moorside Infant School site was taken by the Executive Member for Schools on 11 September 2018. A consultation paper setting out the proposal was sent to parents of pupils on roll, staff at the school as well as other interested parties and individuals. A copy of the consultation paper is attached as Appendix 1. A list of the consultees is attached as Appendix 2. The consultation period ran from 21 September 2018 to 9 November 2018. A public meeting was held at the school on 8 October 2018, a note of that meeting is attached as Appendix 3. There have been 3 consultation responses received (Appendix 4).

### **Related Proposals**

This proposal is related to proposals for the closure of Moorside Infant School and the change of age range and enlargement of Moorside Junior School from 29 April 2019.

### **Procedure for making representations (objections and comments)**

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object

to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director-Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 8 February 2019.

Appendix 1c: Consultation Paper

Appendix 2c: List of the Consultees

Appendix 3c: Notes of the Public Meeting

Appendix 4c: Consultation Responses



# ***Consultation Document***

**Proposal to create satellite specialist provision from  
Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant School site  
in Ripon  
from 1 September 2019**

## **Mowbray School**

September 2018

This paper sets out proposals to create satellite specialist provision, for ages 4-11, from Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant School site in Ripon.

This proposal is linked to proposals set out in another consultation document to amalgamate Moorside Infant School and Moorside Junior School in Ripon. This would create a single 3-11 primary school on the Junior School site (to be known as Moorside Primary School & Nursery). (The Moorside consultation document can be obtained from the school or on [www.northyorks.gov.uk/consultations](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/consultations)).

This paper gives the background to the proposal for satellite specialist provision. There will be public meetings on:

**Wednesday 3 October 2018 at 6.30 pm**

**at Moorside Infant School, Harrogate Road, Ripon  
North Yorkshire HG4 1SU**

**Monday 8 October 2018 at 7 pm**

**at Mowbray School, Masham Road, Bedale  
North Yorkshire DL8 2SD**

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### **The Current Position**

The County Council's Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision 2018 – 2023 includes proposals to create new special school provision through exploring the establishment of satellite specialist provision in the Ripon area during 2018/19.

It is proposed to use the Moorside Infant school to provide satellite specialist provision from Mowbray School. Mowbray is a special school at Bedale making provision for a wide range of complex SEN. It serves a large catchment area from Stockton-on-Tees to Harrogate. The School accommodates children aged 3-16 who all have an Education Health Care Plan.

Local Authority officers will work with the Head Teacher of Mowbray School to develop a provision specification and agree initial commissioned places.

The initial proposal is to establish up to 30 places in 2019/20. This will then rise to up

to 60 places by 2021/22. Demand for this type of provision is increasing in North Yorkshire and it is expected that this will continue into the future in line with local and national trends. Mapping of the current cohort of children and young people attending Mowbray School shows a number live in the Ripon area and potentially could benefit from this provision in addition to those requiring this type of provision into the future. This would also reduce costs associated with transport.

Pressure on current capacity across specialist provision in North Yorkshire is a significant contributory factor to the projected overspend on the High Needs Block budget. Developing a satellite provision on the Moorside site would create additional special school capacity and in turn create more local provision for children and families in line with the Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision 2018-2023.

It is expected that the satellite provision place costs will be comparable to that of Mowbray School. The proposed provision

will deliver a more efficient use of resources both in terms of place costs and transport in comparison to provision being sought from the independent sector.

It is proposed to use the Moorside Infant site for this satellite provision. Moorside Infant School currently accommodates children aged 3-7. It is proposed to amalgamate Moorside Infant School with Moorside Junior School. This would create a single 3-11 primary school on the Junior School site through the technical closure of Moorside Infant School as a separate entity and the enlargement and change of age range of Moorside Junior School.

### **Pupil Numbers**

The initial proposal is to establish up to 30 places in 2019/20. This will then rise to up to 60 places by 2021/22.

### **The Financial Position**

Mowbray School is well-established and in its most recent Ofsted inspection was judged to be good. The school has a stable budget and is over-subscribed on commissioned places.

