

NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**Reorganisation of Secondary Education in Whitby****Consultation Responses****Index of Documents**

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Summary of Consultation Responses*

	Eskdale School	Caedmon College Whitby	Other	Total
Parents	354	82	23	459
Pupils	204	128		332
Staff	52	51		103
Other			558	558
Total	610	261	581	1452

*Provisional subject to checking

Responses from parents and carers of a pupils at Eskdale School
<p>What a total utter waste of time, money and talent!!! Eskdale school offers a unique child centred way of teaching with care and attention given to every single student to amalgamate into one huge school would be totally detrimental to their well being and education. XX is only interested in Ofsted and not a child centred learning experience. North Yorkshire council is forcing this move despite opposition from parents from both eskdale and Caedmon college and the wider whitby area community. I am appalled that north yorkshire county council could ignore the protests and petitions in order to push through with this consultation. At the point of stating the obvious with more and more houses being built where do north yorkshire county council honk those kids will go to school???? Caedmon college should not be considered as an option for amalgamation as they do not have the space or resources to accommodate the children from eskdale (as proved by having art lessons in a corridor without access to water for the art students to use in their work!) Come the elections in may it is my belief that a lot of sitting councillors should be extremely worried about their positions because with this strength of feeling this consultation will not be taken quietly or laying down by the protestors within the wider community of the town and surrounding villages who will be voting!</p>
<p>I am totally against the amalgamation of the two schools. WHITBY deserves choice, my daughters have chosen Eskdale because they know that is what is best for them. How do you expect me to force my children to go to a school they don't want to go to, this will destroy their education. The other option is to travel 20 miles to schools that are already near capacity putting pressure on their resources. I believe that this is not in the interest of the children but a plan by the council who just don't care what damage they do. The school is not just an place of education it is an important part of the community for football clubs, archery, tennis club and the Christian fellowship. There are 300 houses being built as we speak around Eskdale school, where are these children going, the potash mine will bring families, the development of Sneaton castle. Where are there children going?!?! Have the council thought long term?! Leave eskdale as an 11-16 like the people of whitby want</p>
<p>Yes I think the amalgamation is a good thing even though eskdale is a good school I don't trust the school to provide adequate GCSE provisions. So eskdale pupils would be at a disadvantage.</p>
<p>Keep Eskdale School open</p>
<p>9999</p>
<p>I am against the amalgamation because children should have the right to a school local to them without needing to travel long distances and also even travelling from east side to wet side is hazardous for children on foot.</p>
<p>I think the proposed amalgamation is both detrimental to the town of Whitby as a whole and more importantly to the education of the children within it. I fail to see how a larger school will attract "better" teachers and cannot see how a larger school is of benefit to each child. The dishonesty of the situation is appalling, we are been told that it is for the good of the children when the root cause is really cost saving and money. If the county council cannot afford the 2 schools why can't they be honest and say so. The people of Whitby are not stupid and are aware of the realities of life - we can't always have what we want but what we don't want is to be told that it is for the better when it patently isn't. Meanwhile the pupils of Eskdale school are left in a state of flux, particularly Year 9, who have had to put up with the disappointment of no longer been able to continue their education at the school of their choice yet still have had no contact from the school they are now being effectively force to go to about the choices for their future. If any of them make something of themselves in life it will be despite of what NYCC is doing, not because of it.</p>
<p>The proposed merger of Caedmon and Eskdale should most certainly NOT go ahead. Parents and pupils should have a choice regarding their educational facilities as currently both schools hold a different ethos to education. The merger of the two schools would create one huge school where the close pupil contact and individual child's needs would be lost - I don't see how a school of the proposed size could recognise and implement a child centred ethos which I feel is of paramount importance with regard to education and the overall duty of care school's should be providing to our children.. A town the size of Whitby should of course offer a choice to its residents regarding the education of future generations. I strongly feel that this proposed merger is more about money and power within certain factions of the local education authority than about pupil welfare. A good education is the foundation for the future generation, not only for our town but for the country as a whole. As a parent of a child in year 8 at Eskdale school I will not be sending my child to an amalgamated school that offers very little choice in the way of educational options and who I feel does not see the child as an individual, but more of a statistic. The merger will force many parents like myself to make the heart breaking decision to send their child to a school outside of the locality, forcing them to commute over the moors in all sorts of weather. I strongly believe that Eskdale School should remain open and be extended to offer education up to the age of 16 (if not 18) as was promised.</p>

1. CHOICE • Choice of school in the town is important • Due to our geographical location, Whitby is, fairly unique that it is, over 21 miles to the next nearest town for children to be educated. This is a long way when you are 11 years old, especially in winter time when the moor roads can be treacherous or even closed • One School having a monopoly is not desirable in terms of raising educational standards • Competition drives up standards and achieves excellent education • One size DOES NOT fit all • If a child has problems/issues in one school they can move to the other and have a 'fresh start'. With only one school, where else could they go? • Quite simply in our local community "There are more people that want to see Eskdale stay open than want to see it closed" (Over 5000 signatures on petition to keep Eskdale open)
2. UNIQUE ETHOS • Unique ethos – 'Every child matters' • Pupils, Parents and Staff are happy (See Ofsted parent view 83% children strongly agree they are happy, compared to National Average 53%, Caedmon College 46%) • Small school which enables teachers to know pupils well and vice versa. Especially useful for those pupils with special educational needs who benefit from a smaller nurturing environment. • Education for the whole person • Focus on practical skills and on art/music not just academic (excellent music pods) • Encourages pupils to take initiative and responsibility • Broad range of extracurricular activities (eg. Many varied clubs-gardening, art, drama, choir, gymnastics, trampolining, juggling, minecraft club to name a few) • Excellent pupil reward scheme in place using 'vivo'system
3. EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS • 'Personal development, behavior and welfare' rated 'Good' in 2015 Ofsted report • Extremely high positive feedback on Ofsted ParentView (91% would recommend the school to another parent) • Dedicated group of well qualified teachers • 'Curriculum at Eskdale prepares pupils well for life in modern Britain and provides for their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively' (OFSTED 2015) • Large Choice of competitive sports teams • Good range of subject choices (drama and 2 language choices, from year 7) • Eskdale received Requires Improvement in its inspection report but it continually states throughout the report that there has been too little time since the previous inspection to see the results of the implementations they have put in place. Many other schools in North Yorks have received Requires Improvement but they have not been deemed to close. Surely in this situation the LA should be doing all they can to help the school or are they just unwilling? • Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger. They have not had an Ofsted since 2013. Caedmon was deemed a Requires Improvement School before merge and hasn't been inspected since. Are they going to cope with an influx of another 300+ pupils from Eskdale and the amalgamation process, do they have provision to provide? How will this effect Caedmon College pupils? • 2014 GCSE results 5A*-C in English & Maths - Caedmon College overall 59%, ex-Eskdale pupils 62%. Proving Eskdale pupils achieve just as well (or better) as pupils from CCW. • Eskdale teachers have the desire and dedication to put their all into the 14-16 curriculum and achieve excellent results. Teachers have been working hard to prepare for the GCSE courses. Pupils too, desperate to prove Eskdale can produce fantastic GCSE results. They should be given the chance to do this. Much of Ofsted inspection and a school's 'worth' is based on data driven measurable results. There is no longer KS3 SATS in year 9 and Eskdale do not have GCSE results to be measured on. If they had the chance to do this, we'd see just how fantastic the school is. • Much research shows that many schools that have merged/amalgamated (especially in North Yorkshire) have had a decline in standards. Most recently and closest to home the Graham and Raincliffe Merge in Scarborough led to them going into special measures within 2 years! • In Filey there is only one secondary school, over recent years standards have dropped as no competition. They were in special measures and have now been taken out of the Local Authority control and converted into an academy.
4. COMMUNITY • Large open space (tennis courts/large playing fields and playground)for pupils (and locals) to enjoy benefits of fresh air and exercise. • Local and good links with community (eg. Sainsburys opposite work closely in projects with Eskdale) • Building strong relationships with each other and within the community • Has community woven into it. The following groups use the site at various times throughout the year, some every week, some on occasional basis): ABRSM Music Examinations, Fishburn Park football clubs 1st and 2nd teams, Fishburn Park kids football, Fylingdales, Lealholm and Whitby Rugby club football teams, Fylingdales netball, methodist church group, motorhome rallies, ONOMY(young church group), Whitby Music Centre, Tennis Club, Ultimate Soccer, Whitby Christian Fellowship, Whitby Ladies football, Whitby Company of Archers, Whitby Rugby Club, Young Farmers basketball) • Eskdale is not just a school but a centre for East side community of Whitby • Good relationships with primary feeder schools (especially East Whitby, over the road and Hawsker who use facilities such as food tech room)
5. FUTURE PROVISION • Pupil Numbers set to increase • Windfarm – more jobs, more families, more pupils. • Potash - more jobs, more families, more pupils • More housing to be built in the town, the children from theses will need schooling
6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS • Secondary pupil numbers set to increase over next 10-15 years (predicted 25/26 1647) Eskdale is needed. • Plans to build more family housing in Whitby will mean more school places needed. Much of this will be close to Eskdale and in prime feeder territory • Sound business plan for 11-16 • There are plenty of towns of similar size and similar pupil numbers to Whitby that support 2 (or even 3) secondary schools, why can't our town?
7. SPECIAL NEEDS • Eskdale has always been highly regarded in terms of catering extremely well for SEN pupils. This is down to their caring ethos, small size and provisions they have put in place to deal with particular needs and accessibility.
8. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT • Strong parental involvement (Excellent PTA and regular termly events from bingo to Summer Fair)

9. SIZE • Small school ensures excellent pupil/teacher relationships • Helps pupils to feel safe. One small school is better for many pupils rather than a large school on split sites in terms of them 'feeling at home' and well prepared for learning. Especially important for SEN pupils. • A smooth transition for year 6 pupils, especially those from very small feeder schools in surrounding rural areas, for whom a small school feels safer and more secure

10. INFRASTRUCTURE/PRACTICALITIES • One safe site (no time wasted travelling between sites for pupils or staff) • As all teachers are on one site at Eskdale, all of the time, it is easy for pupils to find them at break time, before and after school to tell them anything they need to, go over homework, seek support etc. • Accessible (Good safe access for buses dropping off and picking up) • What impact will there be on highways and roads around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? • What impact will there be on parking around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? • Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger, in terms of practicalities and organisation how will all the pupils be 'housed' if they amalgamate and are split over 3 sites for at least next year, then on to 2 the year after. This chaotic approach will surely have a detrimental effect on all pupils over the next few years. • Have they the space to accommodate everyone safely especially with numbers due to increase in coming years? • Is it short sighted of NYCC to even consider closing a school when numbers are set to increase. If Eskdale does go, in 10 years time much of the teaching could end up happening in cabins/temporary classrooms at Caedmon College sites? Surely it is a better way forward to build on the investment NYCC has made to Eskdale School site over last few years and let it carry out the wish to carry on as an 11-16 establishment? • If both schools were to continue to co-exist in such a manner they would still be average size for NorthYorkshire.

My daughter is in year 7 at Eskdale School and at the moment she is coming on loads as she's getting extra support for some of her lessons that she struggles in and I feel that if you closed Eskdale she would not get the support that she needs also not just her but other children like her will not get the help in which they so deserve. Also I think Whitby would benefit from a school choice as this is what this town needs as there are so many children coming into town and around town that still need their own choice of schools. I feel that if you only had one school for all these children then they would likely to suffer in their education which is what we all want for our children not to be put all in one school as all children the classes will be a lot bigger and will be back to square one again in our child's education xx

I believe that Eskdale should join Caedmon College. It means that the children will have better tuition, by concentrating the best accommodation has to offer

I feel very strongly that these two schools should not merge. Eskdale and Caedmon have always been separate schools and they offer very different styles of education. Whitby needs choice and one large school will not offer choice. Some children would choose Eskdale and some would choose Caedmon. What's right for one isn't always right for the other. One school will force children out of Whitby if they feel that schools aren't right for them. I feel that it would be a terrible thing for children of 11 years old to have to go to one school. I believe a school would mean around 1400 pupils would be in this school. That school is way too big and after all this is Whitby not an inner city school! Transport would be a problem as the roads would be too busy around school times. I don't believe standards would improve as the one remaining super school will have no competition or rival so how will this improve standards. I feel that Eskdale's 11-16 plans would have been great for the town. At 16 children are mature enough to travel out of town if Whitby choices aren't suitable. At 11 years children are children and if there is only one choice in Whitby and the children don't settle there I think it is wrong to send them on a bus out of town. As a parent you want your children close. As a parent you want choice. Please don't close Eskdale School. This will affect too many families. The thought of Eskdale closing has caused extreme upset in our house and my entire family is hoping that this merger will not happen. Are there any other options? There must be another way. Please save Eskdale school and give our children the choice they deserve.

<p>my daughter goes to eskdale school as she didnt want to go to caedmon because she was bullied at her primary school so was the only person to go to eskdale.she has comes on in leaps and bounds since attending this school and was looking forward to staying there another 2 years ,she is dreading having to go to caedmon ad so am i .I know she will have a hard time there and there is no other option.we would send her to scarborough or pickering but wont qualify for a bus pass and we cant afford to pay the fares</p>
<p>I am disgusted as a parent and long standing resident of Whitby that Eskdale School is being considered for closure. My child was severely bullied at her last school, moved to Eskdale in the hope, like many others for a new start. A fresh start!!! She has excelled since joining the school and is devastated there is a chance she may have to move. This can't be allowed to happen!</p>
<p>Eskdale school should not be closed for the following reasons: whitby needs choice, my daughter is extremely happy at the school, my youngest daughter onlooking to go there also; the teaching staff are all excellent; a single school in whitby will be too large to manage and class sizes too big - especially if the new housing proposals are carried through; Caedmon cannot currently accommodate the additional pupils; there is a totally different ethos between the two schools and parents and pupils appreciate that difference; there are social differences between the two sides of whitby - these are recognised and accommodated by the two schools; the potential potash and wind farm developments again will lead to an influx of families and children who will also require education; I personally would like to see the actual figures behind the proposals - what are the projections for class sizes ?? There are many feeder primary schools, what are their projections ?? Money talks and the whole process on the outside appears underhand and with profit in mind.....at no point has NYCC involved the community at all or provided detailed analysis on why the school should be closed.....to provide a better quality of teaching staff ?? How so ?? Caedmon school and the college have sought for a long time to scupper Eskdale and I believe the NYCC and the powers that be are not being as open as they should about the process.....there are / were two heads of school close to retirement who strike me as wanting to feather their caps.....why else would they be placing weekly articles about their successes and intentions on Twitter and in the local newspaper ?? I would appreciate a formal response to the address below in the form of actual figures and documents supporting exactly why Eskdake school is no longer seen as a viable place of study and in addition any correspondence regarding the sale / negotiations of the Eskdale site over the past 5 years. This is a emotive subject for pupils, parents and teachers alike and one where information should be shared and openly discussed so that the NYCC and their plans can be totally transparent. I would appreciate your response soonest.</p>
<p>terrible idea. denies parents and children choice. tje town wpuld be losing something really special in eskdale!</p>
<p>Eskdale School is a brilliant school. My daughter is in year 8 and is doing very well due to the excellent teaching.The reasons not to close Eskdale are obvious to everyone without having to keep pointing them out. The thought of closing Eskdale School is absolutely ludicrous. KEEP THIS OUTSTANDING SCHOOL OPEN!</p>
<p>Do not. Agree with the amalgamation of Eskdale School . Same as the majority of Whitby do not. Whatever happened to democracy?</p>
<p>I am a parent of a child at eskdale school and we both strongly agree that eskdale school should remain a part of Whitby, the children of this town need choice and I believe that they will continue to benefit from eskdale remaining open, I believe children thrive in a smaller secondary school and have seen this first hand with my own daughter who has come on leaps and bounds since starting eskdale school in September 2015</p>
<p>My daughter is due to start Eskdale school in September 2016 and we are so shocked to find out she might have the choice of school taken away from her. We looked around Eskdale last year and my daughters words to me were how "like" her primary school it was in which she meant it's small, friendly and has the family ethos. My main concern is that the children of Whitby should have a choice of schools they can attend. I am aware that the way schools are going is down the amalgamation route but living in a town like Whitby surrounded by moorland the nearest choice is 20 miles away on roads that can so easily be cut off this is not a choice at all. My other concerns are that Whitby is very congested already and the new bridge is a nightmare on a morning so to add all these other children will be dangerous to say the least. When Eskdale said they were going to be an 11-16 school we parents were elated it was what we had all being waiting for. I cannot tell you just how much distress and upset this has caused my daughter and her friends. Changing schools is such a big step and now she does not even know where she will be going and that is not beneficial to her education. Another point I would like to make is the sheer number of houses being built in Whitby all these houses will have familys in them and in 10 years time you will have to build another school as Caedmon will not be able to cope with the numbers and the volume of traffic to it sites. Many parents have been talking about "free schools" and "acadamys" surely there is an alternative to</p>

the proposed amalgamation. Please think very carefully about this plan as I think it could actually ruin some childrens education. The sheer size of this school will surely overwhelm lots of children mine included.

Pretty simple really, we NEED Eskdale School!

We are a 3rd generation of Eskdale school educated family. We are Whitby's past current and future. We deserve choice. We don't agree with the reasons given for the closure, we believe it's so the land can be sold for housing.

Please give Whitby children the choice!

I DO NOT want the schools to merge. My daughter is in year 7 at eskdale and is very happy there, it is a lovely school with great teachers who really care about each child. My daughter does not want to go to Caedmon college and I will not force her to do something she doesn't want to its her life and her decision. If she cannot get in at the next nearest school, which would not be ideal anyway due to long traveling times and bad road conditions in winter, I will have no choice but to look at home schooling my daughter. This is not what I want for her so please do not force my hand and close eskdale school. I would like eskdale to remain open as a 11-16 school and I'm sure that if they are given the chance will prove what a good school they can be with GCSEs results. Other concerns I have is the standard of education being delivered at Caedmon and very negative comments I hear from people at the school... Both pupils and employees.. The school needs to be inspected too! Also one size does not fit all and the children of Whitby need a CHOICE !!!!! Having two schools means healthy competition, I think this is vital in driving up standards. other schools that have merged over a split site have not done very well and I am certain your plans will be whitbys downfall. Please reconsider for the future of whitbys children... I know you stand to make a lot of money, but please don't let it be the deciding factor , I don't want my council to be saying a few years down the line oops sorry we got it wrong !!! And having to spend the money benefitted now to sort the mess out in the future. Please please keep our school open!

I strongly do not agree with the amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon College. In this consultation process you have also failed to provide a structured and measured set of questions by which you can evaluate the feedback. I would like to know how a school with such a high score of pupil happiness can be brandished as failing? My child is frightened of going to Caedmon college, there are many stories of bullying that go under the radar because it is a large educational institution. How can you announce a school will be changing from middle school to regular secondary and 6 months later say you are closing it despite having employed staff to fulfil the needs of teaching 11 to 16 year olds.