The Head Teacher of Mowbray School, in partnership with the Local Authority, has produced a detailed budget forecast demonstrating a surplus budget is possible and sustainable from year 3 based on current funding models for special schools.

It is proposed to use some of the Special Provision Capital Funding for works to create the specialist satellite provision.

### **The Proposal**

For the reasons above it is proposed to create a specialist satellite provision of Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant site in Ripon.

### **The Buildings**

Works will be required to adapt the Infant School for a specialist provision, to adapt

the Junior School building for a 3-11 school, and associated access works.

A planning application will be submitted to the County Council's planning department for these works.

### **What Happens Next?**

Your views about this proposal are welcomed. You can either complete and return the attached response sheet, or submit an online response

Paper responses should be returned to North Yorkshire County Council at the address below:

FREEPOST RTKE-RKAY-CUJS  
Mowbray School  
Strategic Planning  
North Yorkshire County Council  
County Hall  
NORTHALLERTON  
DL7 8AE

Online responses may be submitted by following this link:

<https://consult.northyorks.gov.uk/snap/webhost/s.asp?k=153451895459>

**The closing date for responses is  
9 November 2018**

All responses to the consultation received by this date will be considered by the County Council's Executive on 27 November 2018.

If the County Council's Executive decides to proceed with the closure proposal, then statutory notices would be published in the local press on 11 January 2019. These notices provide a further four weeks for representations to be made. A final decision would then be made by North Yorkshire County Council's Executive on 19 February 2019. If agreed the schools would amalgamate from 29 April 2019.

### Anticipated Key Dates

All dates are subject to approvals at each stage.

Consultation opens	21 September 2018
Public meetings	3 October 2018 at 6:30pm at Moorside Infant School  8 October 2018 at 7pm at Mowbray School
Consultation closes	9 November 2018
County Council's Executive considers consultation response	27 November 2018
Statutory Notices published (4 weeks for representations to be made)	11 January 2019 – 8 February 2019
Final decision by County Council's Executive	19 February 2019
Opening of specialist satellite provision	1 September 2019

The proposal to amalgamate Moorside Infant and Junior Schools will follow the same timescales apart from the date of amalgamation, which is proposed from 29 April 2019.

**Mowbray School**  
**A consultation on whether to create satellite specialist provision**  
**from Mowbray School on the Moorside Infant site in Ripon**

Observations and/or suggestions:

Interest/Status .....

e.g. Parent/Governor/Teacher/Community

Name of School .....

Signed .....

Date: .....

Name (Block Capitals) .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

Postcode: .....

To help us assess whether we have provided clear information, please let us know whether you found this consultation easy to understand? YES/NO

Do you have any suggestions for improvement?

.....

**Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, responses to the consultation may be published on the County Council's website where it may be accessed by members of the public. Your personal details will not be published.**

Please send this response sheet to the following "FREEPOST" address. You do not need to use a postage stamp.

**FREEPOST RTKE-RKAY-CUJS**

**Mowbray School**

**Strategic Planning**

**North Yorkshire County Council**

**County Hall**

**NORTHALLERTON**

**DL7 8AE**

**Or go to:**

<https://consult.northyorks.gov.uk/snapwebhost/s.asp?k=153451895459>

**and submit your response there**

**To be received by no later than 9 November 2018**

*We are collecting this information for the purpose of gathering views on the proposal. Your personal data will not be published or passed to any other organisation unless a legal obligation compels us to do so. We may contact you to discuss your views further. For more information about how your personal data is handled at North Yorkshire County Council please visit: [www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacy](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/privacy)*



**List of Consultees**

Parents of pupils of Mowbray

Staff of Mowbray

Local Authority – North Yorkshire County Council

Unions and Professional Associations

Any Interest / user groups nominated by the school

Local County Councillors

District Councillors

Local District: Hambleton District Council

Parish Council

Local MP: Rishi Sunak

RSC

Secretary of State

Other LA's with pupils at Mowbray School

**Moorside and Mowbray Public Consultation**  
**Record of public meeting on 8th October 2018**

**7:00pm at Mowbray School**

Present

NYCC Officers – John Lee (JL) (Strategic Planning Officer), Matt George (Strategic Planning Officer), Chris Reynolds (CHR) (SEND Placement Officer, Inclusion),

School representatives – Claire Rowett (CR) (Acting Headteacher at Moorside Infant & Junior School), Jonathan Tearle (JT) (Headteacher at Mowbray); Robert Dunning (Chair of Governors, Mowbray); Simon Holden (Vice-Chair of Governors, Mowbray).

There were 2 other people present.

Opening and Introduction by John Lee

JL explained that this was the second of two consultation meetings being carried out to discuss the two linked proposals to amalgamate Moorside Infant and Junior School and establish a satellite of Mowbray School on the former Infant School Site.

Presentation by John Lee

JL outlined the purpose of the meeting and the consultation process, the detail and rationale of the proposals.

It is proposed that Moorside School would operate as a single 3-11 primary school on the Moorside Junior School site. It is proposed that the buildings on this site would be refurbished to provide new classrooms, cloaks and toilets for nursery and infant pupils, additional staff facilities, and extended car parking. The Moorside Infant School site would be adapted for use as a satellite specialist provision.

Admissions to reception would be unaffected, other than there will be a reduction of the school's published admission number from 36 to 30. There would no longer be a requirement for parents to apply for places in Year 3.

JL informed that change was being proposed for the following reasons:

- Existing shared Leadership at Moorside Infant and Junior Schools – long-standing ambition of both schools. Since September 2016, the schools have been led by an Executive leadership. Since September 2017, the Governing Boards have had the same members, although there remain two separate boards.
- Moorside Infant School Directive Academy Order – Issued by Regional Schools Commissioner following Ofsted inspected which judged the overall effectiveness to be inadequate. Since then, though, no academy sponsor for Moorside Infant School has come forward. Following discussion with the Regional Schools Commissioner, it is now proposed to consult on the amalgamation of Moorside Infant and Junior School through the closure of Moorside Infant School and the expansion of Moorside Junior School.
- Need for financial efficiencies – across the county, an increasing number of schools are facing cost pressures. School funding is driven by pupil numbers. Pupil numbers at Moorside Schools have fallen. The amalgamation on a single site will enable the school to operate more efficiently, with only one set of premises costs for heating, lighting etc.
- NYCC SEND Strategic Plan – Mowbray – The County Council's Strategic Plan for SEND Education Provision includes proposals to create new special school provision. This includes exploring establishing satellite specialist provision in Ripon.

Presentation by Chris Reynolds

CR provided a background to this proposal from an SEND perspective. The proposal comes forward in the context of the SEND strategic plan, during the formation of which there had been informal and formal consultation. This strategic plan had then been approved by

members. This plan included making provision for additional forecast pupil numbers. Mowbray is operating at capacity and this site provides an option for additional specialist provision. He explained that the strategic plan was available for attendees to access and that it was seen as an ambitious strategy to provide universal, targeted and specialist provision across the county.

#### Presentation by Claire Rowett

CR provided an update on how Moorside Infant and Junior schools currently operate and the benefits of the proposed amalgamation. Since 2016 the school has been progressing with improved pupil outcomes at the end of Reception and KS1 results in July 2018. CR informed that Moorside children currently enter the Infant school in Nursery then need to apply to attend and transition into Reception followed by KS1, parents then need to apply for a place at Moorside Junior school for KS2. It was highlighted the process of the transition in supporting pupils can be stressful for both pupils and parents and requires a huge amount of work. A benefit of amalgamation would allow pupils to remain in the same setting and environment. The Junior school playgrounds, fields and Forest School will be retained, there will be a new outdoor area for Foundation and KS1, and 3 out of the 4 entrances will be retained. The Junior site works will dramatically improve and upgrade the facilities and space. There will also be a parent meeting room, a nurture room, group working areas and offices for the school to run efficiently.