I am writing to object to your proposed amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon School. Firstly, I want to know where is your plan B? The possibility of two 11-16 schools. Do away with the sixth form? I would rather my 11 year old was not travelling out of town. The Council seem hell bent on closing Eskdale under the guise of raising standards. It is rubbish! I know excellent teachers who would have applied for the jobs at Eskdale once it went to 11-16. This would have raised standards had you have let Eskdale just 'get on with it!' I am actually furious about this. My daughter attends Eskdale school, I also attended Eskdale school. It is a great school and I'm afraid it is currently being persecuted by NYCC. Why is it that another head teacher has had so much say so in another schools future? You should be supporting Eskdale not looking for opportunities to knock the school via its governing body. The conduct of NYCC is a disgrace. It is really coming over that this consultation is nothing more than a paperwork exercise with the aim of amalgamating the two schools. Eskdale has a very special ethos which will be lost. My daughter needs this smaller school with staff who know her and who help her with her emotional needs. The council seem to be under the impression that all the Eskdale pupils will go to Caedmon College, well they won't! They have already chosen not to attend and have had this rudely taken away from them. The children and the parents are angry and are aware of the manipulation which seems to have been going on previous to this potential closure. The councils conduct and its members need to be investigated. Eskdale needs to stay open for the well being of our children. It serves the community well. There will be no where else for these communities to go and that's the thing about Eskdale. They encourage the community in. It has excellent facilities for tennis clubs, the Christian Fellowship, The Archery Club. These people can't just be moved to other locations as there isn't any. Eskdale is literally the last green part of Whitby! Everything else has been sold off. You should be looking to other options. The people of Whitby do not want this amalgamation. I was so happy when I heard my child could attend there until she was 16 years old after that she intended to go to Scarborough sixth form college. Why would you support a failing sixth form at Caedmon College? The statistics are that the numbers are reducing as we have an excellent sixth form in Scarborough. You seem to be sacrificing a fantastic school for a sixth form that the head teacher at Caedmon is sinking money into. Listen to the people of Whitby, keep Eskdale. Do not get rid of Eskdale it offers choice in town. If a child is not suited to Caedmon College their only option is to travel out of town. Whitby is an unusual place where everything around it is miles away. It can not be dealt with in this blanket approach that NYCC seem to be adopting. It won't work in Whitby. The children parents need to have choice, it's a basic human right. There are already children who have moved away from Caedmon College due to bullying and are now settled in Eskdale. Are you really going to ask those children to go back there? They won't! Competition does drive up standards. We currently do not know what Caedmon College is graded at with Ofsted. I can not believe that you are asking us to move our children into a school that has not been graded since their merger and whose website stating dates of the last Ofsted are in correct. They are also hiding under another schools Ofsted report. Where did the problems from Caedmon school go? Did they disappear? I'm really worried as the schools in Scarborough who merged both went down in special measures. How do we know that Caedmon College isn't already in special measures?!! It is a ridiculous idea to amalgamate the schools and whoever is insisting on this crazy idea does not have the interests of the children at heart. They are being driven by money. Well if this is what they are thinking about, what about the money that will go out of town with these children. What about the families that will be worse off by affording travel expenses? Eskdale is in a deprived area these families will struggle and actually Eskdale is literally the only thing left there. Everything else has closed. If you take Eskdale you are ripping the heart out of the community. For I live a mile away from Eskdale. We can walk. If my daughter had to go to College (which she won't be) we would have to endure the horrendous traffic each morning. It is literally stand still. The roads around college can not even cope with what is there now. It's not as if you can't change the entrance, you can't! It is surrounded by residential properties. It's one way in and one way out. Certainly not suitable for the influx of 1400 plus children. Why are the council not looking into other options? Why amalgamate to the College site, it's the worse site of them all. It's never had any improvements, not got correct safe access, not got a play ground, the field will get smaller and smaller due to prefabs. You should be keeping Caedmon School and Eskdale School open as two 11-16 schools and get rid of the College site if one has to go. It's a sensible option. Why is this not being considered. I can only think it because you are already wanting the sale of the Eskdale site. If you read the Eskdale Ofsted report and compare it to the College one you would see that the Eskdale report reads far better. I would ask you, if you had a child surely you would want your child which has been stated by Ofsted that personal development, behaviour and welfare was good. Also in parent view the school was above the national average for pupils who were happy, then rated at 91% that parents would recommend it. Now you look at College and you will see why I do not want my child to go there. My daughter has friends there who are unhappy, yet attend because they live close to the school. There are others who feel so strongly who drive past the entrance to College to get to Eskdale. I do feel that Eskdale is the stronger school despite what others want to portray of it. The proof is in the pudding. My daughter, like many is thriving there. It encourages their individuality and allows them to come out of their shell. To close Eskdale to me would feel like murder. There is no good cause to close it. East Whitby Primary, a school just over the road from Eskdale scored two Requires Improvements in a row but the council did not propose to close it, so why do this to Eskdale? It seems to me that the council is pinning this on the two requires improvement scores. When in actual fact Eskdale has never had a fair crack at the whip. Had you have allowed the 11-16 Eskdale would have been able to track progress through GCSE results and you would have seen the progress. However, I do believe that there was not enough time left between inspections and therefore Eskdale haven't had a fair chance to put in place improvements. Improvements were being made and it is not fair to close a school based on this. Even the Ofsted report states that there hasn't been enough time to make a fair judgement. Yet NYCC has used this as an excuse to close a perfectly good school. Parents are passionate about Eskdale and I hope this is coming over to you sat at your desks at County Hall. I hope you come and visit Eskdale to experience its

warm, thriving environment to witness for yourselves what you would be taking away from these children. If you track those pupils that went onto College from Eskdale you would also see that those children scored better than those from College. Children and parents build strong, good working relationships with teachers and teaching assistants. I feel fully informed about my child. The head of year at Eskdale thinks nothing of picking up the phone to me and other parents to reassure them about any issues. I would not get this at College. We would not have the personal approach and certainly my daughter would become a number on a seat not a child with a name. This whole situation is terrifying me to the point where I haven't been able to sleep. It's desperately upsetting that this whole process has been very badly managed and very underhand. What is this teaching the children? I particularly feel sorry for the Year 9 children and parents who have been treated very unfairly in this process. It is dispicable that the governors have only been offered choices relating to one outcome. This is not fair and I find it to be quite immoral how NYCC have allowed children to choose and settle at Eskdale then to whip this away so cruelly. You should reinstate the 11-16 status. Parents fought so hard for this and it is not right that it has been taken away over night. It is very hard to explain this to an 11 year old child. Also you need to remember the development that is already planned for Whitby. We need Eskdale to facilitate this. Around Eskdale we already have four new builds plus the 'Worlds Biggest Wind Farm' (Whitby Gazette) coming. Also the employee village for York Potash right next to Eskdale. Where are all these families going to go? All these new builds show Eskdale as an option. You also need to consider the issues already presenting themselves at College. The time consuming moving around the site, teachers are late for classes (just ask the pupils) It doesn't work having two sites with a major main road between. If you suggest the dirty, dark under path then I would suggest you looked at Safeguarding and Health and Safety issues. It's really rather appalling that this railway track path has been suggested. I would be worried about my child going between lessons. A parent told me that her child was at home, he had left school, during the transition of lessons, the school didn't even know! Please consider this so carefully before you made decisions about Eskdale. Listen to the parents and children of Whitby!

My name is X and I am a year 7 pupil at Eskdale School. I am happy there and I don't want to go to College. I went to Airy Hill primary school. Half of my class went to Caedmon and the other half chose to go to Eskdale. Me and my friends already made the choice to go to Eskdale and I am very upset that the year 9 pupils now can not stay and also that I too may have to move schools. I have told my mum that I do not want to go to College. It is too big. I have a best friend who is there and he is being bullied. They did not deal with the bullies they just moved my friend out of his form class and told him not to go near them. This has really worried me. What if it happens to me? It doesn't happen to me at Eskdale and I feel safe there. My teachers are great, especially XX, my art teacher. I love art and we try lots of different techniques. I also am doing really well in ICT. We have done lots of exciting things. I have struggled with Maths but my teachers offered me extra support which I did with my friends in a group. It feels just like one big family. I would be really upset to leave and I really wouldn't want to travel out of town but I wouldn't have a choice in this. I already get worried about different things in my life and I would be worried about being stuck up on the moors in Winter. What would happen if we got snowed out of town? I really don't want to think about that but I don't want to go to College. Some of my friends have already moved from College to Eskdale and have settled well. What will happen to my friends? They are already upset because they may have to leave Eskdale. This scares me.

I strongly disagree with the merger of Eskdale School with Cadeamon College. Parents and children should have a choice as to which school they would prefer to attend. There is no evidence to suggest a bigger school works best and here is certainly no evidence e.g ofsted report which demonstrates that Cademon college is a good school. I f I had wanted to send my child go to Cademen college I would have chosen this in the first place.

I would like to begin with clearly stating that I DO NOT agree with the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. My first point is CHOICE. My daughter started Eskdale School in September 2015. After looking at both schools we both felt that Eskdale was the right choice for my daughter. We both commented on how warm, caring and friendly the school was and this contributed greatly towards our decision. I have nothing against CCW but I feel we are all entitled to a choice. CCW and Eskdale are two very different schools and suit different children and their personalities. What will happen if my child does not settle at CCW? The next nearest school is over 21 miles away. In my opinion this is too far to travel for an 11 year old and would make their school day far too long. The roads can also be treacherous in winter or even closed. If we have only one school there is nothing to compete against. Competition is good. It drives up standards and achieves excellent education. 2. Ofsted- Although Eskdale received requires improvement in their last Ofsted report it does state continually that there has been little time since the previous inspection to see the results of the implementations put in place. Surely the LA should be doing all they can to help the school not closing it down. The Ofsted parent view for Eskdale reads that 83% of children strongly agree that they are happy compared to the national average 53%, Caedmon College 46%. A happy child is an active learner and a happy child will also thrive. Also 91% of parents would recommend the school to another parent. CCW is still adapting to the previous merger. There has been no Ofsted report since 2013 where Caedmon was deemed requires improvement. The school has not been inspected since the merger. How do we know the school has improved? And are they going to cope with amalgamation and 300 plus pupils? You also state that if the merger is to go ahead CCW will run over 3 sites until September 2017. My concern is that all this disruption and low morale in staff will have a negative impact on my child's education. 3. Traffic- How will the highways and roads be affected? There is already a considerable amount of traffic around the CCW areas without an extra 300 plus pupils with extra cars and extra buses. I also have concerns about the traffic lights which are situated on Mayfield Road just near to the filter lane as you come from the New bridge. I feel these lights are positioned completely in the wrong place. I have experienced first hand pressing the button, waiting for green and cars not stopping. There will be more children and more traffic. It is an accident waiting to happen. 4. Whitby is an ever growing town. We seem to be losing all the green fields to more new houses and with these houses comes more families with children who need education. Will CCW be able to accommodate all the children and the ever growing population in future years? 5. Eskdale site is also used by various community groups. What will happen to these groups if they can't be located? And what impact will it have on the children and young people/adults that use them? 6. Eskdale is not just a school it is part of our community. It has a unique ethos which states 'Every Child Matters'. This is clearly felt within the school. It is a small school which enables teachers to know pupils well and vice versa. This is especially useful for those pupils with special educational needs who benefit from a smaller nurturing environment. Many of these children will quite simply be lost in the system once in a big school. The dedicated staff make Eskdale the caring friendly school that it is. This in turn makes the pupils want to learn and succeed. The staff are committed to each and everyone of our children and that to me speaks volumes. My daughter loves Eskdale and has grown in confidence since she started. Secondary school is a huge change for them and the thought of this being disrupted after only one year of being there is extremely worrying and upsetting.

As a step parent I am completely against the proposed amalgamation . My step daughter attends this school , the pastoral carers exemplirary . We chose this school because of its nurturing caring choice . We did not choose Caedmon . Why should we have to pay transport costs and ferry them in winter 21 miles ? Housing development is tie on the east side yet you close the heart of the community and a much needed school ? These kids re being let down and emotionally abuses to save a few quid . Start to listen to the town and the community and look at other options rather than making Eskdale a scapegoat . Why not allow Eskdale and Caedmon to be both 11-16 schools and then look at sixth form choices on a a seperate site ? is

My daughter is in year 7 at Eskdale and has settled in well. We were hoping for her to be able and stay at Eskdale to do her GCSEs. We need to have a choice of school our children go to. I have worked at Eskdale for 5 years as a X X and its just a great school. We were all looking forward to the school becoming a 11-16. Children are so happy at Eskdale and to make just one larger bigger super school is not the answer for Whitby. My child hopefully would fit in but what will happen if she does not. Then what. X X also runs his soccar school there plus Fishburn football team play on Eskdale school fields. I would hate to see such hard working lads have to stop.

I am against the closure of Eskdale school. It is a very bad idea that would be detrimental to my son's education, happiness and well-being. Our X has X, the reasons we picked Eskdale was because not only did we believe it was better equipped to meet our son's needs, but we also believed that the only other option would not be able to meet his needs and would have a negative effect and impact on his happiness and well-being. These reasons have not changed, we not only believe that Caedmon is not a suitable option for our son, but feel his confidence, self-esteem and happiness will all suffer due to their inability to meet his needs. This opinion is based on our own conversations with Caedmon school, our observations and other parents of children with autism experiences. We don't doubt that for some children Caedmon school is the right choice, and some children do well there. But that is not all children and will never be all children. Children are individuals who have individual needs, expectations and experiences. Whose needs can never be met by a one option to fit all attitudes. For this reason there needs to be a choice, so children are not forced into the only option open to them. They also need to be empowered to be able to move to a different school if their needs are not being met or they are unhappy at school for whatever reason. Childhood experiences and happiness play a big part in what kind of adult they become and how much they achieve. Get the schooling and childhood wrong and it leads to adults with problems who fail to meet their potential. I know not all of this is in school, but school plays such a large part in a child's life that this consideration needs to be taken seriously. Getting this wrong has a seriously detrimental effect on a child. One school, one option is a bad idea when geographically you live in an area where you can't travel to another school. On a personal note, if the merger goes ahead and as I suspect, my child does fail to thrive at a bigger merged school, I want personal assurances that my child's needs will be met, and if he is unhappy I want assurances that he will be provided transport and an alternative school in a different area. Every child deserves the chance to reach their full potential, not just the high achievers.

I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. Choice is vital within Whitby considering the nearest school outside of Whitby is over 20 miles away, too far for any child to travel if Caedmon is not right for them. I have 3 children. My youngest chose Eskdale as she felt she would succeed and fair better in a smaller school and there would be more opportunities for her. This has been the proven case. Despite sport not being her forte she loves netball and has been given the opportunity to represent her school, they've taken the time to go through her answers in tests as she finds it difficult to explain things and it often doesn't make sense, she's been moved up a set for maths. Due to the size of the school she feels valued not just a number and has not got lost in the system as she would have in a larger school. There's enough room in the club's for anybody to join so she's taken the opportunity to go to hockey, trampolining and film club. With low self-esteem in a larger school she would not have had the confidence to join these club's. One school cannot suit all children, each child is unique and thrives under different circumstances which one school cannot possibly achieve.

I believe the proposal is deeply flawed. At a time when the projected population of the town is rising, closing Eskdale is going to lead to overcrowding, no educational choice and, therefore, no competition between schools, and a drop in educational standards. There is no reason why Eskdale School should close and no evidence that Caedmon College will improve educational standards of the area. The people of Whitby do not want this, and it is your moral, democratic and professional responsibility and to listen to them. Much is being made in the proposal of the last two Ofsted reports of Eskdale, while no report has ever been made on the Caedmon College. To compare the educational standards to the two is misleading. NYCC cannot guarantee that educational standards will improve through amalgamation, and there is no evidence to suggest that improvements can be made via amalgamation. The proposal does not explore the option of simply changing the leadership of Eskdale to raise standards - NYCC must look into this. No research has been done into the potential economic impact of the proposal. What is the expected effect on local jobs and spending? Closure will hurt the fragile economy of Whitby. In the proposals Key Considerations, the wellbeing of students has not been considered. This is outrageous and should be investigated thoroughly before any more work on this project is conducted. According to Ofsted, Eskdale is ranked 'good' on this front. Feasibility studies mentioned in 7.6 should have been carried out BEFORE the proposal was published. At the moment it is based on guesswork and could lead to a financial disaster. In 7.6 the proposal states that the required Secretary of State approvals are not guaranteed for the disposal of the Normaby or Scoresby sites. This is also the case for the disposal of the Eskdale site; and failure to mention this undermines the proposal. Also, the comment on valuations of the sites requires clarification - how recent are the valuations, what is the breakdown on the individual sites and who conducted the valuations? The proposal glosses over this vital information. The fact that NYCC offers no guarantee that capital receipts from the sale of the Eskdale site will be reinvested into Whitby's secondary education undermines the community of Whitby and exposes the people to a significant financial loss. The proposal should be either scrapped or redrafted to answer all of these concerns.

I totally disagree with this proposal, for the amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon college. We really do need choice for our children's education. With over 21 miles to the next town where our children could be educated if this new school isn't right for a child would be a lot of traveling. My son chose Eskdale for its size and ethos towards every child matters! And children learn better when happy. The Ofsted report definitely shows that parents and children are happy at Eskdale. A merger like this would surely take some time to get to a point where all the children are settled in such a massive change! Our children will be the test to see if it will be a so-called super school, and if it doesn't work the children will suffer! My son will attend a local independent school, if Eskdale is to merge with Caedmon his education and personal and social development

are the most important thing and I don't think the children are at the heart of this proposal. The actual issues with the building size of the school, to fit all the children as well as traffic issues at each site must be taken in to consideration.

I strongly disagree with the proposal of amalgamating Eskdale school and Caedmon college. This outrageous act of betrayal to childrens education in Whitby is shortsighted, and is fuelled by underhanded, and biased empire building individuals. There are two secondary schools in Whitby for a reason, and this reason is choice. Parents and pupils must have the right to choose the establishment which best suits their needs. The teachers and staff are a huge influence on young impressionable, and at times vulnerable pupils. If pupils have this personal bond ripped away, who are they going to trust in what is to be a large complex which is wholly run on an attitude of financial gain and an ethos of an exam results factory. I feel it would be a better option to have two secondary schools 11 to 16 and one provision for 6th form. I feel this would allow teacher and pupil relationships to flourish and an ethos of competition between the two schools to improve exam results going forward. There is also the issue of increased traffic flow around the two Caedmon sites. These two sites can not cope with this level of vehicle and human traffic as it is, and surely this is a major health and safety incident waiting to happen. I am urging, nay begging NYCC to really look at what this proposal will do to the staff and pupils of both schools and Whitby as a town. There will be job losses. There will be pupils heartbroken. Families in a worse financial position due to increased transport costs and change in home and work commitments to fit around getting their children to and from a different part of town. There will be a community lost. There are teachers worried that they will have to leave a community they love. If NYCC do not listen to the people of Whitby on this crucial consultation, then they will have failed every pupil, parent, teacher, and staff member of both schools immeasurably.

I strongly disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School with Caedmon College. I feel it is important to have a choice on secondary education in the town, any alternative is approximately 20 miles away, which is impractical and would penalise parents financially and students on time travelling. Students choose one school over the other for many reasons. Many of the rural primary schools which feed Eskdale are very small, many children, my own included, would struggle going from a school of only 50 some pupils to a school of 1500 pupils. At Eskdale, they integrate easily, which helps them immediately settle in. I fear that those from the smaller primary schools would be lost in the system in such a large school. I feel there will be safety issues if all secondary pupils in the area are forced into the 2 Caedmon College sites. They are situated on an already busy road junction, which will become even busier if this goes ahead. The prospect of students moving between sites, I feel, would present safeguarding issues. From a personal viewpoint, if this goes ahead, in September 2017 I will be faced with the problem of an 11 year old girl being expected to walk 2.5 miles to Caedmon College (from Stainsacre). County policy is to not provide transport below 3 miles. I would happily pay for transport, however there is none available, and there is no public transport on this route. This would be a completely unacceptable position. The route involves stretches of unlit main roads, and in some areas no footpath. This is not such a problem from Eskdale as she would be home before darkness falls in winter, however the extra distance from Caedmon College would mean some of this journey would be in the dark. I feel that any amalgamation would be very short sighted from a financial viewpoint. The number of new houses being built in the Whitby area is bound to lead to an increase in families and ultimately secondary pupils, on top of the already predicted increase in secondary pupil numbers. It would not be unreasonable to think that in a few years more school spaces will be needed. Where will the funds come from at that point to build a new school? The emphasis seems to be on maintaining post 16 provision in Whitby, but is this fair at the expense of providing two potentially good 11 - 16 schools? For many years sixth form provision has never been adequate in the town. Many pupils already choose to travel to Scarborough, Redcar, Guisborough etc to take post GCSE courses. Whitby will never be able to provide the variety and breadth of subjects, both academic and vocational, to compete with other providers, because it will never have the pupil numbers to make it feasible. It is reasonable, and deemed quite normal, for students to travel 20+ miles at age 16, not at age 11. I feel that this whole process has been dealt with in an underhanded, unethical and distinctly biased manner. The consultation document is heavily weighted to point people towards the obvious financial savings, with no thought given to how this affects current and future pupils of Eskdale. This is our children's future you are dealing with. How are they supposed to respect decisions made in our supposedly democratic society if this is pushed through despite so much public objection to it? It is also noteworthy that none of the costings in the consultation document take account of Eskdale moving to 11 - 16, yet I was under the impression a full business model, taking this into account, was submitted to NYCC? Or were they excluded as it would make Caedmon College look like they should control their costs more? There are many references to the fact that Eskdale has been judged as "requiring improvement" twice. Wasn't Caedmon School judged as "requiring improvement" before it merged with Whitby Community College, and then inherited its "good" Ofsted status? We have no proof that the first merger has been successful, let alone what adding another school into the mix will do. Is it correct that if this goes ahead Caedmon College would delay a full Ofsted inspection even further? Although the consultation document suggests the amalgamation would combine the best parts of both schools, I feel this is just not possible. Every pupil is known at Eskdale, This is partly the ethos of the school, as a caring community, but also a by-product of the smaller number of pupils. There is no way this will be achieved in a school of 1500 pupils. Students will just be a number. I