There are many benefits of amalgamating such as improving outcomes for all pupils, shared leadership and expectations, improved and consistent learning environments, modern school fit for purpose, continuous curriculum and efficient use of funding and resources.

CR closed by saying that she saw these proposals as a wonderful opportunity for all parties.

#### Presentation by Jonathan Tearle

Overview of current Mowbray School which educates pupils aged between 3 and 16 years with a variety of Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. JT provided background of Mowbray School and how their provision and facilities have expanded due to increased need from 125 to 215. The proposal is to set up a satellite provision on the site of Moorside Infant School, Ripon, to educate primary aged pupils with an Education Health Care Plan for special educational needs.

Increased level of pupil requests from Harrogate and Ripon and this need is increasing. Long waiting list.

This will be for pupils with learning needs, who predominantly have difficulties with communication and interaction. It will not be for pupils who have severe or more profound learning difficulties. It is proposed to start with approximately 30 pupils and over the course of the following two years increase this to 60 pupils. It is anticipated that the number of staff will start at around 16 and rise to approximately 30 staff. It is expected that some of the current staff will work in the Ripon site and additional staff will need to be recruited in advance of the provision opening. It will be a satellite of the main site and this will have the same policies as the main school. The new provision will simply be an extension to Mowbray School. Pupils will not be moved from Mowbray School to the satellite provision in Ripon, unless requested by parents.

There will not be an automatic transition from Primary to Secondary provision as there is a need for increased secondary provision as well as this primary expansion.

Questions and Answer Session chaired by JT

Question/Comment	Response by	Response
Does it have same access and shared parking?	HTs	There is shared access but it is proposed to create separate parking facilities and a bus turning area for the satellite provision.
<p>CoG at Mowbray said that the bottom line for Governors is that whatever happens must not affect the provision for pupils at Mowbray. He said that there would need to be financial support from the LA and that it could be the third year before the new provision was sustainable.</p> <p>He said that there was clearly a secondary need as well. He asked what the timescale is for secondary provision to be provided.</p> <p>He asked how the SEND capital funding is being allocated?</p>	CHR	<p>Conversations are ongoing about supporting reasonable up front costs.</p> <p>Current costings are that a surplus would be generated by the third year of operation.</p> <p>CHR had said that there had been discussion around possibly not admitting to the highest two years of the primary provision to create a 2 year lag before that secondary need came through. He also explained that there was a free school bid for a special school for the Selby area which should take some pressure out of the Harrogate area special schools but that at present there was no further news on that. There is a recognition that further secondary provision is needed.</p> <p>CHR said that there was currently £600k of SEN Capital funding to increase capacity and improve facilities. Proportions of this will be allocated to schemes across the county including this scheme.</p>
JT asked is it still projected that 400 additional SEN places will need to be provided across the County?	CHR	<p>Forecasting is difficult and having had only 3 years of data for need following the new code of practice this is even more challenging. At present the increase appears exponential but it is expected to plateau. Forecasts are being reviewed every six months with a variety of data types being used including requests for assessment as well as demographic changes.</p> <p>It is not expected that all 400 places will be provided within Specialist provision as the strategy is also designed to increase the capacity at the Universal and Targeted level. This capacity should reduce some of the demand for specialist places.</p>
<p>“When is crunch time?” in terms of places being required urgently.</p> <p>What needs to be done to impress</p>	CHR	The need is already here. He explained that £7.5million is currently spent on independent places in North Yorkshire