<p>feel that the damage to Whitby and the surrounding area as a community will be irreparable if this is forced to happen. Many people already feel as though we pay a premium to live in this area through high council tax, house prices etc yet get little in the way of amenities and public services. Young people may end up being educated in other towns if they don't "fit" the one school in the area. They are unlikely to come back to the town for work if they've already experienced life out of town. Are people going to want to move to Whitby if there's only one secondary school in a 20 mile radius? No! Even if they were to work at, say the new potash mine, they would probably rather live in Scarborough and commute, there's an abundance of choice of secondary schools there (including a brand new, government funded UTC, in addition to their numerous schools!) I would urge those involved in making this decision to please consider all aspects of this. This is not just a black and white financial decision, this is a community that you are deciding the future of. My son had already chosen which GCSE's he was going to take, safe in the knowledge he was going to be staying at the school he loves and has thrived at for almost 3 years, yet now we are currently faced with not even knowing what subjects are available to him in his forced move to Caedmon College in September, the whole situation is unacceptable and potentially damaging to these pupils. Please listen to the people of Whitby and stop this amalgamation now.</p>
<p>The roads surrounding Caedmon Collage need looking at as one of the entrances into the Caedmon site is a 40mile zone. This area has been a problem for a long time and needs addressing before any merger takes place as it will become a danger zone! There will be another 350 students a lot more staff and the increase of deliveries coming and going this all needs taking into consideration and the road adapted to before any merger goes ahead! Are these roads up to legal requirements to hold traffic for a school maybe holding up to 1500 students! Eskdale is small school with lots of character, I never had the opportunity to go to Eskdale School but I have two daughters who are happy to go to school every morning and achieve outstanding work (both are in top sets for all subjects) will this continue with the disruption, at the moment children have a choice of secondary schools in Whitby, both very good in their own right, will one school suit all! One size does not fit everyone! Please don't take away choice for the children of Whitby! The best solution would be Caedmon and Eskdale remain, accepting pupils 11 to 16 giving equal opportunities for all, then all children could stay in secondary school with no disruptions whilst facing the most important exams which will set the first stepping stones for their future! One big school could be detrimental to the children of Whitby, bullying, cramped classes, influx of traffic....these are all factors which should be addressed and looked into very thoroughly before any merger takes place. Has anybody who has the final say in this merger actually gone in to Eskdale School and spoken to the children or had a look at the school or do you just look at the figures and think about nothing else except making money.</p>
<p>scandalous. it doesn't comprehend a school of Eskdale and Cademon joining. in a town of growing population. it doesn't even balance now or in Future closing financially due to the fact at some point extensive building works will need to be made to accommodate more pupils and teachers. I am totally against the closure or amalgamation of eskdale</p>
<p>keep eskdale as it is my boys got bullied at east whitby now there at eskdale no problems but if they have to go to caedmon they arnt gone like it has they be back with bullys my son has learning difficultys if it wasnt for eskdale school he wouldnt be getting the help he needs i think we should leave it has it his build houses somewhere else theres plenty off other fields</p>
<p>i think you should keep eskdale has it is because if you built more houses up there theres goner be more kids ,kids and parents need choice for various reasons</p>
<p>choice for familys keep eskdale open</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. My son currently attends Eskdale School, he has received a huge amount of support from the school across all subjects and has come on leaps and bounds since he started in September 2014. When I speak to his teachers or have contacted reception the staff that I have spoken to know exactly who he is because of the size of the school it is possible for the staff to know all of the pupils individually. I think if amalgamated there would be too many pupils for my son to continue the much needed support he has been receiving at Eskdale and his school work will suffer. If the amalgamation does go ahead I would feel the need to look elsewhere for my son to continue his education.</p>
<p>I am against this proposed amalgamation. Whitby is over 20 miles away from all other schools taking away choice. My main concerns are: Traffic increase to an already dangerous congested part of town, kids struggle to get their lunch in a packed, and as my niece says, 'bursting at the seams' normanby site, class sizes, teachers low moral, kids being a number and not a name, you're taking away childrens choice and creating anxiety, more building sites will mean more children, we don't know if the first amalgamation has been successful yet, cost of the amalgamation will be high and massively disruptive at a vital part of a childs learning, I feel the whole thing is just unorganised and a total mess, I have a year six excited to go to a fantastic school and now with SATS looming is stressed not knowing where shes going and for that matter</p>

neither do I!. You say you don't want an 11-14 school, as far as I knew my child was going to an 11-16 school!, best interest of the child you say? Has anyone visited Eskdale School?
As an HSE consultant there are obvious concerns surrounding the safety of our children which without a doubt has to be number one priority and this particular safety focus relates to the inadequate infrastructure for the imminent influx of vehicles.
I have a daughter in year 7 at Eskdale and a son dye to start in September. They are very dissuaded at the throught of joining schools. At the end of the day there should be a choice in schools and it's the children's choice
Please don't take away the school my child is so happy there
I strongly disagree with the proposal, I have one child in year eight who has come on in leaps and bounds since moving there, she is very artistic and struggles with other areas. Eskdale has let her be her and she has caught up in her English that she was so far behind with from primary school. She was bullied at primary school, the bullies are at Caedmon College how are we meant to send out child into a situation that is going yo be damaging to her? Our year six was they only child in her school to choose Eskdale but that is because her school is on the other side of whitby, she looked round both schools and chose the one that was best for her and that she felt was right. How do we tell her that her choice is worthless?. Both have made it clear they will not attend Caedmon College, this will mean more expense as we will have to pay for them to travel 20 miles out of town, not idea but forcing them to go to a school they don't want to will be more damaging. It is the sixth form in whitby that is failing not 11-16 education don't rob out children of the choice they deserve to found something that is working.
I DO NOT want eskdale school to close! My daughter is a pupil there and she is loving every aspect of her education, she has grown so much in confidence since starting at eskdale and she is a very happy little girl. Do not force this closure making her very unhappy, unsettled and emotionally distraught. I am sure you must have another alternative that you haven't disclosed which involves eskdale staying open. I think that you are only concerned with finance and not children, however I'm sure that given a chance to prove itself as an 11-16 school eskdale will become financially viable in just a couple of years... Give them a chance if it doesn't work in a few years then you can go ahead with this merger. At least we will know it didn't work and that we tried everything.... Or is it simply a corrupt system like everyone is saying and you won't consider even trying to make it work because you just want the financial gain from selling out eskdale. Please please look to your morals and your own children if you have them and make the right choice for the right reasons. Keep Eskdale OPen!!!!
Public Town Council Meeting 02/02/16 With regards to the proposed closure of Eskdale School I would like to raise my concerns and issues to show why I am against this closure and possible amalgamation with Caedmon College Whitby. The Governments view at the moment is that students must have a choice and that education suffers without it. Why does XX believe that choice is not relevant to Whitby pupils and can he guarantee that their education will not suffer as stated by our current Government? Instead of trying to force Eskdale to close and the children amalgamate with Caedmon College, why can't Eskdale be given a chance at proving itself as an 11-16 school before any detrimental decisions are made? A lot of time and effort has been spent on getting the school ready to start GCSE's in September and the positivity for this was astounding. Why would such an abrupt decision be made when it effects so many people? Why is this all being rushed though? If XX is using the fact that Eskdale school received Requires Improvement on their last Ofsted visit to push for the closure of this school, could he tell us what has been done since the report to try and support Eskdale School, as conditions of Ofsted claim that external help is common practice in these circumstances, not school closure. At least Eskdale were being monitored and we were all aware they had to raise their standards. Are we supposed to be happy about sending our children to a school which hasn't been inspected by Ofsted for over two years and in those two years has already gone through an amalgamation? It could be in special measures for all we know and then how will that have a positive effect on our children's education, if we are left with one huge unsuccessful school? This isn't unheard of for amalgamated schools just look at graham and raincliffe in Scarborough!!! How can XX claim that having one large school of 1500 children will attract and retain better teachers? On what evidence is this based? Is that because if class numbers are higher, teachers are better paid? If so where does this extra money for wages come from? So our children will be just be a face in the crowd of over filled classrooms just so a "better" teacher can teach them? I personally would rather have the teachers they have now in the class sizes they have now, where they are happy and taught extremely well and are known individually. Caedmon College is currently run over two sites and with the influx of another 300 plus children will need assessing again on how the pupils will be distributed over the sites, causing further disruptions to already settled students that attend there. My concern apart from large class sizes and faceless pupils and teachers is also all the movement backwards and forwards from site to site and how much lesson time is taken doing this. How can a school that is run in this way be more productive than what we have now? Taking into account the moving from site to site you also have to consider the road safety over the main road. Also issues with safeguarding our children while using the underpass that CCw children currently use. Not just from any strangers hanging around on route but from our children potentially going missing while walking from site to site. Has XX even considered the effect that 1500 children will have on traffic flow, on a main road through Whitby. The already dreaded school run will

<p>become a nightmare with cars trying to drop off and collect this many children, even spread over two sites, must be huge safety concern for the town surely? The Town is gridlocked during the school run every day already, and considerably worse in summertime. There is no way of changing both entrances at both sites so this will be something nothing can be done about. Why should residents and visitors just accept this? If this is indeed down to not having enough children to fill two schools, I would like to know what the current shortfall is? Also what NYCC propose to do with the future intake numbers that are scheduled to be at a national high in the next few years? Also when all the new housing estates that are being built in Whitby are filled with more families, can you explain where all these children are supposed to "fit" in? XX said: "I would wish to reassure parents and the local community that the best interests of the young people of Whitby is our primary focus and that in particular Year 9 students about to make GCSE choices will not be disadvantaged in any way." I would like to point out to XX that unfortunately it is too late for that. You clearly have not thought about the year 9's best interests at all. At a time of joy at being the first year to make GCSE choices at Eskdale School you have come and disrupted their lives completely. Of course they are now disadvantaged, you are trying to close their school, and stop them being taught by the teachers that have spent 3 years getting to know them and nurture them into taking the right direction and choosing their education path. There are no longer any choices to be made in Whitby, we are spoon fed only what we are allowed by yourself and the rest of your team. I along with many other parents will not be sending my children to your proposed super school and will therefore be seeking alternative education out of our town. This unfortunately will have a detrimental effect on your "numbers" and subsequent "funding" and may perhaps mean that in time our lovely town will not have a Secondary School at all but I am afraid my children's education comes first to me and I know my child better than a pen pusher in an office trying to balance numbers and figures and one large is not suitable for my 3 children.</p>
<p>Eskdale provides a good standard of teaching in education & socially manners & attitude towards the outside world. My daughter is a happy & safe child because of eskdale it provides a wide range of choices. I have concerns about the traffic consumption to Caedmon school area we are encouraged 2 let our children walk 2 school if eskdale closes the children that can walk now will have 2 get transport there. What about the children who for some reason cannot attend Caedmon school for various reasons where do they go ? My suggestion would be close Whitby college have eskdale Caedmon 11 - 16 we never had college before is it needed now that would be a prime site 2 build houses also</p>
<p>my 2 children eill not go to caedmon as the bullys that bullied them at east whitby are there thats why we chose eskdale so my boys will have to go to scarbrough school but how we goner afford transport you should but a bus on for free or a pound a day so they can go to school ive thought about home tutoring aswell has my boys need to be happy at school and they are at eskdale so why change it they made the choice to go there so why change it also i think its unsafe road to cross at caedmon aswell as not all kids have road safety</p>
<p>hope your goner pay transport for our kids to go to school of there choice as my 2 children wont be going to caedmon theres alot 8f parents thinking about hope schooling thats not the answer theres plenty of other places to build houses why take away our school its part of whitby its history</p>
<p>my great grand children love eskdale why should u make them go to school where ther goner be back to getting bullied every day as teacher dont sort it out eskdale school his like one big happy family and my grand children should be able to stay there they choosed to go there so why change it</p>
<p>Eskdale school must be kept open at all costs and the amalgamation should not be allowed to proceed. There are substantial objections to the proposal and the school has the full support of the community and the service users.</p>
<p>firstly i do not agree with this public consultation or the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale with Caedmon school we are geograficle isolated in whitby as a father of two children and a british citizen i need choice to enable me to make critical decisions regarding there future and wellbeing .also i belive this action is contravening mine and my childrens freedom of movment which is an infringement of our human rights .this i feel is an attempt to cut costs at the expence of our children</p>
<p>I am finding it very difficult to comprehend how supposedly intelligent people can think that an overcrowded school with enlarged class sizes can ever be beneficial to the students. Therefore the only reason I can see as to how this amalgamation can be beneficial is a financial one, and to put this ahead of the childrens education and welfare is disgraceful!!! One only has to work at the problems faced by the two Scarborough schools that merged, and are still facing, to see that a merger between Eskdale and Caedmon will be bad for both schools.</p>

I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation. I am a parent of a child in year 8 who currently attends Eskdale school. Since this was announced my daughter has become very distressed, confused and very unsure of her future. The way that this has been carried out is actually shameful, for children and parents to find out about this either by social media or press is disgusting. My daughter loves the school and has made excellent progress since starting here. We CHOSE this school as it was the best school for her. This is the main issue with the proposal, it will remove REASONABLE CHOICE, from parents and children living in Whitby. The only CHOICE remaining if the proposal goes ahead will be the amalgamated school or, a private school, which due to its nature removes choice for normal working class people, or to travel over 20 miles to another school, again, removing this choice for people on lower incomes or with more than one child as the travel costs alone would be extremely difficult for most parents to meet. I am originally from Manchester, I also was a Senior Regional Manager for Children's Services across the North West. I have extensive experience of attending, working with and observing larger schools. A larger school is not best for all, it will suit some students I have no doubt, but for a range of children it will not be best for them. Larger schools manage some students well, those who perform well in particular, however, those children who are vulnerable, or shy, or quiet, or slow learners, or have disabilities, or learning disabilities, or additional needs and children with challenging behaviour, are all too often let down and can fall through the net. I have experienced this and witnessed this on, sadly, to many occasions. One size does not fit all, and choice is critical to the development of all children. Given the nature of amalgamation, there is also serious concerns about how the school would be able to monitor, manage and prevent a 'gang' culture that will no doubt ensue with children from different schools being brought in to one. Where is the evidence that the school can cope with this, as a unique situation there is no evidence to suggest they can. From looking at parentview responses it is clear that there are already concerns from parents of children already attending the school, in particular in the following areas; My child feels happy; My child feels safe; My child is making good progress. However, more alarming are the response to; My child is well looked after; The school makes sure my child is well behaved; and, The school deals with bullying effectively. Indeed, only 38% of parents strongly agreed that bullying is dealt with effectively; 38% agreed that the school ensures their child is well behaved; and, 46% agreed that their child is well looked after. These responses speak volumes and evidence that the school is already struggling to give confidence to parents of children already attending, so how can they cope with a significant increase in the numbers of children attending, and the increased risks of bringing separate groups together. I fear the school is poorly equipped to manage this. Safeguarding and child protection is at significant risk. The emotional health and well being of all of the children should be at the heart of these type of decisions, not money, however, the children are not being heard, not being given a voice, parents feel helpless and powerless over the future for their own children. This is not about whether one school is better than the other, but it is about one school is better for MY CHILD, than the other. Already, the emotional health and wellbeing of my daughter has been impacted on, her mood is low, her questions unanswered, and she has been let down, they all have, at both schools. Eskdale school may be small, but the pastoral support, care and attention to the children, in groups and as individuals, is excellent, and something that you see only glimpses of in large schools. There does seem to be a feeling that this is 'done deal' and people across Whitby feel angry, frustrated and let down. The priority should be the children, they are the future for our community. Money seems to be the priority and main consideration which is appalling. Why is the only proposal to remove CHOICE? No other options have been put forward, this is surely an indication of the priority, which is money. I am aware that the school is also used for other groups and other activities, utilising space that is not available anywhere else, removing again more CHOICE for out of school activities, community engagement and positive activities. Traffic will also be a significant problem, isolated to specific areas, when traffic and parking is already an ongoing issue. Ultimately, I want what is best for my child, and for all children and parents to be able to make a CHOICE that is best for them. The proposal is removing all of that. I have attended meetings and heard from many other parents and children, some of these have brought me to tears, this has already had a massive impact in children and parents, imagine the impact if it does happen. This is about the whole community essentially, but also about individuals. I have worked with children (and their families) when they have been let down, have slipped through the net, been bullied, had their potential ignored, (the list goes on) and I have seen first hand the damage this does, long term damage that in some cases cannot be undone. The right thing to do, the moral thing to do is to give Whitby a CHOICE, the greedy thing to do is to choose money. Children need a VOICE and Children need and deserve, a CHOICE.

It should not happen we need choices not a one shoe fits all its wrong for my children and wrong for Whitby

Utter rubbish ..as a carer of a child with learning disability this school as been fantastic: she has thrived and is loving her time at Eskdale. It's the job of children's services to look after these children and make sure they get the best help love and support so why is x x x x XX making her unhappy!! X should be ashamed and re think X job!!

<p>Please don't close Eskdale. Its part of the community and gives kids a choice. Whitby needs two schools, why should we suffer because the head at Whitby can't keep his books balanced. There may be lower numbers now but there are loads of new houses being built. lots of jobs created (Potash/Wind Farm etc) Recent Ofsted's haven't been the best but isn't that down to the Head and Governors? They are the ones who haven't really improved not the school. if there are issues with the teachers then they as leaders surely should take responsibility? You as NYCC should also take the blame - the money you allegedly spend to support the schools. Whitby college intends to go academy anyway - this is just a stop gap for them but the future students are the ones who will lose out. I really hope that the consultation is not pre-determined as many are saying and that the efforts of so many people in the community and the students are being taken note of otherwise it says nothing for democracy!! Save the school - help them become outstanding - as a 11-16 school. Don't let the voters and the community down!!</p>
<p>I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE.</p>
<p>I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE.</p>
<p>This has not been handled professionally, politely or conscientiously by the NYCC councillors. Everyone believes it is a 'done deal' which is very underhand and probably illegal. Backhanders? Had Eskdale been supported better it would have got a better Ofsted. The people making the decision have nothing to do with Whitby. They could at least visit Eskdale and speak to pupils just to show willing if nothing else. One massive schools in one gaining town is going to cause problems where do the expelled children go? What happens if a child is unhappy? IS THERE ANYONE WHO AGREES WITH THE AMALGAMATION?? I have not heard a single pupil, teacher (from any school inc Primaries and Fylinghall) or parents say they agree. WILL THIS EVEN GET READ OR IS THE 'CONSULTATION' JUST GOING THROUGH THE MOTIONS?? THE COUNCILLOR MAKING THE DECISION WAS BEING VOTED FOR BY WHITBY PEOPLE, THIS WOULD NOT BE HAPPENING - TREAT WHITBY LIKE YOU WOULD TREAT YOUR OWN TOWN!</p>
<p>I wouldn't have bothered with this "consultation" as I don't believe it will make the slightest difference to what nycc plans (closure of Eskdale School) but I read a letter in this weeks Whitby Gazette regarding pupils at Caedmon College being required to fill the consultation in during lesson time. I found this so irritating that I've decided to join your "consultation" to OBJECT TO the amalgamation of Eskdale School & Caedmon College for the obvious reasons of restriction of choice & the chaos it will bring to secondary education in Whitby.</p>
<p>This is a devastating proposal for the children at Eskdale School and for the community as a whole. My children attend the school and are making excellent progress, in a secure and happy learning environment. I have absolutely no doubt in my mind that the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College would be extremely detrimental to their education. This is a very grave worry of mine. The staff and ethos of the school is # the values and morals of the staff at Eskdale and incredible and the children feel safe a happy, a stable so they can concentrate on learning.</p>
<p>My child attends Eskdale school.He is very happy there.This school is the school for my child .He X X,the school is great for him.He does not want to attend Caedmon college ,I know he's not alone.I feel money is more important to you than my child,We need choice,If you close Eskdale school where is our choice.We live at staites so Scarborough and Pickering schools are really out of the question.If Eskdale closes you will be driving my child out of northyorkshire into another county.Please think of our children and not the money.not all children want to attend a large school.They will be no bond with the pupils,will they even know there name .</p>
<p>I totally disagree with this Amalgamaton.one school does not fit all.My son is in year 8 at Eskdale.He's very at this school .Does not want to go to Caedmon.so what choice has he got?</p>
<p>I DO NOT AGREE with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. It is so important that we keep a choice for our children of Whitby. One school does not necessarily suit every child and quite often children do not settle or have issues and seek a 'fresh start' elsewhere. If this happens and we take away the choice in Whitby, our only option would be to send our children on a 20 mile journey to the next town. That is quite a journey for an 11 year old child and a dangerous one in the winter months over those treacherous moors roads. Another major concern would be a drop in educational standards if the amalgamation was to go ahead. Caedmon College had a 'requires improvement' before their merge and hasn't had an inspection since. Can it cope with another 300-400 children when they are still adapting to their current situation??? Other North Yorkshire Schools have amalgamated and had a decline in standards and a recent merge in Scarborough resulted in the school going into special measures within a short period of time. Secondry school pupil numbers are set to rise, especially with the proposed potash mine and the windfarm which I believe now has the go ahead. These bring more families to the area and more to the point, children who need to be schooled. Keep Eskdale School open - we need it!!!!</p>

I do not want Eskdale school to close, my daughter attends this school, I drive her every school day and pick her up here, because this was my daughter's and my choice for her to go to this lovely school, she's settled and growing here, she loves it. I feel if she went to Caedmon she would be unhappy and then what happens? It's over 20 miles to another school!! This does not happen anywhere, nowhere has a 20-mile route to a second choice school... I object strongly to this, I find it appalling in this day and age, I really do!

As a parent of a child at Eskdale School I find it very disappointing that XX saw it fit to put his option over in the Whitby Gazette. I find this morally questionable that he has interfered in the 'impartial' consultation process putting once again his very clear views over. We are, as Whitby residents, very clear on your views as we have heard this opinion many times, which in my opinion does not hold the children at the centre. It has money at the centre of it. Originally used the two Requires Improvement excuse to say that amalgamation would raise standards. However, Eskdale was already improving it just needed that little more time between Ofsted's to prove it. Also should the age range extension not been so cruelly taken away from the school and our children then Eskdale would have been able to attract more teachers. I do know of teachers (deemed as outstanding by Ofsted) who were planning to apply for those jobs and had actually moved into the area. Eskdale is now being used as a scape goat. Blaming it should the sixth form go under. As I understand it the sixth form is already poor with a large percentage of pupils choosing to attend the already excellent colleges we have at either side of us in Redcar and Cleveland and Scarborough. As a parent I would rather my 16-18 year old had to travel out of town than my 11 year old. This is the kind of position, should you continue with 'your' view that you are placing parents into, with 11 year old travelling over the Moor tops. Please understand that children simply won't just move over to College like you expect. These children, some of whom had already had a bad experience there do not now see College as a choice and their parents will make it possible for those children (there are lots) to be shipped out of town to other more suitable schools which fulfil their needs. Let me make my view, the most popular view in Whitby clear to you. We want BOTH schools to stay open as 11-16, Eskdale and Caedmon on the Eskdale and Caedmon sites. These are the better more accessible sites with more room for development. The College site can be disposed of as this site not only needs a lot of money spending on it but it also has little room for development or expansion. We know the wind farm, the York potash Village and four other housing developments for Whitby families are going to be implemented in the near future. When this happens should the two schools be allowed to exist then these children would go to the school of their choice, filling places. The sixth form, it is a common belief that Whitby people already know that the sixth form is not viable in Whitby. As mentioned previously pupils already attend other Colleges to fulfil this need. We don't see the sixth form as a great loss! Also why would Eskdale money from KS3 be being used on a sixth form anyway? Surely the money allocated for KS3 should stay there with those children! It would be horrendous to sacrifice Eskdale for a failing sixth form! Eskdale is a brilliant school, run by fantastic staff. It serves the community of the whole of Whitby extremely well. If this went then not only are you killing off an amazing school but also the community around it. The option you continually proposed along with head teacher at Caedmon College is NOT supported in Whitby. Nobody wants this! You really need to understand that there is only you two and a small minority of staff at College who want this and are trying to impose it on Whitby residents and children and seemly the governors of Eskdale school. We need competition to stay in Whitby. As a parent are you really asking me to trust my child's education in to the hands of a school that as far as I am concerned does not have an up to date Ofsted report and won't do for a long time? Where have the problems on the Caedmon Ofsted report gone? You as well as I know that these problems don't simply disappear. At least Eskdale has had chance to deal with issues. We're not saying Eskdale is perfect BUT we trust that Eskdale will improve and go from strength to strength once you leave it alone and re-instate the 11-16 status so it can be on a par with Caedmon College. I find it very immoral that this age range extension was taken away within a blink of an eye after parents had fought so hard to establish this. Surely the correct thing to do would be to let Eskdale continue with its plans while the consultation period was ongoing and therefore would not affect the year 9's currently at Eskdale. This consultation is actually flawed. You have only put one option over when clearly it is not the only option. Please begin to listen to the people of Whitby. Whitby is unique it stands alone and keeping two schools is vital for our children. Going back to the Gazette article. I do hope that in next week's Gazette XX will be putting over the view above (two 11-16 schools remaining open and no sixth form) in order to keep a balanced approach. I do believe that you should not be continually putting this view over in your position and within the consultation period. You are aware of the strength of the Whitby people and their very clear views as to how this could work so why are you not offering this option. There is still cost saving within it. The one million figure that XX has come up with... where is the evidence of this? I ask you why on earth would you be using another school to pay the debts and the services of another. Eskdale has obviously budgeted well with what it has and should be applauded for this. Maybe you need to question the spending at Caedmon College not be looking to Eskdale as a council piggy bank! Why are you not asking these questions of the Caedmon College principal? And why is he allowed so much input into the fate of Eskdale? From a parental point of view this is all very, very wrong and very unfair. It is not right that these decisions have been made behind closed doors when transparency was promised. This whole process has not been seen as fair to the children who can see how wrong it is for themselves. Where has your responsibility to be a role model gone? These children should be witnessing a fair, democratic process. Instead they are witnesses to this unfair mess. I'm asking you, actually begging you to reconsider and stop blaming Eskdale if the College sixth form goes under. If you want accountability, look at Caedmon College! Please look at this view that people want in Whitby and cost it up if you need to save money. Please support the Whitby people and look at their viable view on this situation. We don't want a sixth form base. We want two schools, 11-16 with equal status functioning in town. This requires Eskdale and Caedmon (on the Caedmon site) to stay open. If you can make

such instant decisions as the one made to remove Eskdale's 11-16 status then I am sure that you are able to make the changes necessary to implement and seriously consider this very popular view and find a viable way forward which does not include the loss of Eskdale school.

I strongly oppose the proposals to merge Eskdale school with Caedmon College. I realise that the Ofsted inspection result was "Requires Improvement" but the college and caedmon school have had poor ofsted results in the past too - so moving to the college does not guarantee a good inspection result from ofsted. I also oppose the merger as the resulting school will be too big. Larger schools do not equal more choice or better teachers. There is no evidence of this. Many local children come from small villages and small schools. Families and parents value many other aspects of school and community life - these cannot be found in a large college. We deserve to have a choice. If money needs to be saved there are plenty of other ways to save it. There are many individuals in councils, services etc on very high salaries, while those actually providing the service are not costing as much. To lose some of these high positions would create a good saving. It is reported in the Whitby Gazette today that XX has said that if Eskdale remains open then WCC will lose 1 million from its budget. Whoever has said this must think that we are all ignorant and unaware of how school funding and budgets work. Many of us work for NYCC or are school governors or other professionals. We know that money cannot be taken from WCC if Eskdale stays open. Of all places money can be saved it should not be from our community and our children. Also - many new houses are being built - where will the children go to school. People are saying all Eskdale pupils cannot fit onto the WCC sites - and that playing fields will be lost to classrooms. We value sport and open space for recreation - we do not want to lose this. Children need outdoor education - especially in this age of computer games and lifts in cars everywhere.

I think the town is getting bigger so why close school's. I don't agree with the school closing.

I don't wish to see the closure of Eskdale School as the education in Whitby will be severely compromised.

No, no, no! Eskdale is the best school in Whitby. It concentrates on putting the children first, making sure they are happy. To me this is the most important aspect of education. Happy children learn better, and with a positive foundation beneath them they can reach their full potential. Closing this school would deprive them and future generations of this UNIQUE atmosphere for learning. I have not seen this in any other school. If you close the school, you will kill this. Permanently. There will be no way to revive it afterwards, and you will not be able to just transfer it to Caedmon college. The teachers at Eskdale feel demoralised, betrayed and manipulated. Demoralised teachers will look for employment elsewhere; somewhere they feel they will be valued and respected. I know for a fact that one of its key teachers is looking at moving abroad to teach if the school is closed. This would be a tragedy, as they are the life blood of the school's unique ethos. I repeat again, this is an irreversible decision, which cannot be undone when you realise you have made a mistake. I beg you not to lose this unique school just as a cost saving measure. Money can be found elsewhere. This school can not. You must be aware now that the public support for Eskdale to remain open is enormous. Closing it would be political suicide.

I do not agree with the amalgamation of Eskdale and college Whitby. The youngsters of this town need a choice of where to be educated for whatever reason that maybe. It's ok saying other places only have 1 school but due to Whitby's position it's a very different story as the next choice of school would mean a 40 mile round trip daily! Do you really think that's a fair choice?? I also don't think that Eskdale should be sacrificed for the sake of Caedmon college sixth form college which to be honest is diabolical. Whitby has always only had one sixth form college and what have they ever done with it?? Nothing that's what it's always failed Whitby students with its poor choice of subjects and this is purely because there's no competition for it so it has no reason to strive and this is exactly what will happen if there's only 1 school in town. How about making Eskdale and Caedmon 11-16 and turning the college site into a sixth form college and putting courses on that pupils actually want such as hair and beauty and bricklaying etc the majority of 16 plus travel out of town to access these exact courses, so why not give them a fantastic college in Whitby and have a flourishing education system in Whitby. Also using Eskdale's Ofsted report as another excuse is pretty poor, everybody knows they will struggle to get a better Ofsted when they don't have the evidence to prove progress as pupils don't sit GCSEs at Eskdale, they also weren't given enough time between inspections to improve any more. How do you expect to see progress and results when the term had just started?? And why wasn't XX removed from X post as head X and someone else brought in to make the school better?? Isn't this what normally happens in these situations?? Why pray tell has it been left to go downhill?? What evidence have you got to suggest one large school attracts better teachers?? I know a lot in the profession say the exact opposite and all the best teachers prefer to teach in small schools. Where are all the local clubs going to go? They will probably fold and therefore lots of the

public will be deprived of fresh air and keeping active which is the exact thing we're meant to be pushing especially on our youngsters. Have you thought about the traffic problems that will occur having extra buses, cars and pedestrians in an already badly congested area of town, it will cause chaos trying to move about at school times and I person think it'll be an accident waiting to happen. Have you took into account how many students are planning on travelling out of town to be educated? College will end up losing money in the long run and parents of special needs children that are going to send their children out of town to be educated will cost NYCC a fortune in travel etc. Please I beg you to reconsider and keep Eskdale open give them a proper chance to improve and prove themselves to you all, please don't sacrifice Eskdale for the sake of a underused sixth form college that has always failed whitbys youngsters.

I feel very upset for all involved in this proposal, it seems that it all comes down to money rather than the welfare and education of our children! My son chose to go to eskdale for his own reasons but I was more than happy with his choice, I personally loved my time at the school and found it a valuable and very enjoyable part of my education, I don't think it is right to just upheaval all these children and mess with this very important time and part of their education! My son is loving his time at eskdale which I am very grateful for as he is keen to go to school and the teachers do an excellent job in encouraging him to join in and do his best as unfortunately if he wasn't pushed and encouraged he would not do anything to reach his potential. I feel his teachers know him very well and know how to motivate and get the best out of him! At this point in his education I feel having to move school and wait for new teachers to get to know him and his needs I feel this would definately have a negative effect and I just do not think it is fair, my son and his friends were over the moon in hearing that they could stay at eskdale to do their GCSE's then in the next breath that is not the case and they hear their school could be closing!!! Mind games!! These poor children don't have a clue what is going to happen and their education and emotional well being is suffering and for no valid reason that I can see!! I myself have nothing against Caedmon college, but my son chose eskdale and I feel he shouldn't have that choice taken away from him! What will happen to the children that may not settle or like the school if their is only one to choose from? It's not about which school is best, it's about choice and which school is best for individuals, "one size does not fit all" surely people know that! At the moment my son is happy in his education which I feel makes a massive influence on how they learn and actually get on in school. I would hate to think that if eskdale closed it is possible my son would no longer enjoy or even make an effort in his education which obviously in turn will effect his whole life and career prospects. I just feel this is just way to much of a risk to our children, their education and their whole lives!! The town, the parents and most of all the children need choice, they need the security to know if one school is not right for them that their is an alternative to try! It could be a long lonely time for any child stuck at a school that they are not happy in for whatever reason it may be. PLEASE,PLEASE,PLEASE LISTEN!! THESE CHILDREN NEED CHOICE!!!

XX@gmail. Com

i think if this amalgamation goes ahead it will be a massive mistake one of which i can guarantee you will regret.i mean come on there is houses been built left right and centre the wind farms and the mine when it finally gets built these all will bring familys where on earth are all these children going to go as you well no caedmon and whitby site are both on the busiest road in whitby and a deadly one at that how a child has not been seriously injured on that road already is beyond me. the acess to caedmon site is horrendous especially in the summer months and with airy hill school parents taking up the layby to drop their own children off where on earth are you going to park all the extra cars.will there be extra parking added for the cars , extra crossings put in for the children especially the east side children,maybe a round about instead of lights will be more effective and as for the crossing from caedmon to whitby site how somebody has not been killed on that is a mystery as i have encountered a few near misses on that myself from idiotic drivers that come of the slip path to fast unaware of a crossing directly on it i hope to god that gets moved further up as no amount of staff that now seem to have appeared on it will stop an accident waiting to happen.the rivalry between eskdale and caedmon has already started with children been threatened by the caedmon kids that they will yet agin be bullied by the bullies they CHOOSE to get away from now your telling me their education will improve well how can you answer me that how can their education be improved at the hands of bullies they choose eskdale to escape these bullies now your saying tough put up with it well am sorry your wrong alot of children are going to suffer educationally,emotionally,mentally and physically that it surely not good for these children my son been one who was bullied for years by some of these boys who i may add are still doing so at caedmon college there untouchable the teachers cant even control them,please i beg you for the well being of our children who are extremely happy and learning LEAVE ESKDALE ALONE !!! eskdale parents will not take anything lightly if its amalgamated with caedmon it will be well publised if any such occurrence should occur

My son will not attend caedmon college he was very ill due t bullying At the hands of them kids my child will not become a satistic for self harming, anxiety or worse suicide your fools to think it's a minority's the school is rife for it threaten the closure of caedmon or Whitby u won't have a fight from parents also if caedmon was situated on the other side of Whitby which school would u be closing then we all know your joined caedmon cos it was t help Whitby school who is now draining eskdale and how long will that money last at the hands of Keith p its a joje u will end up with a massive failing school for the kids if Whitby what will b next for the savour of the former Whitby School you will want the primary schools next its a joke !!! And don't even get me started on ofstead !!!!

<p>Parents & pupils need a choice. Eskdale is a small, friendly, honest and wonderful school where every child matters and every child is valued. Eskdale should remain open, teaching children from 11 - 16 years. Pupils leaving a very small primary school should not be expected to attend a large secondary school as it can be very daunting and pupils may not excel with their education, especially if the child has special needs. I want my children to attend Eskdale School for their education and to be known by the teachers. Not added as a number at WCC. ESKDALE SCHOOL = HAPPY CHILDREN.</p>
<p>As a parent I am very concerned about the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School. I have a child in year 7 now who has had a fabulous beginning to his secondary education with an excellent transition programme and first two terms in the school which he has already been given excellent opportunities, felt supported and valued and encouraged in all areas where his needs and abilities have been recognised. I feel that with the best will in the world the advantages he would gain from the possibility of extra equipment and resources would be minimum compared to the fact that he will become a number in a large school that maybe a good school but cannot possibly have the individual approach needed to provide each child with the level of support and encouragement that he has now. My second son is due to start this September who has a very different approach to learning that I felt confident would be fulfilled at Eskdale and he is now left not knowing what is happening with his future at a time when he should feel settled and looking forward to new beginnings. We chose this school for a reason and we should still have that choice.</p>
<p>I am extremely disappointed and concerned with the proposal to close Eskdale School. As a parent of four children, one presently attending the school and the others due to follow him in future years, it is in my opinion a very poorly thought out proposal. The whole plan is based around the development of the land to build a possible 500 houses (which it wouldn't surprise me to find a buyer in negotiations for the land already). So if this does come to fruition where are a potential 6-700 extra children to be educated? In a school that has just had roughly 300 extra pupils thrust upon them and presumably been extended to accommodate them, of which there is a limit on the area Caedmon site can extend. So in short we lose our choice of schools for our children in the area and are left with a super school that large that pupils become a number just for the opportunity to make some extra housing and all the county bank accounts. Look around the country there are so many examples of where this has failed!! Keep things as they are, leave us a choice!!!</p>
<p>Dear NYCC, XX and XX. Please think about the alternative option. You say no one has come up with one yet but as XX put to you last night this alternative has been put to you many times. It falls on deaf ears though because you are hell bent on YOUR plan. The Alternative is two 11-16 schools. One on the West and one on the East, Eskdale and Caedmon. There are monies to be saved by selling the college site. Where is your evidence that you have looked at this option? Why are you allowing one man, XX to help you decide the fate of Eskdale School?! You have obviously discussed this at length behind closed doors, where is your transparency? In your heads this is a 'done deal' you say it is not, but you are talking about the 'whens' and not 'ifs'! Disgraceful! Please listen to the people of Whitby! We know the challenges of our area and we keep telling you the issues. There are so many: Safeguarding, choice:- what happens if a child is excluded or does not fit in 'at College?', one size does not fit all, etc. College exclude children on a whim! Ask them for their data. Ask what support are these children getting. I can tell you now, it is none! They are left to wander and feel they are worthless. Also look at how many children have transferred to Eskdale, even with recent issues. Ask yourself could there be a problem here? Speak to College parents and find out! Look at the case studies and you'll see why Whitby is screaming out at you to bin this whole idea! The governors are constantly being misquoted. I have seen the minutes and their statement classifying their stance. It is not how you say it is! STOP saying they asked for this because they blatantly didn't! This whole consultation is a farce because you are not listening! You are against us and what is best for OUR children. Do not assume children will go on roll at college, they won't! They have already decided not to go when you gave them this choice. It is very obvious that you have put money saving at the centre of your plan. You haven't thought enough about the impact on our children. You do not have their best interests at heart like you say you do. Your plan will cause them maximum disruption to our children. Please look at getting your savings from the sale of the College site. You couldn't even answer if the new school would save money. If this is all based on money I can't believe you didn't know the projected outcome. If you remove the principal from this plan I believe you would be able to see more clearly what would be the right, and honest thing to do. This decision should be based around college staff and money! Please listen to the Whitby people!</p>
<p>I would like to move schools so they are together.</p>
<p>Dear North Yorkshire County Council, I am a student of Eskdale School and I am writing to put across my opinion on my school closing down, I personally think that it is wrong to shut this fantastic, wonderful, amazing school. At first I was nervous to start secondary but as soon as the first week passed I realised that it wasn't that bad and I settled in well. I chose this school because it suits my personality and as Eskdale's motto says 'every child matters' I feel that I am recognised for who I am a bubbly, funny individual. All the teachers help me progress in my work I have moved up in my maths due to this. Have you not stopped to think that Caedmon hasn't had an Ofsted inspection in 2 years! I hate the fact that we were told that when we moved here that we could CHOOSE if we wanted to carry on from year nine but that choice has been taken away! I have attended all of the marches singing and speeches and I feel THAT WE SHOULD FIGHT TO SAVE THIS SCHOOL! It's about the children not the money!</p>

<p>Very much opposed to closure of Whitby schools. This entire process has been far too rushed. While I understand that pupil numbers are down, if education is disrupted and schools eliminated, there will be a further reduction in the education level of the local children. As an area, it is already economically challenged. Whitby needs more choice re: education, not less. Eskdale School site is very busy with sports groups outside of school hours. Closing Eskdale for housing will reduce playing field activities. This closure plan is another example of short-term gain with HUGE long-term consequences. I went to the meeting on Mon 14 Mar at Whitby Spa, and heard that renovations of Caedmon school are required if amalgamation occurs. How much money does this entail and WHERE is funding for this coming from? Horrified that plans for a new school name and new uniform have already been decided. This entire proposal is rushed, badly thought through and is NOT transparent. The Committee chairing the meeting in Whitby were not in 'discussion' mode, but rather in 'dictation' mode. I did not feel as though this was an information-gathering exercise, but rather a public forum required by law, but the decisions have already been made. Whitby parents are furious and very upset. There is apparently a financial short-fall with regards to both Caedmon AND Eskdale schools. People pay taxes and one of the uses of these funds is to have their children educated. I suggest that funding is sought from Federal Government while more acceptable changes to Whitby Education is considered. Eliminating educational facilities is not going to provide an educated workforce. XX</p>
<p>i have listened to the debate the solution is to keep caedmon and eskdale schools and to build one or the other to take the students from whitby school, it is a small site with no room to expand, let them build houses on that, I feel the decision has already been made, sadly by people that have no idea about consultation but want to promote there own agenda. I read that you were complaining that people were not providing answers in this debate but when they do like i just have and the local MP who i have seen quoted as saying the very same thing as i have then you say this can't happen as it seems it doesn't fit in with your plans, sad day for education, i would refer you to the letter written by Tim landers, it was only recently that i read in the gazette that if eskdale did not close then that would threaten the provision of the 6th form, according to Mr landers then the pots of money are separate, who to believe? when you are quoted as saying too much scaremongering going on then you bring the 6th form question into the debate then who is the one scaremongering now?</p>
<p>I just think that Eskdale should be an 11-16 years old. There are far to many children in this area to just have one secondary school. Why should the kids of Whitby suffer to suit the councillors and government</p>
<p>Lets leave something that may not be perfect but is far from broken. Eskdale school gives us the choice needed, to take it away is like monopolizing the education system, Our childrens education is worth far more than a lucrative development deal. I'm sure we wouldn't be facing school closure under a Labour Government, I also feel if a negative decision made on this matter could well come back and haunt the those that sit in judgement, none of us know what the future holds, but something seems to stink about this deal, and at the moment i can't put my finger on it but time is a wonderful curator of the truth</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposed amalgamation. I disagree as the parent of a child due to be educated in Whitby as she leaves her small village school. I disagree as a teacher with a vast amount of experience [20 years] and currently recognise the strengths of both schools and their differences and I think it would be foolish and disruptive to push this move through. I disagree because so far we have had presentations and there is no opportunity for parents teachers pupils etc to state alternatives to the proposal. I believe the disruption to the current pupils of both schools will be not just unsettling but will damage their chances of success at GCSE. Children do not cope with so much change and I believe the movement of all these children between sites is a safeguarding issue. I believe that the Governors at Eskdale have been bullied into initially agreeing to these plans. Whitby needs two 11-16 schools that cater for quite different groups of pupils. If any site should be expanded it should be Eskdale as it has more land and room for expansion. I am not against one Super Head overseeing two sites but believe the ethos of each site should be allowed to be unique. I think Eskdale has the capacity to become an Arts and Sports College I do not know what the strengths are at The College. I am confident that with some investment into resources Eskdale will achieve above national average results at GCSE. My own year 9 cohort of musicians are on line for very high grades as their end of year levels are way above the average as they were last year. Ofsted was clearly impressed with the Arts in the November inspection and we were told they would not be interested in inspecting them again as they were outstanding. Other areas also received excellent verbal praise from the lead inspector but these were only touched upon briefly in their feedback. Leadership requires improvement so change it. Bring in new management and see the school thrive again. These children are happy and keen to learn...their behaviour is classed as good by ofsted as they have forged excellent relations with their teachers. Parental view on happiness with the school is way above the national average. Take that away from those parents and they will never forgive these life changing decisions that are being rushed through by NYCC and leadership at the College. As parents, staff, pupils have quite clearly demonstrated in their thousands we do not want these changes to be rushed through without purposeful, fair, independent consultation. If my opportunity to be consulted has been the two meetings at the Spa then I have not been consulted as I sat there with my hand up for an hour. When are the staff at both schools going to get the chance to voice their opinions and concerns or new ideas without being intimidated by senior management watching their every move! I am outraged by this whole shambolic process as are all the staff at my school. Stop this in its tracks before the untold damage is inflicted on so many young learners. Invest in your sixth form ..add it onto Eskdale where there is plenty land. Draw on the expertise from both schools to staff the new sixth form because the expertise is there. Be brave enough to let Eskdale prove it can steer children towards</p>

success at keystone 4. As a teacher that has received many outstanding reports from various inspection teams I do know that Eskdale has a unique ethos and it is a safe nurturing environment. It needs resources poured into it not the demolition men coming in to sell it off.