that on everyone involved? Are some other schools not being helpful? Are the LA able to apply more pressure?		CHR said that part of the solution could be to bring special heads into decision making processes. If schools are not able to meet need they need to be involved in finding the solution.
A member of the public asked if this was about mainstream schools and special schools needing more support in order to meet need.	CHR	It is also about peer review. If a school says they cannot meet need there could be a peer review to see if practice elsewhere could be applied at that particular school to meet need.  It is about people from across the professional specialisms being involved in the decision making.
Headteacher at Moorside said that she thought there was an issue with some parents and pupils being disillusioned with the process because they perceive that they need to fail in mainstream to get an EHCP and get access to special schools.	JT	JT said that more often parents feel there has been a struggle to get an EHCP and then they still can't get a place at their preferred school.
A member of public asked will schools be expected to provide any of their own funds towards these projects?	CHR  JT	We asked schools to put forward projections of total cost and funding will be allocated on that basis. So any additional costs on top of that project would be need to be provided by the school.  Where there is an increase in pupils numbers, schools should utilise some of the funding that is available once staff costs have been deducted to meet equipment and capital needs.
Do other schools need to be as proactive as Mowbray? Is pressure being brought by the LA to ensure that they are?	CHR  JT	There is financial oversight of these schools and pressure is being felt by all schools equally.  Schools need to review their staffing to make sure it is appropriate
CoG at Mowbray asked the Moorside HT if there were any difficulties perceived with Mowbray being in colocation with Moorside?	CR	The Moorside schools currently accommodate children with SEN needs. Moorside wants children to be tolerant of people with additional needs. The schools can only see the benefits which can be provided by having SEN provision in Ripon.

### Close

JL thanked all attendees and panel members for their questions, comments and input. Attendees were encouraged to make their views known and reminded of how they could respond to the consultation and of the closing date of 9 November 2018.

The meeting closed at 20:00pm.

### **Mowbray Consultation Responses**

	<b>Observations and/or suggestions</b>	<b>Interest</b>
1	This would be very welcome news and is great to see the county council thinking about these things rather than the usual sell for housing approaches. I have friends who send their children to Mowbray School and cannot imagine the logistical issues of getting their children there and settled. Having this provision will help those families and others so much.	Community
2	While recognising the very great need for SEN schooling in Ripon, has thought been given to the future. Due to planning pushed through for 80+ homes at the Old Choir school and 400+ homes on West Lane in Ripon, both within the catchment area for Moorside school, what provision is being given for the probability of hundreds of infant and junior pupils who will need school places in the future.	Community
3	Having previously had a child attending Moorside Schools I believe that this is an excellent idea. Moorside school has a high level of children with SEN and was overstretched financially due to its size. Hopefully with a smaller number of pupils and no need for mixed year group classes the school will improve. Also the school can be better managed when it's in one building. Additionally the school may benefit by having staff trained in dealing with children with SEN just next door. It is also my opinion that there be greater number of placements for children with SEN in a location such as Ripon.	Parent of pupil at Moorside

## Annex B: School Organisation Guidance for Decision-makers

### Decision

The LA will be the decision-maker in all cases except where a proposal is 'related' to another proposal that must be decided by the [Schools Adjudicator](#)<sup>9</sup>.

Decision-makers will need to be satisfied that the appropriate fair and open local consultation and/or representation period has been carried out and that the proposer has given full consideration to all the responses received. Decision-makers should not simply take account of the numbers of people expressing a particular view. Instead, they should give the greatest weight to responses from those stakeholders likely to be most affected by a proposal – especially parents of children at the affected school(s).

Decisions must be made within a period of two months of the end of the representation period or they must be referred to the Schools Adjudicator.

When issuing a decision, the decision-maker can:

- reject the proposal;
- approve the proposal without modification;
- approve the proposal with modifications, having consulted the LA and/or GB (as appropriate); or
- approve the proposal, with or without modification – subject to certain conditions<sup>10</sup> (such as the granting of planning permission) being met.

A proposal can be withdrawn by the proposer at any point before a decision is taken. When doing so, the proposer must send written notice to the LA or the GB (as appropriate); or the Schools Adjudicator (if the proposal has been sent to them). A notice must also be placed on the website where the original proposal was published.

Within one week of making a decision the LA must publish their decision and the reasons for it, on the website where the original proposal was published and send copies to:

- the LA (where the Schools Adjudicator is the decision-maker);
- the Schools Adjudicator (where the LA is the decision-maker);

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<sup>9</sup> For example where a change is conditional on the establishment of a new school under section 10 or 11 of EIA 2006 (where the Schools Adjudicator may be the default decision maker).