KIDS NOT CASH!KIDS NOT CASH!KIDS NOT CASH!KIDS NOT CASH! (this was repeated numerous times)

I think it is all wrong, children should have a choice of schools and it won't work with all Eskdale and Caedmon kids all being at one school. My child chose Eskdale school for a reason now that choice isn't an option. It disgusts me all this carry on

I have two daughters at Eskdale school and another due to start in the summer. Both of my daughters are very happy at Eskdale school and want to continue being educated there. We live in the Esk valley, a tightly knit community and most of the junior children choose to go to Eskdale school. If Eskdale were to close the children from our community would be split into smaller groups, moving onto widely divide secondary schools. Our choice for our children to not only go to Secondary school at Whitby, but to go to Eskdale will no longer be available. My mother was at Eskdale as a pupil the year it opened, I had 3 very happy years at Eskdale too, I hope my daughters will not be the LAST children to be educated at this much loved and valued asset. We, as parents, should have a choice, without Eskdale school that choice is no longer there.

As a previous student at Eskdale, and now having one child at Eskdale and another due to start in 2017 I am horrified that this proposal is even being considered. As an education authority you are in loco parentis of our children's education. Our children have the choice as to which school they attend. I loved Eskdale as a child and was nurtured and encouraged and did well there. I hated Whitby School, but, as I had no choice I was stuck there, and consequently did poorly. Choice is a key ingredient to a child's success at school. I will not be able to transport my children to a different school, and so because of this am now considering moving out of the catchment area. Building houses on the Eskdale site will give you an increase in revenue, however with the houses will be an increase in children, have you factored this into the school size? Many children are concerned about not feeling safe at Caedmon, there is nowhere for them to go during break times. Do Caedmon provide the number of lunchtime activities that Eskdale do, how are they going to manage this, who gets to go to the club? Caedmon pupils because they were there first? I find the announcement regarding academies last week very curious, it seems that the option for Eskdale to be given academy status should be reviewed in light of this.

I do not want the schools to amalgamation, because it's a good school. There will be too many people in one school so it will be cramped.

please don't well love Eskdale

I disagree because Eskdale is a good school and I think it's better than Caedmon

mr

I understand that money is tight, and that in order to be able to provide A level education in Whitby, it perhaps might be necessary to amalgamate schools. What I really do not understand, however, is why you have chosen the college site to be expanded. This is the only one of the three sites which is already in a very tight space, with very little room around it. Whilst it might be possible to cram in a few extra huts to squeeze the proposed students in, there is no way any future expansion would be possible, because there is simply no land in any direction which could be utilised, as it is surrounded by housing estates and the old railway line. Even the Caedmon school site is hemmed in by the river. So why choose to close the only school site which has ample room around it to expand into? This seems crazy, and short-sighted. There is also the issue of access to the college site, which is already a problem. If there were, as proposed, 1600 students on site, the amount of extra traffic caused by parents dropping off & collecting their children would overwhelm the site. Even now when attending parents evenings, even with staggered appointments to limit the chaos, the car parks on site are quickly filled, leading to queuing traffic blocking the access road so that no cars can get in or out, and I dread to think what would happen if an emergency vehicle needed to get in. And what about the construction traffic which would inevitably be needed to carry out the building works needed to house the new students? I cannot see a way of them getting in and out without causing utter chaos. The college have suggested that we collect our children from the surrounding housing estate roads, but this causes significant disruption to residents, not to mention the inherent dangers to the students by having to navigate traffic and cross roads, all because there is no suitable place for collections and drop-offs. This danger is going to be multiplied many times by the movement of the huge earthworks trucks which will be moving tons of spoil from the new potash mine over the next 4 years. And yet another point I want to make: where is the playground going to be? None of this has been thought through, and in the meantime, my children's education is already suffering (despite your assurances that this would not happen). Eskdale school has good access, and plenty of room. Why not close the college site, and use the money from the sale of that land, which is in a prime real-estate location, to develop Eskdale instead?

I am the parent of a year 7 pupil at Eskdale School and my son is extremely happy and settled there. He looked around both Caedmon College and Eskdale Schools and made the choice of Eskdale as it was the best school to fit his needs. I would also like to state that I DO NOT AGREE with this proposal by NYCC. I feel that the way this situation has been handled so far by NYCC is appalling for both pupils and staff at Eskdale and Caedmon College and the wider community. We are dealing with young people and their futures and nobody seems to have any regard to how this has/is affecting them. The proposal document has a pre-determined outcome by only giving one side of the issue and does not allow a measurable outcome. Is this merely a paper based exercise? Eskdale and Caedmon are very different schools with different ethos' and I am extremely concerned about what will happen if the closure goes ahead and the schools amalgamate. The recent merger of Graham and Raincliffe schools in Scarborough which were very different schools faced many, many difficulties and one result of this was the school going into special measures following an Ofsted inspection after the merger. The proposal states that 'it would be in the best interests of the children' and 'that a single organisation is most likely to secure high quality provision'. We have no evidence to back this statement up. The schools will for at least the first year be based over 3 sites and then going forward 2, how can this disruption secure high quality provision? Eskdale did get Requires improvement in 2015 but on reading the Ofsted report, there are many areas where the school is doing well but 'it is too soon to show the impact of systems now in place'. The old Caedmon school also got requires improvement in their last Ofsted but this was disregarded when they merged with Whitby Community College and they took onboard their 'good'. How can NYCC assume that Eskdale pupils will transfer to them when they haven't even had an Ofsted inspection since the merge – what happens if they get Requires improvement or worse still goes into special measures? No other secondary school in Whitby, then what? After spending time reading, it would appear the NYCC has major problems with schools down the Yorkshire Coast. This isn't a case of which school is the best school, as both schools will have their own good points and bad, this is about having that 'choice' of school taken away and the fact that NYCC just expect Eskdale pupils to transfer to Caedmon College. 'One size does not fit all', as stated by Sir Michael Wiltshaw, Chief of Ofsted. Schools are chosen for a variety of reasons, whether it be to meet the needs of the child, locality, family members already there, extra curricular and sports facilities. The proposal will affect every child currently at school in Whitby and all future generations if there is only the 'one' secondary school in the town. The children in the current year 7 have only recently gone through a huge change in their lives, leaving the security of their primary school to go to secondary and are now settled in classes having made new friendships and got to know their teachers. To be faced with possible upheaval again so soon is so wrong. Following the details revealed at the consultation evening I attended, under NYCCs plans the current Year 7 at Caedmon will have to go through 4 school changes in 4 years, while those in Year 7 at Eskdale will have to go through 3 in 4 years. It quite clearly states in NYCC school strategy document under the heading 'removing transitions' There has been a longstanding recognition that transitions between educational establishments can result in dips in educational attainment'. Quite clearly, NYCC does not adhere to its strategy in this case! Some children come from primary schools in the Esk Valley with only a small number of pupils meaning maybe only 2 or 3 from the school move to year 7, how will they feel suddenly coming into a school with 1400/1500 pupils. Surely a smaller school would be so much better? The psychological impact to these proposals have not even been discussed as part of this consultation. I am also aware of children who have already moved from one school to the other for their own reasons – what will happen to them, they won't want to go back? Some children may have been excluded from one of the schools – what about them? Surely this raises safeguarding issues that need to be addressed in detail? Projections from the Department of Education suggest that pupil population in England will soar by almost a million in the next decade – hitting a 50 year high by 2023, suggesting new schools would need to be built to accommodate them - equivalent to 500 secondaries. Where will the additional pupils go if Caedmon College is

at capacity? I've also read an article published in The Guardian on 18 January 2015 by Sir Michael Wilshaw stating the 'One size fits all' system lets pupils down – surely to have a 'choice' of education will prevent this? As for concerns regarding the health and safety of all of our children using these split school sites on to the busiest roads into and out of Whitby, where do you start? 40mph zone by the side of one school where all children from the Eastside would have to walk. Children from the west side of Whitby in years 7 and 8 having to walk over the new bridge to school. This is a serious accident or worse, the death of a child waiting to happen. Whitby is a growing town, more houses are being built and families moving into them will need a 'choice' of schools for their children's education. Many of these houses are social housing therefore will not be bought up by people wanting second homes, in particular on the east side of Whitby where Eskdale is. The new potash mine and wind farm which will create jobs in the town will also bring people into Whitby with families wanting to settle and requiring school places. If the Eskdale site is sold off and more houses built, children from there will also need places in school. Due to the geographical position of Whitby, only having one school will mean children travelling over 20 miles to Scarborough, Pickering or Guisborough to other secondary schools. NYCC should not automatically assume pupils will transfer and there is much talk of travelling out of Whitby to go to school. This is something I have already enquired about for my son. The fact that the proposal document states that other towns have only one school does not then go on to say they have a choice of another school less than 10 miles away. I would suggest NYCC look at keeping both Eskdale and CCW Normanby site and allowing them to both run as 11-16 schools or leave Eskdale as 11-16 as it is to be from September 2016 and run the CCW Normanby site as 11-19, therefore cutting out the transition at age 14 which they seem to want to do away with. The old Caedmon school (Scoresby) building could be sold off with out the need to sell the sports pitches and astro turf. By getting rid of Eskdale and building at either of the two CCW sites is going to further reduce any green space and sports facilities for our children. It appears that the issue in Whitby with the secondary schools is the number of students choosing to leave Caedmon College at age 16 to go elsewhere to study due to the wide 'choice' of courses available elsewhere. Many students choose the 6th form at Scarborough, Yorkshire Coast College or Redcar and Cleveland College – why hasn't a partnership with one of these establishments been looked at as an option? Why should money from our KS3 & KS4 children be used to prop up a failing 6th form? The money the school receives for each pupil should be used for that pupil. I as would many people I have spoken with would much prefer their 16 year old child travel for education as opposed to their 11 year old, something I did myself at age 16. All we hear from NYCC in their responses to any questions is this amalgamation will create a broad, rich curriculum if it goes ahead and choices would be narrowed if it doesn't - they have no proof that this will work. Why won't NYCC look at any of these other options? We were told at the consultation that I attended by XX that this is 'not a foregone conclusion' and by XX that it is 'not a done deal' – if this is the case then please explore other avenues. How much of the money from the sale of Eskdale will actually go back into education in Whitby? NYCC have not stated this figure to the people of Whitby. Please consider alternative proposals for the community of Whitby and our children and future generations – if this amalgamation goes ahead the town and its wider community will never recover from it, there is already so much bad feeling and negativity before a decision has been made, how on earth can this be overcome – we need CHOICE and CHANGE but not this way.

I do not agree with the current option put forward to amalgamate Eskdale school with Caedmon college for the following reasons:

1. The proposal does not allow students any choice of schools without significant travel.
2. The current assumption that Caedmon college is providing 'good' education is based upon the previous whitby college OFSTED report prior to the merger. There needs to be an OFSTED inspection of the merged schools to substantiate the success of the merger of Caedmon school and whitby college.
3. There is evidence that schools which are based over 2 or more sites are not as successful as schools which are provided on one site. Although the long term proposal to have a 11- 16 site and a 16 - 18 year old site would be a possibility the timescales for delivering this, without impacting on the current children's education is going to be hard to achieve.
4. The timescales for successful amalgamation is too short and current outlined plans detailing education being provided over 3 sites in the 1st year will impact on teachers ability to teach and will not be able to provide the quality of education which the council deem they want to achieve. If the amalgamation was to occur I would suggest that a more realistic timescale needs to be agreed which does not impact on the current students education. The implementation of any site changes should occur only once the physical estate and organisational change processes have been completed.
5. Although the council states within the consultation document of their aim to take the best from both school, it's proposed actions to achieve this contradict this intention by recommending that the governing body from Caedmon college would remain as would the head teacher. Although I was pleased to hear that the joint steering group had decided that a new governing body would be more acceptable. I was saddened that the existing head teacher would remain without due diligence around ensuring his competencies to perform this extended role. I have significant concerns around his capacity to achieve, when he showed such lack of leadership, common curtesy and compassion at the recent public meeting when he was seen 'playing' with his mobile phone while the children of Eskdale School were singing. This does not Instil any confidence in his abilities to bring together two culturally different schools and transform secondary schooling in Whitby.
6. I feel the current proposals do not look at any detailed alternative solutions to the issues facing Whitby secondary education system. I recognise that Eskdale school failed in its bid to become an academy, however, given the recent announcement of the governments intention to make all schools academies there is a real opportunity for Eskdale to

<p>join an existing academy chain and become successful. This could be achieved without limiting choice within the Whitby district. I would like to understand whether the council has enabled this alternative to be explored and supported Eskdale Governors in pursuing this option.</p>
<p>Eskdale was always, & remains excellent at pastoral care of its pupils, & in supporting them to actually enjoy learning - so how is this to be offered & prioritised under the new regime? My sons attend in the early 90's - big, robust, sporting - had a great time and still maintain links. My friend's daughter - small, disabled, academic - also says this was the best period of her education. Clearly it was doing something very right. It was a model of good practice - <u>according to the pupils.</u></p>
<p>I personally think this is another example of County Councils prioritising the opportunity to make money over the welfare of children and the quality of their education. The whole process 'stinks' frankly and brings to mind images of dirty, grubby, little deals done under the table. As the parents of a child who does, on occasion, struggle and needs extra resources and teachers being focused on helping the most able pupils fills me with a kind of cynical malaise. IT IS TIME THAT CHILDREN WERE PUT FIRST OVER PROFIT!</p>
<p>Students of Whitby should have a choice of school. They should not have to go through forced transfers whilst changes to schools are made. Changes to teachers in subjects they also enjoy can also have an effect.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. My main concerns are these: Despite misleading information given on XX's consultation powerpoint 'Caedmon College' has not been inspected by OFSTED. Therefore, as a parent I have no official information about the effectiveness of Caedmon College. My children are both happy, settled and making good progress at Eskdale. Moving them is disruptive and upsetting. Bigger is not necessarily better- you need only look as far as Graham School to illustrate my point. Traffic on Mayfield Road/New Bridge area is already extremely congested & dangerous - this will only become worse with more children, parents, staff etc. I have genuine concerns about the safety of children crossing roads to & from school. Will the children also be expected to move between sites during the day? If so, how as a school can their safety be guaranteed whilst on your care? As a parent, I will have no choice about where to educate my children. Whitby is a large, geographically isolated community. To send my children to a different school is geographically, financially and practically prohibitive.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. I fear the amalgamation will take away any choice we have as to which school we send our children too. Both our children are very happy at Eskdale School to help it improve it's OFSTED results. I personally fear the whole process has been rushed through, without thought to the disruption it has caused to the children's education.</p>
<p>I would just like to say.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Eskdale is needed in Whitby. 2. the X of XX needs to go can you not see X is draining the scholl of there money. 3. X does not care about the kids X is on a power hunt X has no people skills you have/will X X X X !!!! 4. the road is a death trap on Whitby & CC site. 5. bullies are rife my friends have kids their that will be transferred if Eskdale future is secure. 6. has all this been decided on the golf course. 7. will you be putting more crossings in for the children 8. will you be moving the current crossing 9. will you be adding more car park facilities 10. will you be adding a layby for all the coaches. Come on open your eyes your wrong. Save Eskdale School!!!
<p>Where to start? I have two children at Eskdale School...through their choice not mine. They decided where they wanted to go. Both of them are doing exceptionally well at Eskdale and as a parent and ex governor for NYCC I see no problems with their learning, the school or the teachers. Please then...apart from money....explain the rationale behind this. We all know it is about financial cost. XX and X X have already admitted this. Not once can I recall either of them being bothered about the children's welfare. There are many many implications this closure will have not only on the children and staff but also the whole of Whitby. Eskdales sports facilities are used by many in the town.</p>

NYCC's leisure centre actually recommends people up to Eskdale to use their tennis courts because the leisure centre hasn't got any! Dalewood House use the facilities, Fishburn Park football teams use the pitches. And on I can go... What about the traffic management and health and safety issues the merger faces. At the recent meeting in Eastfield it was admitted that neither the police or the council have come back with any proposals as to how the extra traffic will be handled. Rather worrying seen as XX assured us this would all be ready to go by September 2017. NO CHANCE! How on earth are 1600 children finishing school at the same time going to negotiate one of the busiest roads in the town which has already seen previous accidents? At the moment the buses collecting from the college do not have anywhere to park. There are no crossings at Caedmon except the footbridge which already gets ignored by children...instead they take a risk and cross the road. If a crossing is put in that will cause havoc to traffic coming in and out of Whitby. This in turn will have an impact on Whitbys tourism as well....nobody wants to be sat in tailbacks so will people avoid the town? But the biggest concern has to be the proposed mine for Sirius Minerals at Sneatonthorpe. The huge lorries have to go down Mayfield Road and over the New Bridge (past both sites). They cannot go through Ruswarp otherwise they are fined. So if the mine goes ahead you really want drop off and pick up amongst a huge increase in heavy goods vehicles? Anyone can see that does not make sense. There is hardly any room at Caedmon and Whitby for this as it is without increasing the number even further. What are you going to do regarding the children that have learning difficulty or social problems. Some children in year 8 have only just settled...now you plan to uproot them. You will destroy these vulnerable children for sure. Very responsible on NYCC's part. Caedmon School has one claim to fame.... a death from Bullying. I know of several cases that are current where bullying is taking place at Caedmon and nothing has been done about it. One child having his dinner money taken from him every week since the start of term! Another girl being called a fat bitch every time she is seen in the corridor. THIS DOES NOT HAPPEN AT ESKDALE!! Safeguarding children? Merge these schools together and you will have a problem with bullying I am sure. Even though times change the old Caedmon vs Eskdale will roll on. At the recent meeting it was mentioned that it was important for teachers to know pupils by their first name....merge the schools and give it a go? Teachers cant even get to lessons on time as it is so with all the extra chaos what chance have they got? What about the costs for uniform? Am I expected to foot the bill for another 2 sets of uniform? What about my child's lunch? Eskdale has a dedicated canteen and eating area. Whitby has a canteen you cant swing a cat in...and a hall that needs chairs and tables pulled out every day. Caedmon has a hall that needs tables and chairs pulling out every day. Eskdale has a separate hall and a seperate canteen.....do I really need to spell that out? Just look at the support that Eskdale has behind it. 120k views of the somewhere only we know video (thats just a tad more than the population of Whitby by the way!). And the petition...over 5000 signatures (how many children at Eskdale?). Look at the figures that suggest children are happy at Eskdale or Caedmon. A national average of 52% are happy at school....Caedmon is 50%. Why dont you ask Eskdale and see the answer? The gap has narrowed over the years between Caedmon and Eskdale over 63% to 53% of pupils choosing Caedmon....just why is that? If you are so confident that this is the right move then put Ofsted into Caedmon and Eskdale before the merger goes ahead and see what the results are. Nobody from Caedmon or Eskdale is saying that they dont want what is best for their children....but this is a rush job for some reason that I cannot figure out why. One final question (made up of a few really). Why is this rushing through all of a sudden? Is it because the land has already been sold as I heard the other day? Is it to avoid some health and safety issue that we are all missing the point on? Is it something to do with the fact that X X will get a pay rise due to having more children under X rule? Is it to make sure that any allocations made by NYCC and the Government are used up within a certain time frame? Is it to avoid the need for advertising for a new Headteacher (even though XX got the job without interview anyway). Is it so XX and XX get a financial recognition for the merger (because after all what are they getting out of this?). Or is it plain and simple....THIS IS A FINANCIAL DECISION...IGNORE THE KIDS AND DO IT ANYWAY....AND THEN IN A FEW YEARS TIME WHEN IT HAS ALL GONE WRONG BLAME SOMEONE ELSE!!! I urge you to reconsider. You are damaging the lives of innocent children, making them worry, and making them lose concentration on their education. One final note. If my child's education should suffer as a result of this merger I will be back in touch with you and hold you responsible for your actions.

If the proposal for amalgamation is to go ahead then I will look to send my child, currently year 8 Eskdale School to Lady Lumleys School Pickering, she will not be attending a large secondary school over 2 or 3 split sites.

- I DO NOT AGREE with the amalgamation of the two schools because:
1. lack of choice in town
 2. Increased traffic congestion along main roads
 3. Increased problems with child safeguarding!!
 4. Loss of Social Clubs to the town
 5. In cases of bullying where does the affected child go - 20 miles away!!
 6. Eventual job losses to school staff due to surplus
 7. Should have one school of 11-16 at Eskdale and one school of 11-19 at Caedmon School

8. Eskdale is a special school with an unique ethos something WCC is sadly lacking. why not choose to close a different site. The site formerly known as Whitby School is not fit for purpose - sell that off and keep Eskdale.

I attended the consultation meetings (consultation in name only)for the proposed merger. Where everyone was informed how the merger was going to be implemented when passed... sorry if. I was very surprised to hear the name ofthe new school, uniform and logo had already been decided on without any input from students. (NOT A DONE DEAL!). At this meeting Mr XX told us, one thing that had been made VERY clear to him in this consultation process, is the passion, love, enthusiasm and upmost admiration for Eskdale school and its very special ethos and learning environment. He said he would need to recreate this in the new school. I would strongly urge the executive members to visit Eskdale school before making this very important decision and speak to the staff and children and see for yourselves what we are all fighting so hard to save. It is my opinion that this VERY special place cannot be recreated. My daughter and I looked around both schools before she chose Eskdale. One school was new, modern and a very nice looking school, the other was old, a little run down and in need of some redecoration, yet full of warmth. My daughter immediately felt at home at Eskdale and I witnessed her full of life exploring her new learning environment, At Caedmon she never left my side. This is just one point and there are many more. One size does not fit all I XX said something needs to be done to make education in Whitby financially secure and that he was still open to ideas (????). One ofthe Eskdale governors spoke out at the meeting, to say that NYCC had only presented them with two options and both including the closure of Eskdale school. He went on to give what in my opinion was I fantastic alternative... Whitby remains with two schools, Eskdale 11-16 and Caedmon 11-19 on two sites, and one ofthe Caedmon sites sold off for much desired housing. Both schools would share the same governing body yet have a separate head of school and separate ofsted. This would allow the children of Whitby to keep a choice as one school is no choice!. XX also made it very clear that he believes that all children will enjoy the new school and receive good-outstanding education... eventually and anyone in the minority that doesn't, tough basically, and they won't give any answers when questioned about what will happen to these children. I do not doubt that most children will probably adapt to the new school well over time, however there will ALWAYS be bullying, bad behaviour and those children who simply cannot cope with change of this magnitude. For all of these children you are failing them and given the position of power that you are in, you are obliged to look after our children's interests by providing them with a choice... Don't let the 1st young suicide be your wake up call... Please stop this NOW! And let our children get back to working hard on their education. Although it has been strongly denied... I do think a back handed agreement has been made with regard to selling off the Eskdale site for development as I am aware that land adjoining Eskdale has already been sold. I would urge the County Councillors not to go ahead with this, there is always a way out of these things.. Kids not Cash should be your focus! The people you represent do not want this, the people of our town don't want this and most importantly the students from both school do not want this... Please keep Eskdale. It is my understanding that in 4yrs NYCC will not be responsible for the schools in Whitby and all I can assume is that XX and XX stand to gain something from rushing this through now. In your position you can make a difference, please do not give in to these bullies and stand up for what is RIGHT and that's keeping ESKDALE open!.

I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION. Due to the geographical nature of Whitby, the nearest secondary school will be 21 miles away. If parents choose to send their child to school out of LEA or home educate, what will happen to education in Whitby due to the financial implications of this? In light of the Government's announcement about academies, who will 'Whitby School' join with and what is the vision for the school? The entrance/exit of both CCW sites is dangerous. Adding 350+ children/parents/buses to this is an accident waiting to happen. If the amalgamation does go ahead what really will happen to the money from selling the site - what if any will come back into education in Whitby? Although brief outlines of alternatives to the amalgamation are mentioned, financial implications are vague. What will the make-up of staffing and savings compared to the short fall in funding and over what time scale? If trends are to be believed new housing and birthrates will see a rise in numbers. How big does this school intend to become? If this amalgamation of 2 schools, why is the XX of XX retaining XX leadership and thereby increasing XXown salary. is this for XX own financial gain rather than what is best for the children? The Normanby site is already cramped and the intention is to house all 11-16 year olds eventually on this site. To enable this to happen, a great deal of building work will need to take place (at what cost?) and will further reduce the very limited outdoor space/playing fields that the site has. It is still very important that 11/12/13 year old (particularly boys) have an area in which to play. Why choose Whitby as the place to save money when, Malton has two successful secondary schools close to each other and primary schools with less than 30 pupils in are being helped to stay open? XX cited Sixth Form Education as an issue in Whitby. I believe that Sixth Form Education is a national issue rather than one being used as an excuse in Whitby for merging two schools. If, for whatever reason, a child wishes not to be educated at the new 'Whitby School' then they must travel (21 miles remember!) out of the town across the moors. These moors become inaccessible during the winter months and the road conditions will affect attendance and overall education of 11-16 year olds. If there were to be no sixth form provision in Whitby, then at 16 years old I feel you would be more able to travel 21 miles out of town and should adverse weather conditions occur, be able to fulfill your education by working at home and therefore not affecting your education as much. Finally as parents of a shy, self-conscious child, we chose Eskdale for its caring, nurturing ethos. Our child is happy and

settled at Eskdale and we are pleased with his academic progress. I have no gripe about academic standards at Caedmon College Whitby but do not feel a large school, where staff do not know pupils well, is the right place for my child (and his siblings) to fulfil his potential.

One size does not fit all. Children are individuals with differing needs. Children need choice for education. If there is only one school in Whitby choice does not exist. Eskdale school provides a warm nurturing environment. Where children build up their confidence to learn and socialise, some more quickly than others. But the beauty of Eskdale is not that they acknowledge this and encourage the social and emotional development of all their children. Getting this right creates more opportunity for young people to go and learn more effectively and succeed not only academically but emotionally and socially. 11-16 is a pivotal time of social & emotional development and children are beginning to experience that life does not stay the same and change occurs. To merge these schools when Eskdale clearly meets these social and emotional well being needs of its pupils only with its educational needs, would be disastrous for the current young people in their social, emotional & educational development as teenagers, research suggests such negative experiences as upheaval/change in these vital ideas has an impact on development/confidence and can impact on educational attainment. Please think twice about merging schools, we are gambling with the children and young people's development socially, emotionally and educationally and the future population of Whitby.

I DO NOT AGREE WITH THIS PROPOSAL. My son is a pupil at Eskdale School and has never been happier. He is making excellent progress in many areas of the curriculum and has been highlighted as a Gifted and Talented in a particular area of the curriculum. He is thriving academically and socially. He has become an Anti-bullying ambassador and has been given numerous opportunities at Eskdale to extend his wealth of experiential learning from performances, assemblies, presentations to Governors, community events, extra classes, school visits, being a school ambassador and that's all on top of the lessons, which he enthuses about every day. My daughter is in year 6 and has chosen to go to Eskdale in September. At the end of year 4 we moved her from one primary school to another. She had been unhappy during years 1 and 2 due to peer group issues. Despite conversations and meetings with the school, they did not deal with these issues proactively, stating it was our daughter's problem and that we should try harder to integrate her in the community. We had already tried this and continued to do so. The school refused to take any responsibility for this. She stuck it out until the end of year 4 as we had much faith in one particular teacher. Relationships between our daughter and her peers did not develop, despite our best efforts and hers. Our daughter also has a serious and life-threatening medical condition. Her happiness and safety is paramount with a condition which requires constant attention. At her new school finally felt accepted and has fully embraced school life. She had a choice and she celebrates the fact that she made the right decision. She is tremendously happy and is thriving emotionally, medically and educationally. The point being, we had a CHOICE to facilitate her safety and well-being which impacted on her progress. I need every member of staff to know my daughter due to her medical condition. She cannot just be a statistic in a school of 1600. If the choice of secondary education is taken away, she will have to travel with the children who excluded her from everything and be at school with them all day. I am deeply concerned about her emotional well-being. She is a bright girl who wants to please but is already saying she will not attend this amalgamated school. We will look elsewhere. Life in our household at the moment is full of trepidation. Our son had been thrilled with the news of Eskdale becoming an 11-16 school thus being able to complete GCSEs with the teachers with whom he has such positive relationships, in a place he feels at home and where he feels safe and valued as a citizen of the school community. He is worried about larger class sizes and about going to a school where, when he looked round as a year 6 pupil, he did not feel comfortable. He is also concerned that after attending the consultation meeting, he will be forced into choosing GCSE options in a rushed manner as the proposal will house current year 8s on the Normanby site from this September. NYCC admissions recommend 3-5 choices when deciding on a secondary school place. This is good advice, especially when the government held conferences recently evidencing how choice of schools drives up standards through friendly competition. NYCC claim that one school in Whitby will improve standards. Where is the evidence for this when the government is stating the very opposite? I have read the latest Ofsted report for Eskdale. The Requires Improvement label does not mirror the progress which is in the text of the report. I value the ethos of this school greatly. It is a happy, caring school which promotes the individual to become lifelong independent learners and British citizens who have much to offer our community. This is not to say that Caedmon is a bad school. Indeed I know parents whose children are happy there. It's about choice. There are, however, several children who have transferred from Caedmon to Eskdale, and maybe vice versa, due to unhappiness at Caedmon. Where will these children go if this choice is removed? Experience of other amalgamations, (Graham and Raincliffe in Scarborough and Warsett, Rosecroft and De Brus becoming Freebrough in Brotton) have had disastrous consequences. Only 10 years later with the latter example do we begin to witness positive change. Too late for my children. Our children get one chance. This proposal does not provide the springboard for so many children. I urge you to not disadvantage the children of Whitby and re-think your proposal, lx 11-16 school on Eskdale site lx 11-19 school on Normanby site Let the schools work together and provide a feeder for the 6th form on Normanby site

Eskdale School is an amazing school & I personally feel that closing it is a decision you will come to massively regret!!

1. The town's population is growing more & more houses are being built.
2. 1 school does not fit all hence why some choose Eskdale to start with.
3. Once Eskdale gets the green light to stay open floods of children will leave Caedmon as I no for certain some picked Caedmon as they believed Eskdale's future was uncertain!!
4. The traffic now Down Mayfield Road is horrendous!! it will be worse with more children if it closes!!
5. Will the speed limit be reduced on Mayfield Road.
6. Will the access to Caedmon School be improved as there is only one way in & out.
7. Will extra parking be made available as its very limited.
8. Airy Hill School children use the layby as well so they will be affected also.
9. The crossing on Mayfield Road is on a slip road will you be moving it if moving site to site.
10. The coaches run late to the schools now due to traffic will you add a slip route for these with extra kids.
11. My son will NOT ATTEND WCC!!!

This is a money making scheme and there is no consideration for the children's education. Having one big school removes the element/competition which can only be bad for the area. There is no proof that amalgamating the schools will provide a better education for our children. In fact evidence proves especially in North Yorkshire that this is most definitely not the case. i.e Graham School in Scarborough. Caedmon School's last Ofsted which was done within weeks of Eskdale's Ofsted required improvement also. (One has not been done since, only at Whitby College). Especially worrying about Caedmon's results was the comments on the children's behaviour. I have to say when visiting secondary schools in the area this was my main concern about sending my children to Caedmon and the reason I chose to send them elsewhere. Due to this, if this amalgamation goes ahead, we will most certainly be looking at other secondary schools in the area. This will definitely result in them not going to Whitby's sixth form. However, if they were to stay at Eskdale until 16, there would be a possibility that they would use the local sixth form in town.

I am a parent of a Year 7 child currently at Eskdale School in Whitby. My son attended our local village school and came from a class of 12 children in a school of around 80 pupils. He has a type of epilepsy and his seizures are triggered by stress, so the ease of transfer and him becoming settled in his new school had to be carefully managed. He was very concerned about going into a larger school. Since the news broke of the proposed amalgamation, as a parent I am not only concerned about the future of his education but also about the effects of this on his health. He has had many sleepless and unsettled nights and worries about being part of a much larger school. The proposal to amalgamate Eskdale and Caedmon College could mean that there are up to 1600 pupils based across two sites less than 1 mile apart. This is a huge change from attending a school of over 300. After looking through the proposal document, I am extremely concerned about the health and safety of children as well as the impact on their education, should this proposal go ahead. Section 7.3 Admissions and Transport states 'It is anticipated that a move to one school on two sites would have no significant impact on transport costs but there may need to be improvement in site access for buses to address any highway safety concerns'. The Caedmon College Normanby Site is located on one of the busiest roads into and out of Whitby, Mayfield Road, on the A171. The road is a 30mph zone and on a morning, at school pick up/end of working day and during the summer months the road is almost always congested with traffic. There is only one entrance used for both entering and exiting the site which is not far from a crossroad junction with traffic lights. Where would the site access be improved for buses? Would this mean losing part of the school playing field and taking away what little green space the site has especially if further accommodation is built on this site? Across from the traffic lights are also two local primary schools St Hildas RC and Airy Hill, Whitby's ambulance station and a Whitby Court care home adding to an already busy area. The Caedmon College Scoresby Site is located again on one of the busiest roads into Whitby, just off the New Bridge, A171. A major concern at this site is that the road speed limit is 40mph and this is next to the school entrance. There is also a lay-by across from the entrance and vehicles often use this and the entrance to the school site to turn around in and during many times of the year coaches on day trips to Whitby park in this lay-by. There is also only one way in and out of the school, so again where can this be improved without going onto the playing field and reducing green space for the children? If Eskdale School were to close, it would mean for those pupils on the east side of town having to walk over the New Bridge along the side of the busy A171 with vehicles travelling at up to 40mph. Alternatively, for those who travel by car to school there will be an increase in traffic to either of the sites only adding further to the congestion. There are also many children from the Esk Valley who travel to and from Whitby each day by train and/or bus and again, this will increase traffic in the area. There is an underpass, which goes under the A171 Mayfield Road and is on a disused railway line. This is an option to use to get between the two Caedmon College sites. Having recently walked on this, the steps both up and down are quite steep and uneven and any person with any mobility issues/disabilities would have extreme difficulty using them. As this is open to the general public, for example many people walk their dogs along the old railway line, there are also safeguarding issues. I would ask if it is normal practice for Road Safety at NYCC to get involved with a proposal where the safety of children is concerned getting to and from school as this does not appear to be addressed in the proposal.

document? I would also assume that Risk Assessments would need to be carried out , especially in this day and age? Would there need to be a traffic survey carried out and observations recorded of this? Surely the speed limit would need to be lowered to ensure the safety of our children. Another major concern is that if the emergency services need to access either of the sites at peak times, any possible delays caused could be critical. After details revealed at the consultation evening held in Whitby this month and the proposed sites for the students from September 2016, should this proposal go ahead, I do question just how all these improvements can be done in the short space of 5 months especially when peak holiday time is coming to Whitby and we endure months on end of traffic chaos. I attended one of the consultation evenings with my son and we were shocked to hear the plan that year 7 and 8 children would be at Eskdale for a year, then he would move to Caedmon College for year 9. He said to me that it would mean he would move schools three times in four years and for his friends who chose Caedmon they would be moving four times in four years. NYCC school strategy states 'There has been a longstanding recognition that transitions between educational establishments can result in dips in educational attainment'. Well NYCC explain that to all those children and Ofsted when they aren't getting the desired results! I feel this whole proposal is ill thought out and it is only looking at one way forward without any proper thought into other options. XX and XX have made it quite clear that if this doesn't go ahead that the 6th form will be under threat. The 6th form has been failing Whitby for many years and yes, I agree that something needs doing if it is to be retained but not at the cost of losing Eskdale school. Why hasn't a collaboration been looked at with another college such as Yorkshire Coast or Scarborough 6th form? Nothing is mentioned of this in the proposal document. I would much rather my 16 year old travel to receive education than my 11 year old. Why does Caedmon College have to operate over 2 sites, surely all the students can fit into the Normanby site with some changes to accommodation and then sell off part of the Scoresby site retaining the playing field and astro turf. Of the three school sites, Eskdale is the best one for any further expansion but this just seems to have been ignored. Eskdale school numbers have been increasing over the years because children and their parents have a choice of which school to attend. 'One size does not fit all' and schools are selected for many different reasons whether it be the needs of the child, choice of courses, locality, other family attending. What will happen to those children who have already moved from one school to the other, only one school in Whitby so what will they do? There is much talk of going to schools outside of Whitby and home schooling, this means the funding will not stay in the town to go to Caedmon College. This consultation has been badly handled by NYCC and it is obvious that discussions have been going on for a long time to get to this stage without the children, parents and community of Whitby being made aware earlier. The eastside of Whitby is a deprived area and the loss of Eskdale will have a devastating effect on the community. There is no proof whatsoever that this will be the right thing for Whitby and surrounding villages and if this proposal goes ahead without properly exploring other options the consequences will be disastrous for years to come and NYCC will have let our children down. Shouldn't school years be some of the best of your life? All my son is currently facing is a very uncertain future at such a crucial stage in his life. I DO NOT AGREE with this proposal - please look at other options if changes are to be made, closing Eskdale School is not the answer.