<sup>10</sup> The prescribed events are those listed in paragraph 8 of Schedule 3 to the Prescribed Alterations Regulations.

- the GB/proposers (as appropriate);
- the trustees of the school (if any);
- the local Church of England diocese;
- the local Roman Catholic diocese;
- the parents of every registered pupil at the school – where the school is a special school; and
- any other body that they think is appropriate (e.g. other relevant diocese or diocesan board, faith organisation and any affected educational institutions in the area).

If the [Schools Adjudicator](#) is the decision-maker they must notify the persons above of their decision, together with the reasons, within one week of making the decision. Within one week of receiving this notification the LA must publish the decision, with reasons, on the website where the original proposal was published.

## Related proposals

Where proposals appear to be related to other proposals, the decision-maker must consider the related proposals together. A proposal should be regarded as related if its implementation (or non-implementation) would prevent or undermine the effective implementation of another proposal.

## Conditional approval

For many types of proposal, decision-makers may make their approval conditional on certain prescribed kinds of events<sup>11</sup>. The decision-maker must set a date by which the condition should be met but can modify the date if the proposer confirms, before the date expires, that the condition will be met later than originally thought.

The proposer should inform the decision-maker when a condition is met. If a condition is not met by the date specified, the proposal should be referred back to the decision-maker for fresh consideration.

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<sup>11</sup> Under paragraph 8 of Schedule 3 to the Prescribed Alterations Regulations



## Education standards and diversity of provision

Decision-makers should consider the quality and diversity of schools in the relevant area and whether the proposal will meet or affect the needs of parents, raise local standards and narrow attainment gaps.

## Equal opportunities issues

The decision-maker must comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), which requires them to have 'due regard' to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010;
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and people who do not share it; and
- foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and people who do not share it.

Further information on the considerations can be found on the [Equality and Human Rights Commission](#) website.

## Community cohesion

Schools have a key part to play in providing opportunities for young people from different backgrounds to learn with, from, and about each other; by encouraging through their teaching, an understanding of, and respect for, other cultures, faiths and communities. When considering a proposal, the decision-maker should consider its impact on community cohesion. This will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking account of the community served by the school and the views of different groups within the community.

## Travel and accessibility

Decision-makers should satisfy themselves that accessibility planning has been properly taken into account and the proposed changes should not adversely impact on disadvantaged groups.

The decision-maker should bear in mind that a proposal should not unreasonably extend journey times or increase transport costs, or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable walking or cycling routes. A proposal should also be considered on the basis of how it will support and contribute to the LA's duty to promote the use of sustainable travel and transport to school.

Further information is available in the statutory [Home to school travel and transport guidance](#) for LAs.

## Funding

The decision-maker should be satisfied that any necessary funding required to implement the proposal will be available and that all relevant local parties (e.g. trustees of the school, diocese or relevant diocesan board) have given their agreement. A proposal **cannot** be approved conditionally upon funding being made available.

Where proposers are relying on the department as the source of capital funding, there can be no assumption that the approval of a proposal will trigger the release of capital funds from the department, unless the department has previously confirmed

in writing that such resources will be available; nor can any allocation 'in principle' be increased. In such circumstances the proposal should be rejected, or consideration deferred until it is clear that the capital necessary to implement the proposal will be provided.

## Rights of appeal against a decision

The following bodies may appeal to the Schools Adjudicator against a decision made by a LA decision-maker, within four weeks of the decision being made:

- the local Church of England diocese;
- the local Roman Catholic diocese;  
and
- the governors and trustees of a foundation, foundation special or voluntary school that is subject to the proposal.

On receipt of an appeal, a LA decision-maker must then send the proposal, representations received and the reasons for their decision to the Schools Adjudicator within one week of receipt. There is no right of appeal on determinations made by the Schools Adjudicator.

## Implementation

The proposer must implement a proposal in the form that it was approved, taking into account any modifications made by the decision-maker.