I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. I would like to see Eskdale School as a 11-16 school and Caedmon College as an 11-19 school with some reorganisation. This would still place Caedmon College in a unique position within the town as the only sixth form provider and should attract a significant number of extra pupils into the sixth form when they leave Eskdale at 16. Whitby is unique in its geographical location with other secondary schools some distance away. If a child should not fit in at the new school what would happen to their education? Where would they be educated and what would be the social/financial implications of this? They would be travelling into a different community from where they live to attend school. One size does not fit all. Whitby and the surrounding villages need a choice of secondary education within Whitby. Other towns with only one secondary school have other secondary schools a lot closer to them than Whitby does. Eskdale's 11-16 business plan talks about the range of subjects that it would offer including a level two extended certificate in engineering in partnership with Redcar and Cleveland College. Why could each school not offer different courses alongside a group of core subjects at KS4 through working with different educational establishments as partners. Parents and pupils value Eskdale's ethos highly, on Ofsted's parent view 83% of respondents strongly agree that their child is happy there, this compares to the national average of 53%. We chose Eskdale as we felt our son would be happy there, which he is, extremely happy and we would be devastated to see it merge and its ethos potentially change. He has had the opportunity to take part in Crest bronze award, the whole year seven went to watch a pantomime together, attend badminton club, attend choir, have clarinet lessons in the well equipped music pods, attend two outdoor education days at East Barnby Outdoor Centre doing canoeing and cycling, attend chess club as well as whole year groups attending an engineering fair at Scarborough, the list is endless. If the two schools were to merge, I feel that the extra curricular opportunities available to him would decrease. For example, the entire year eight from Eskdale School go to Bewerley Park on a residential trip, with a larger year group, in the combined school, this would perhaps be split into two visits or places could be limited. Eskdale received Requires improvement in its Ofsted report but the report indicates that it is too soon to see the impact of the changes that have been made to improve the provision that it offers. Has Eskdale School really been given the opportunity it needs to improve? As a parent it concerns me that Caedmon College has not been inspected, by Ofsted, since it was created. I, as a parent, would like to be able to see where the standards have improved rather than accepting that judgements which the old Caedmon School received from their last Ofsted inspection have now been improved upon. I believe that Eskdale School should be given the opportunity to improve, its staff, children and parents are dedicated to this. The Ofsted inspection states that 'the staff feel lucky to work there', I value it highly as providing a positive, stimulating, safe and challenging education for my son and he absolutely loves it. Happy, safe and well looked after children learn best and I feel that Eskdale School provides this. Eskdale has strong links within the community and a whole range of clubs and associations use its facilities. These include ABRSM music exams, Fishburn Park football clubs 1st and 2nd teams, Fishburn Park kids football, Fylingdales netball, Methodist church group, motorhome rallies, ONOMY (youth church group), Whitby Music Centre, Tennis Club, Ultimate Soccer School, Whitby Christian Fellowship, Whitby ladies football, Whitby company of Archers, the list goes on. Where would all these clubs go? What would be the impact on the community if these clubs could not exist? A whole range of sporting events are held for local primary schools to attend, these are held across both Eskdale and Caedmon College including multi-skills, gymnastics, Quadkids athletics, etc. Would the number of these events be decreased with only one secondary school? Eskdale is a one site school. There is no time wasted travelling between sites, for both pupils and teachers, ensuring that lessons are able to start on time and finish on time. The two Caedmon College sites are split by the main road in Whitby and is the underpass really suitable for children to use? I worry that children from small, rural schools at age 11, would not be as road aware as they should be and needing to change sites during the day would be hazardous. At Eskdale the teachers are all on one site allowing pupils to find them easily if they need help with work or to talk to them before/after their lesson e.g. to be excused for a clarinet lesson/to go over homework. Eskdale school is accessible for buses when dropping off and collecting pupils on site. The Normanby site of Caedmon College has no facilities for school transport buses to access the site meaning that pupils catch buses on the busy A171 main road through Whitby. What would be the impact on the amount of traffic/road safety if the two schools merge? In conclusion, I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College.

I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. Eskdale School should be an 11-16 school and Caedmon College should be an 11-19 school with some reorganisation. This would enable a choice of secondary education within Whitby. Caedmon College would still be in a monopoly position regarding sixth form within Whitby and potentially gain students from Eskdale School when they leave at age 16. Both schools, at KS4, could offer the same core subjects as well as different areas of specialism in their options, creating partnerships with other schools outside of the area ensuring that a broad range of curriculum is available within Whitby allowing parents and children a choice in their education. The number of pupils is set to increase over the next few years with housing developments, the creation of a new potash mine and wind farm developments all potentially increasing the population and the need for school places. Eskdale School's business plan for moving to 11-16 provision is good and very strong. Our son greatly enjoys his time at Eskdale School. He comes home enthused about his day and what he has learnt. He is challenged in his learning and is encouraged to 'push for purple' during his lessons. He has taken part in Crest bronze award (science), chess club, completed accelerated reader quizzes, attended clubs during dinnertimes and has grown immensely in his confidence and knowledge in the six months that he has been there. Would he have had the same opportunities in a larger school? I feel that the small size, family atmosphere and educationally stimulating environment of Eskdale School has contributed greatly to his development and confidence. I feel that in a larger school he may have become 'lost' and not have developed such positive, caring and professional relationships with the teachers their support has been fantastic. I feel that in a split site, larger school pupils would not be able to have such good relationships with their teachers. The teachers would not necessarily be available to the students as often, due to them teaching on both the sites. Would students be able to get the support that they needed from the teachers in-between lessons? Eskdale School's facilities are used by a wide range of community groups and has a strong place within the community of Whitby and the surrounding villages. Groups that use the facilities include ABRM music exams, Fishburn park football teams (both adult and junior teams), Fylingdales, Lealholm and Whitby Rugby club football teams, Whitby Music Centre, Tennis Club, Ultimate Soccer School, Whitby Christian Fellowship, Whitby Company of Archers, etc. What will happen to all these clubs if Eskdale School's facilities were no longer available? What impact would this have on the community? What would be the impact on traffic at the Caedmon College sites should the proposal go ahead? More importantly, would the safety of the children be at risk with an increase in traffic on the two sites with pupils already catching school transport at the Normanby site of Caedmon College on the main A171 through Whitby as there is no bus access to this site? Eskdale has an ethos where 'Every Child Matters'. As a parent I agree wholeheartedly with this statement. I feel that Eskdale School are helping my son to develop to his full potential. I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. I feel that it would have a negative affect on my son's education and development.

I think Eskdale School should remain as children should be entitled to their own choice of school also I think if u take this away from the children in question then I think that the education would dramatically take a massive nose dive not just for Eskdale to I also think Cademon would too there is a 6th form college at Scarborough Redcare or Middlesbrough so I think the children in this education would benefit these colleges as they would get a better option outcome for there A levels too and remember it's not just children today it's the ones in time that would benefit in time too years to come

I am a year nine student at Eskdale school ans have loved my time there evrey second of it, much like the generations before myself, it has been open for over 60 years so why now close it when so many people love it !

After doing extensive research and reading the proposal document by NYCC I am totally against the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby, and the technical closure of Eskdale School. I have been heavily involved in the 'Fight to Save Eskdale Campaign' and feel that the overwhelming support to save Eskdale School cannot be ignored. Over 5000 people signed a petition to keep Eskdale open. No doubt you will also have received hundreds of responses against the amalgamation.... as I know many people have forwarded me copies of their letters and responses that they have sent to you. Surely what the people of Whitby want has to be acknowledged. Just because a handful of the LA have a long standing view that one secondary school in Whitby would be best, this has to be questioned. They do not know Whitby or our situation. You will be receiving a document written by some members of 'Save Eskdale School Campaign group', entitled 'Response Document to reorganisation of secondary education in Whitby'. This evidence based document will expand much more fully on some of the main areas I am mentioning here and uses facts and data to back up our findings. This will hopefully explain in detail to you why the proposed amalgamation is seriously flawed. It has been written from a total evidence base which should be the case. Sentiment/personal experiences have no role in that document. I will not repeat these facts here as that document will speak for itself. However, in my own personal response, I want to illustrate some of these points through my own personal experiences with my own children and findings. I have a daughter who attended Eskdale up to year 9, then started CCW in year 10 (sept 2015) but left and is in now at Fyling Hall (private school), a second daughter in year 7 at Eskdale and a son in year 4 of primary who was hoping to attend Eskdale. It has served my eldest daughter brilliantly and my youngest daughter, who has just started loves it and is thriving. She was very excited that the school had gained 11-16 status and we were delighted she would be able to stay on there to do her GCSEs. I have no qualms about my children attending Eskdale, I have found it to be a happy, caring and an excellent school. I have no doubts if they were given the chance to continue with their plans to be an 11-16 school they would get good GCSE results. More than that though, you just have to look at the parent view results to see what a highly though of school Eskdale is and most importantly pupils are

extremely happy. If I thought Eskdale was failing my children in anyway, believe you me, I would be the first to be in there and finding out how they could improve and complain. However, I have never had any need to as the children know what is expected of them and progress well. My daughter is predicted to do well at GCSE and on recently moving to Fyling Hall has undergone assessments which show she is where she should be. She was at CCW but we had a number of issues regarding how she was progressing there. She left CCW as we felt she was not achieving as well as she could have been, was not valued and was just a number. Their reporting system was inadequate and they made major mistakes with it. We did complain to the school about this and provided them with lengthy feedback, CCW will hold this letter on file or I can forward it to you as it illustrates some of the many problems there. From our experience, the college is still struggling to deal with the amalgamation of Caedmon School and Whitby Community College and the communication between teachers/senior leaders is not as good as it should have been. I have had much feedback from pupils and parents about issues within CCW as well as our own first-hand experience that illustrate this. They also have not had an Ofsted inspection and I am very worried how they will cope with another amalgamation and all that entails. I know of many people who will not send their children to CCW, us being one of them. In fact I know the local private school, Fyling Hall has had a great deal of interest should Eskdale close it could well lead to Fyling Hall having a large influx and a waiting list. This is of course not an option for many due to cost. Those who cannot afford the private school in Robin Hoods Bay but do not want their child educated at CCW are looking to go out of town or homeschool. This is a shocking state of affairs as there will be no choice in our town and we will have to travel over 21 miles to the next viable alternative. Our town is unique in having to travel such a distance to next secondary school, especially in winter when the road can be closed or dangerous to travel on. One size school does not fit all and there are a number of reasons why a child might need to have a fresh start at a new school, due to bullying, clashes with teachers, ethos etc. The main area that the proposal falls down and contradicts itself, is it is not going to be a single secondary school, it will be a split site school separated by the busiest main road in Whitby. We already know speaking to parents and teachers that are at Caedmon College that the split site has got problems. It is 1km from one site to the other and a 10 minute walk. Teachers end up late for lessons or are not available on one site because they are at the other. Pupil safety for them transferring from site to site is dangerous. Indeed I have knowledge of these problems because my daughter experienced them when she was at CCW. The proposal document talks of an 'underpass' as if we live in a large town/city such as London and it is a safe, enclosed subway. However, it is a dirt track on the old cinder track down a flight of steps. It is highly dangerous and unsuitable for pupils to use. The proposal does not take account of the access and transport issues that would arise having so many pupils trying to get into the Normanby and Scoresby site. The lack of parking, safety of pupils both being dropped off from cars and buses all needs carefully thinking out. There is much more detail about all this in the response document. Much has been said about surplus places in Whitby but Eskdale would not have surplus places if they proceeded with 11-16. Their business plan was sound and they would be running at capacity. You could then say CCW will have the surplus places if Eskdale proceeds with these plans. However, this could be managed by good housekeeping on their part. One way could be to sell off part of the Scoresby site. If they just kept the sporting facilities but sold off some of the land and the school. Therefore, both CCW and Eskdale could still exist, providing choice, challenge and change, which would drive up standards in both schools. The other area that has not been considered here is the fact that the pupil numbers and housing in Whitby are set to increase over the next 10-15 years. It is short sighted to close Eskdale and then in a few years we may need a new school, crazy. Surely more sensible to build on what we have. We also have the wind farm, potash and new housing developments in Whitby. This will bring people into the town and the children will need to go to school. It has been stated that the 6th form at CCW would struggle if Eskdale goes 11-16. This seems ludicrous as if 6th form provision is good at college then all the Eskdale pupils would go at 16, as well as their own pupils. KS3 and KS4 money should not be used to fund the 6th form, CCW need to balance their books more carefully. I would like to state, that I feel this consultation process has followed a very narrow and predetermined route. It has not looked carefully at other options and the document is lacking in evidence and factual information. I could go on and on about many other points but as stated earlier the response to the document done by 'Save Eskdale School Campaign Group' will speak for itself. I urge you to think carefully about all this as it will affect future generations for years to come. This isn't just a few disgruntled parents unhappy their child's school may close, this isn't based on sentiment. This is hundreds and hundreds of people telling you about the secondary education in Whitby, putting facts and carefully thought out questions forward about what needs to be done. You must listen. You owe it to the pupils of Whitby to get this decision right. Eskdale is a thriving school, let it continue to do so.

I am against the amalgamation my son was told he would be the first to go through to his GCSEs at Eskdale my eldest daughter went to Eskdale and was an a+ student and was awarded a silver bachelorette I wish for my 3 youngest daughters to go to Eskdale. When my eldest daughter left Eskdale to go to the college her grade fell dramatically and the move disturbed her greatly. The children in and around Whitby deserve the choice of where they go to school. Great and mo ru have lead to this and I and my family stand strong against this ridiculous idea

We are against the closure of Eskdale our 3 children will go here one day. They deserve the right to choose

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. My concern is the new proposed Caedmon College will be too large and children will get 'lost' in the system and particular needs and requirements of individual children will be missed. 2. Traffic congestion is already very bad on the New Bridge entrance - it would be horrific if the schools merge. 3. Eskdale and Caedmon pupils would not merge well leading to bullying and non-acceptance. 4. Has Caedmon College had an OFSTED visit since Caedmon and Whitby School merged - I don't think it has - and if not it definitely should, before even considering another merge with Eskdale. 5. No choice of schools- unless children want to travel to Pickering or Scarborough. 6. More houses are being built all the time in the area which will make the proposed new school even larger with additional families and children coming into the area. 7. Should the job of headmaster for the school (if they merge) not be advertised - surely it should not automatically be given to the present headmaster. 8. Clubs and businesses use the facilities at Eskdale School what will happen to them?
<p>Eskdale School has always been a very good school in the 42 years that I have had family members through it. The ethos has been caring and the academic results have enabled my family members to achieve their success with one at Cambridge University, one now a managing director of a medium sized company, another in banking, being in charge of data for a small independent bank on the Isle of Man. Some members are still studying for their degrees or doing apprenticeship, but all have been given the ability to fit in whatever their surroundings and achieve in more ways than the academic, thanks to the nurturing and grounding given by Eskdale school. Do not destroy this very special school. Caedmon, is where I taught. It too was a good school but the ethos is different and the mix of students not as diverse. The overcrowding of the corridors gives a hectic atmosphere at lesson change which contrasts with the calm changeover experienced by the Eskdale students that gets them to their next lesson, calm and ready to learn. The larger building of Eskdale would lend itself better to the combined middle schools at it also has a separate dining hall and assembly hall which is not the case at the Caedmon middle school campus. Students and parents need choice. They are being denied that choice if you close Eskdale School.</p>
<p>It is worth noting that Eskdale have consistently made moves to address their financial deficit. The move to 11-16 age range would secure the school's financial future. Streamlining Caedmon College could then occur, securing the future of all Whitby children and maintaining choice. We are happy with the schools we have. This option is unacceptable. Please think again. PS: My child was attacked by another child at Caedmon College – the school's solution? To lock him (my child) in the library – this is punishment, not safeguarding. Serious improvements are required in this respect.</p>
<p>Exclusions/bullying – what happens – can't go to another school. Freedom of movement</p>
<p>What are the alternatives? Eskdale School should be left to thrive as an 11-16 academy. Caedmon should do the same. Whitby school should be 16-18. There are other options</p>
<p>You constantly talk about choice in subjects/curriculum – the current options available through e-bac give very little choice in subjects. My daughter is in year 9 and has just completed her option form – after being forced to take 1 humanities subject, 1 language and triple science, there is only 1 subject left to choose. What is the benefit of many subjects when they can't be chosen?</p>
<p>I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School. Whitby is a growing town and pupils need choice. Both schools have very different approaches to learning, and one size does not fit all. If we lose that choice, we have no option than to go out of the area or home school. The college has not had an Ofsted inspection since it amalgamated, so we don't know if the merger has been a success. You could be forcing us to send our children to a failing school. Eskdale hasn't been given the chance to improve, years of rejection and false hope (Academy, 11-16) has taken up valuable time. If all schools are to become academies, please wait and give Eskdale a chance. It is a happy school, with happy pupils, please put pupils before profit.</p>

I disagree profoundly with the proposed amalgamation of Caedmon College and Eskdale School. Eskdale School should under no circumstances be closed. The quality of a school cannot possibly be judged by facts, figures and Ofsted reports alone, although the caring ethos and support from parents and pupils alike was highly praised in all recent reports. This spirit of Eskdale is extremely special and has helped and is continuing to help hundreds of pupils every year achieve great things in their lives. My daughter has made fantastic progress over the last 2.5 years within this caring environment and is absolutely distraught at the prospect of having to leave this school and starting her GCSEs elsewhere. It is likely that a single school will save NYCC money. It is unlikely though that one single school in Whitby would improve the outcomes of all children in the Whitby area. But what is certain is that the closure of Eskdale School would deny families in Whitby a choice between two very distinct schools (i.e. CCW and Eskdale). More importantly, it would deny hundreds of children the opportunity to experience the care, respect and family feel that this small school offers and which makes children thrive and want to learn. Education and learning needs to be a positive experience or it will end the moment the facts have been regurgitated in an exam. The fact that current and former pupils of Eskdale School are putting on such a fight for their school is evidence that Eskdale School has succeeded in making their education positive as well as successful. My younger child is one of those children who would be deprived of their choice. He is a Y6 child and had been eagerly awaiting the day he could choose his secondary school. We attended the Open Evenings in Sept/Oct and he made his choice: Eskdale School. If the amalgamation does go ahead, who will explain this to my son and to all the other 11-year-olds who have made their choice and are now worrying about where they may be forced to go in September? Isn't it enough for them to worry about their SATs? Isn't the transition to secondary school difficult enough for many children? There will simply not be enough time for careful transition work to take place. The children affected will feel railroaded which will in turn generate a large group of potential school-refusers if they are forced to attend a school they decided they did not want to attend. And "forcing" would be the right word as there would be no choice left in Whitby and it would, of course, be too late to apply to (oversubscribed) schools outside the area. My older child, who is currently in Y9, is another one of those children who this decision will affect the most. She is absolutely distraught at the prospect of having to leave Eskdale School and starting her GCSEs elsewhere. Since May 2015 she, and we as parents, were made to believe that she will be able to do her GCSEs at Eskdale School and NYCC is now attempting to snatch this long-awaited opportunity away from us. The Y9 children will, again, be left with no choice within a 20-mile radius. Whitby's geographic location exacerbates this situation as most people cannot afford and most people are unwilling to put their child through the additional burden of further travel. And why should they if there is a perfectly acceptable choice of schools in Whitby? If Eskdale School really was as bad as NYCC seems to think it is, people would vote with their feet! There would be very few children enrolling at Eskdale and CCW would be bursting at the seams because currently there is choice. And families in Whitby are quite happy to choose the school they think is most suitable for their child and the numbers on roll speak for themselves: Eskdale School's intake has been on the increase for a number of years now and no Ofsted report or efforts by the LA to discredit the school's capacity to provide the young people of Whitby with a good education will change this. With Eskdale School it's simple: What you see is what you get. And families are choosing what they see because they know it is the education and environment that is most suited to their child. The deep-rooted opposition to the amalgamation proposal and the immense support for the continuation of Eskdale School should therefore be enough grounds for NYCC to reject the proposal and work with all stakeholders and the community to come up with a suitable and sustainable alternative plan for secondary education in Whitby. For years NYCC and the Head of CYPS have done nothing to move education in Whitby forward, arguing that the schools would need to come up with a solution themselves. But as soon as the schools have done exactly that (i.e. the merger of Caedmon School & Whitby Community College and the decision of Eskdale School to extend their provision to 11-16) NYCC comes crashing down on them to stop it. Presumably due to lack of insight and understanding of the situation in Whitby and the misconception that Eskdale School is a failing school but even more importantly because this solution would bring financial difficulties to the school favoured by NYCC i.e. CCW. Even though I understand the arguments and difficulties with regard to financial sustainability, closing one school for the benefit of another is surely not an "ambitious visionary offer", to quote XX. It would simply be an easy way to delete an RI school from NYCC's books but with a potential of pushing the good school also into RI, given that CCW has not yet had an Ofsted since the merger of Caedmon School and WCC. The potential to deliver a coherent 11-19 curriculum in Whitby has always been there. If relationships between the three schools hadn't been poisoned over the years, this could have been achieved a long time ago and could still be achieved now, either by means for formal collaborations or possibly a federation. An amalgamation is entirely unnecessary in this respect. On the other hand, the potential for students to experience an uninterrupted learning experience from age 11 through to 19 will not materialize until NYCC is prepared to put a huge amount of funding into alternative pathways and vocational education and training. Young people from Whitby will continue to have to travel to Scarborough or Redcar to access such courses. Whether Eskdale and CCW amalgamate is entirely irrelevant in this respect. The argument that amalgamation would increase the ability to recruit and retain the very best teaching staff and school leaders is also extremely weak. Whitby remains a coastal town in a fairly remote part of North Yorkshire where property prices are high. This attracts a limited amount of professionals, no matter what size the school is. In fact, Eskdale School has had significantly fewer problems to attract good quality teachers over the last few years than CCW. The opportunity to make efficiencies in the use of scarce resources and to balance the books without detriment to either curriculum choice or front line teaching is clearly the main driver in this proposal and one which NYCC seems to be prepared to put above everything(!) else. Obviously, this is a hugely important point but the education and welfare of the children and the needs of the community must not be sacrificed in the process. Curriculum choice could be delivered if the two schools worked together, either via formal or informal links, just

like they used to in the past. Having said that, the introduction of the Ebacc measure makes curriculum choice more and more irrelevant when young people are left with as little as 3 choices after Year 8. XX also used the argument of job losses at CCW repeatedly, should the amalgamation not go ahead. I find it remarkable that CCW teachers seem to be worth more to XX than Eskdale School staff, many of whom will undoubtedly lose their jobs after a re-structure if the amalgamation did go ahead. Obviously, no-one would want to wish the same predicament on CCW staff but one should not forget that increased pupil numbers at Eskdale would create the need for more staff in the same way as fewer numbers at CCW would need fewer staff. Consequently, there may be the possibility of a simple transfer in some cases. In any case, potential job losses at CCW cannot be an argument for closing Eskdale School if the amalgamation went ahead in the name of improving outcomes for young people. Otherwise it would again be a simple money-saving exercise. The potential loss of the sixth form is another frequently cited argument and one which should not be ignored. I would therefore argue that the possibility of a common sixth form (on the former Caedmon site) to which both CCW and Eskdale would contribute, both financially and with staff, should be considered. It is highly desirable to have good sixth form provision in Whitby and many other, much smaller schools around the country have proven that this is possible. But I would also argue that a mediocre sixth form should not be kept at all costs and at the expense of a good provision for younger students. Finally, many people understand now that carrying on as before may not be an option and that collaborations between schools is the way things are going. There can be obvious benefits in collaborations and these must be considered as a potential way forward as it could help with some of the challenges which both schools face while preserving the individual ethos of these small schools. What Whitby community will not accept is for all young people to be forced into a single super-school as this will not benefit anyone, bar the Council and the Principal of the new school. I appreciate it may be difficult for anyone outside Whitby to understand how much Eskdale School (and to have choice) means to the Whitby community but I am sure that the overwhelming support and strength of feeling shown at the consultation meetings and in the comments & responses cannot be ignored!

I do not agree with this as all kids can't settle at one school. The town & the kids need choice please try & keep both schools open. I find it very upsetting when I hear about kids that have been unable to settle in a certain school be it for bullying or other reasons. This will have an effect on the health of some kids and no kid deserves this. Eskdale has been an excellent school for kids coming from smaller schools to fit into. Do the right thing leave the schools as they are & find other ways of saving money!

WHY SAVE ESKDALE?

1. CHOICE

- Choice of school in the town is important
- Due to our geographical location, Whitby is, fairly unique that it is, over 21 miles to the next nearest town for children to be educated. This is a long way when you are 11 years old, especially in winter time when the moor roads can be treacherous or even closed
- One School having a monopoly is not desirable in terms of raising educational standards
- Competition drives up standards and achieves excellent education
- One size DOES NOT fit all
- If a child has problems/issues in one school they can move to the other and have a 'fresh start'. With only one school, where else could they go?
- Quite simply in our local community "There are more people that want to see Eskdale stay open than want to see it closed" (Over 5000 signatures on petition to keep Eskdale open)

2. UNIQUE ETHOS

- Unique ethos – 'Every child matters'
- Pupils, Parents and Staff are happy (See Ofsted parent view 83% children strongly agree they are happy, compared to National Average 53%, Caedmon College 46%)
- Small school which enables teachers to know pupils well and vice versa. Especially useful for those pupils with special educational needs who benefit from a smaller nurturing environment.
- Education for the whole person
- Focus on practical skills and on art/music not just academic (excellent music pods)
- Encourages pupils to take initiative and responsibility
- Broad range of extracurricular activities (eg. Many varied clubs-gardening, art, drama, choir, gymnastics, trampolining, juggling, minecraft club to name a few)
- Excellent pupil reward scheme in place using 'vivo'system'

3. EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

- 'Personal development, behavior and welfare' rated 'Good' in 2015 Ofsted report

- Extremely high positive feedback on Ofsted ParentView (91% would recommend the school to another parent)
 - Dedicated group of well qualified teachers
 - 'Curriculum at Eskdale prepares pupils well for life in modern Britain and provides for their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively' (OFSTED 2015)
 - Large Choice of competitive sports teams
 - Good range of subject choices (drama and 2 language choices, from year 7)
 - Eskdale received Requires Improvement in its inspection report but it continually states throughout the report that there has been too little time since the previous inspection to see the results of the implementations they have put in place. Many other schools in North Yorks have received Requires Improvement but they have not been deemed to close. Surely in this situation the LA should be doing all they can to help the school or are they just unwilling?
 - Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger. They have not had an Ofsted since 2013. Caedmon was deemed a Requires Improvement School before merge and hasn't been inspected since. Are they going to cope with an influx of another 300+ pupils from Eskdale and the amalgamation process, do they have provision to provide? How will this effect Caedmon College pupils?
 - 2014 GCSE results 5A*-C in English & Maths - Caedmon College overall 59%, ex-Eskdale pupils 62%. Proving Eskdale pupils achieve just as well (or better) as pupils from CCW.
 - Eskdale teachers have the desire and dedication to put their all into the 14-16 curriculum and achieve excellent results. Teachers have been working hard to prepare for the GCSE courses. Pupils too, desperate to prove Eskdale can produce fantastic GCSE results. They should be given the chance to do this. Much of Ofsted inspection and a school's 'worth' is based on data driven measurable results. There is no longer KS3 SATS in year 9 and Eskdale do not have GCSE results to be measured on. If they had the chance to do this, we'd see just how fantastic the school is.
 - Much research shows that many schools that have merged/amalgamated (especially in North Yorkshire) have had a decline in standards. Most recently and closest to home the Graham and Raincliffe Merge in Scarborough led to them going into special measures within 2 years!
 - In Filey there is only one secondary school, over recent years standards have dropped as no competition. They were in special measures and have now been taken out of the Local Authority control and converted into an academy.
- #### 4. COMMUNITY
- Large open space (tennis courts/large playing fields and playground)for pupils (and locals) to enjoy benefits of fresh air and exercise.
 - Local and good links with community (eg. Sainsburys opposite work closely in projects with Eskdale)
 - Building strong relationships with each other and within the community
 - Has community woven into it. The following groups use the site at various times throughout the year, some every week, some on occasional basis): ABRSM Music Examinations, Fishburn Park football clubs 1st and 2nd teams, Fishburn Park kids football, Fylingdales, Lealholm and Whitby Rugby club football teams, Fylingdales netball, methodist church group, motorhome rallies, ONOMY(young church group), Whitby Music Centre, Tennis Club, Ultimate Soccer, Whitby Christian Fellowship, Whitby Ladies football, Whitby Company of Archers, Whitby Rugby Club, Young Farmers basketball)
 - Eskdale is not just a school but a centre for East side community of Whitby
 - Good relationships with primary feeder schools (especially East Whitby, over the road and Hawsker who use facilities such as food tech room)
- #### 5. FUTURE PROVISION
- Pupil Numbers set to increase
 - Windfarm – more jobs, more families, more pupils.
 - Potash - more jobs, more families, more pupils
 - More housing to be built in the town, the children from theses will need schooling
- #### 6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS
- Secondary pupil numbers set to increase over next 10-15 years (predicted 25/26 1647) Eskdale is needed.
 - Plans to build more family housing in Whitby will mean more school places needed. Much of this will be close to Eskdale and in prime feeder territory
 - Sound business plan for 11-16
 - There are plenty of towns of similar size and similar pupil numbers to Whitby that support 2 (or even 3) secondary schools, why can't our town?
- #### 7. SPECIAL NEEDS

• Eskdale has always been highly regarded in terms of catering extremely well for SEN pupils. This is down to their caring ethos, small size and provisions they have put in place to deal with particular needs and accessibility.

8. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT

• Strong parental involvement (Excellent PTA and regular termly events from bingo to Summer Fair)

9. SIZE

• Small school ensures excellent pupil/teacher relationships

• Helps pupils to feel safe. One small school is better for many pupils rather than a large school on split sites in terms of them 'feeling at home' and well prepared for learning.

Especially important for SEN pupils.

• A smooth transition for year 6 pupils, especially those from very small feeder schools in surrounding rural areas, for whom a small school feels safer and more secure

10. INFRASTRUCTURE/PRACTICALITIES

• One safe site (no time wasted travelling between sites for pupils or staff)

• As all teachers are on one site at Eskdale, all of the time, it is easy for pupils to find them at break time, before and after school to tell them anything they need to, go over homework, seek support etc.

• Accessible (Good safe access for buses dropping off and picking up)

• What impact will there be on highways and roads around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers?

• What impact will there be on parking around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers?

• Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger, in terms of practicalities and organisation how will all the pupils be 'housed' if they amalgamate and are split over 3 sites for at least next year, then on to 2 the year after. This chaotic approach will surely have a detrimental effect on all pupils over the next few years.

• Have they the space to accommodate everyone safely especially with numbers due to increase in coming years?

• Is it short sighted of NYCC to even consider closing a school when numbers are set to increase. If Eskdale does go, in 10 years time much of the teaching could end up happening in cabins/temporary classrooms at Caedmon College sites? Surely it is a better way forward to build on the investment NYCC has made to Eskdale School site over last few years and let it carry out the wish to carry on as an 11-16 establishment?

• If both schools were to continue to co-exist in such a manner they would still be average size for NorthYorkshire

My eldest son is in his second year at Eskdale. The way he has thrived and excelling is brilliant. He was so excited when Eskdale was going to be a 11-16 school and instantly asked please can I stay. He loves attending Eskdale and has never missed a day. His day starts by leaving the house at 7.30am walking half a mile in winter this can be in snow and ice, to catch his first bus to the train station, then a train to Whitby followed by another bus ride to school. He then repeats it at the end of the day getting home at 4.50pm. He has never once complained because he lives Eskdale school, he loves learning. I love the fact you can ring up and the staff know your child, they are not just a number. I recently popped into school and while waiting one of his teachers walked passed, they stopped and knew who I was, spoke to me about my son. I will of ever met this teacher at parents evenings but they remembered. I was so proud when after the consultation meeting his maths teacher walked up to me and said how brilliant he had done his test getting joint 1st and only dropping 4 marks. My second son is due to go to secondary school in September, he is a worrier and was already worried about going to the big school, getting lost, finding his way round, making friends. He us going from a school of 32 pupils to one of just over 400, can you imagine his worry at the thought of 1400? Let alone the worry he already has about his stats as they have changed them and the teachers are trying to jam so much information into them. Information they really don't need to know at that age, far too much pressure is been out onto our young children these days. There is no proof this joint school will work, then where do my children go? You said at the meeting you will not provide transport to any other school so you are bullying us into sending our children to the joint school as we will have no choice if we cannot afford to pay for transport elsewhere. If I wasn't worried enough I have been hearing/reading about safeguarding issues at Whitby/Caedmon school. I feel for the children who have left Whitby/Caedmon school for various reasons a lot because of bullying, where do they go? To force them back to a school they left, back to problems children should not have to go through! If a child is expelled what then?

I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School with Caedmon College Whitby. You may wonder why people are prepared to fight so strongly and devote so much of their time to keeping a school open. In my case it is not a question of developing strong bonds with a school over a period of time as XX stated on Yorkshire Coast Radio. Neither I nor my wife attended Eskdale School; we had no relationship with it at all until our eldest child started there in year 7 last September. Our daughter attended two different primary schools in the Whitby area, the first from foundation until year 5 whilst at this school she struggled constantly she made very little progress in literacy or numeracy in that time. After a long and protracted battle we managed to get our child assessed for dyslexia the result of which found she is indeed "severely and profoundly dyslexic". Having seen no interest from her Head Teacher in providing her with the required interventions or support or in stopping the bullying she had been suffering, being told she was slow, stupid, special needs we immediately moved her to another Primary. There through her own hard work combined with care, support and hard work of her teacher and TA she managed to move from level 1 and 2s in year 4 to achieve level 4's across the board in her year 6 SATS. At this primary they began to put my child back together and repair the damage that years of believing herself to be useless had done. As you can imagine that as a family unit we took the CHOICE of her secondary school very seriously. With my daughter we looked around both Whitby Schools on more three occasions and my husband and I visited the schools separately to meet the SEN coordinators at both schools. When we met with the coordinator at Eskdale she showed us around every class in the school where we witnessed without exception happy children who were engaged in their lessons, we then met with her privately to discuss our child. During this time we were asked a lot of questions about our child and what was working well in her current school, we then were told about what would be done for her at Eskdale the small working groups, the relationship building and the opportunities she would be given to participate in planning her own learning plan. All of which has been put into place since she started. We did not have the same experience when we visited the other school, although their coordinator is clearly very knowledgeable about SEN and could tell us about the budget which is spent on technology to aid children with dyslexia not one question was asked about my child or her individual needs, where Eskdale immediately understood that helping her to achieve learning goals is important but having a child with self-confidence, self-belief, self-value and resilience is ESSENTIAL. Whilst I understand that there may be a need for an independent review of Secondary Education in our town what we are being presented with is a document leading us towards one predetermined, undemocratic result, placating us with a box to voice our opinions but no way of measuring our objection. The education of our 11-16 year olds is being compromised and ultimately damaged in order to prop up a failing 6th form, THIS is where the review is truly required to establish why almost half the children that do GCSE's in Whitby then leave the town to do their A Levels or Vocational Qualifications meaning that funding from an increased number of 11-16 pupils is required to keep it functioning whether or not this is the best option for the 11-16 year olds! One size does not fit all in education I have friends who have children who are very happy at Caedmon College Whitby, I also have friends whose children have been deeply unhappy there and have therefore moved their education out of town. I very much hope that you will take guidance from Mr Robert Goodwill MP who has put forward a proposal for two 11-16 schools and a separate 6th form provision to XX. It is essential that all possibilities are explored before a decision is made in haste which we will almost certainly repent at a later date. We do not have to look far for an example of a town with a smaller population than ours which supports not only two Secondary Schools but two sixth forms also, I refer of course to Malton and Norton. I hope that my daughters story will have given you some insight into just one of the many, many human stories that are being so deeply affected by this process. We as parents have taken the decision to look out of town for our children's secondary education should this amalgamation go ahead, we feel it would be very wrong of us and very damaging for her to ask her to place her education, which is already an uphill battle for her, on the sacrificial altar of cost cutting and empire building which forms the basis of this proposal. In my opinion it is extremely short sighted to expect us as parents to entrust our children's education and well being into the hands of a recently merged school with a bad reputation for bullying and poor safeguarding record. This is not a business deal regardless of the spin put on by XX, this is the lives of our towns children now and for generations to come. The speed with which this is being pushed through only serves to draw attention to the real issue concerning NYCC the possibility of Eskdale being acadamisised in the near future and the land being placed off limits to developers for 125 years! When I comfort her and try to allay her fears about facing an uncertain future I hope I can't help but wonder if you understand the damage you are doing to the emotional well being and mental health of the children in our town.

I OBJECT TO THE AMALGAMATION OF CAEDMON COLLEGE AND ESKDALE SCHOOL ON THE FOLLOWING GROUNDS: 1. The amalgamation of the schools would leave parents and pupils with no choice of schools, which is particularly important given Whitby's isolated location. My son chose Eskdale over Caedmon because he felt that Eskdale was more friendly and welcoming and as he was moving up from a small rural primary school this was important to him A "one size fits all" approach to education does not suit all pupils, and those coming from small rural schools, where in some cases there is only 2 or 3 children from Year 6 moving up out of a school total of 30 or 40, would struggle in a school of 1600. As Whitby is 21 miles from the nearest town, and only connected by moor roads which can be treacherous (as highlighted by the recent death of a Whitby man travelling back from Pickering), what happens to a pupil who is unhappy at the new enlarged school? At present a pupil has the option of moving from Caedmon to Eskdale, a vice versa should they be unhappy, and this does happened. Rob pupils of this chance and they are forced to be either desperately unhappy (and refuse to attend school) or, if their parents can afford it, make the 40 mile round trip to say Pickering adding another 2/3 hours on to their school day. A happy child will always achieve their best at school, whereas an unhappy child will become disillusioned, and fail to reach their potential. NYCC comment that other towns only have one school but these towns to not have the same isolation issues - eg Tadcaster is in easy reach of the school in Selby, Thirsk where pupils can access Northallerton or Ripon by main trunk roads, Stokesley which is again within easy reach of Northallerton. The isolation of Whitby is highlighted by the map of secondary schools shown on NYCC's website where Whitby is literally stuck out on a limb. NYCC seem to pride themselves on giving 95% of parents their first choice of secondary schools and say that all parents can list up to 5 preferred schools (see their Facebook post dated 1st March) when in reality this is only for parents in certain lucky areas. 2 NYCC have stated that an amalgamated school would have the potential to improve educational standards but have not provided any evidence as to how this will be achieved, despite having the opportunity in the consultation documents, or at the consultation evenings. The only experience we have, in this area of a merged school is the merger of Graham and Raincliffe schools. In 2009 Graham School was deemed to be a Good school by Ofsted and 2011 Raincliffe was deemed to be Satisfactory. However by 2013 the amalgamated school (known as Graham School) was plunged in to Special Measures and by 2015 has still only risen to Requires Improvement. The school had suffered from high staff absence and a reliance on supply teachers. Between 2013 and 2015 half the staff left. The 2013 Ofsted report stated that the school had had local authority support since 2011 but that there had been no sustained improvement, and that the "one size fits all" approach to lessons did not work and instead lead to student dissatisfaction and behavioural issues When I have spoken to work colleagues with children at Graham school they state that the school grew too fast too quickly, the staff could not cope and grew demoralised. Whitby Community College (as was) had a history of Special Measures between 2005 to 2008, and has slowly risen to a Good status. However in the last 2 years it has absorbed Caedmon School (which had a Required Improvement Ofsted report before amalgamation with Whitby Community College) and it is proposed now to absorb Eskdale School as well. This will mean that pupil numbers will have increased from approx 800 to 1400 in the space of three years. Surely this is a classic case of a school growing too fast too quickly, similar to Graham? It also has the disadvantage of having to operate over at least 2 sites, just like Graham. It is also to be noted that the newly formed Caedmon College has not yet had an Ofsted inspection so we have no means, as the public, of gauging how the amalgamation of the Community College and Caedmon School has progressed. At the consultation evening I raised this as a genuine fear that we could end up with another Graham school on our doorstep and was told that there were a different set of circumstance with Graham but with no explanation as to why. NYCC stated at the consultation evening that they would not give any guarantees as to the future performance of a new school so how are they so sure that there will not be another Graham school situation. As Whitby is 21 miles away from the nearest town, and alternative secondary school (and given the problems in Scarborough it is likely that Whitby parents would look to Pickering or Guisborough for educational facilities) it is vital that NYCC proves to us that we will not end up with another Graham School on our hands. If we did, it would ruin the education of an entire generation, and impact severely on the ability of Whitby as a town to provide a skilled workforce for future business and services. 3. NYCC states that an enlarged school will provide the opportunity to recruit a better calibre of staff. Again where is the evidence for this. Filey school is struggling, and both Graham School and George Pinder School have all had significant recruitment problems. The difficulties in recruiting staff does not lie in the size of the school but in the isolated locations of the schools. One school having a monopoly does not drive up educational standards - it breeds complacency. Again NYCC has not provided any evidence or data to show that standards are driven upwards by amalgamating schools despite having able opportunity to do so. 4. The main driving force for the amalgamation is the fact that Caedmon College's budget would be severley impacted should Eskdale proceed with its intention of providing GCSE's. It is argued by NYCC that this would effectively sound the death knell of 6th form provision in Whitby. It is argued that GCSE effects 6th form provision because the same teachers provide both courses. However no evidence is provided as to how 6th form provision would be improved by this amalgamation. If the education of all 11 to 16 year olds in Whitby is going to be disrupted (which was the tenor of the presentation given at the Consultation evening, given that all pupils will initially operate over the three sites) we would expect there to be a concrete plan, backed up with evidence and data of showing how courses and facilities would be available to pupils, there would be no restriction of subject choice etc. However NYCC's own Consultation document acknowledges that the budget for the amalgamated school would still be less than that the two schools currently receive. Therefore realistically what scope is therefore for the quality of courses etc to improve. (The Consultation document talks about there being an initial saving of £61,000 by operating across 2 sites but this is appears to be a false statement as Caedmon College already operates over those two sites, and it was discussed at the Consultation evening that in the first year it is proposed that the amalgamated school would operate over all three sites, so where are the savings to be made

there? No consideration has been given as to the time teachers will waste in travelling between sites (which will be inevitable as GCSE and 6th form courses will be on different sites and NYCC has already acknowledged it will be the same teachers delivering both courses) Teachers spoke up at the Consultation evening to state that the split site system does not work. Furthermore no consideration appears to have been given to the competition offering 6th form Courses. Scarborough UTC will be opening in September 2016, Redcar and Cleveland College and Middlesbrough College offer free transport to pupils which means that for those living in either Staithes/Hinderwell or in the Esk Valley it is actually cheaper for them to attend an educational establishment outside of NYCC's control than to attend Caedmon College. If this is the case, and no guarantees are being made as to how the 6th form will improve, there really is no justification for disrupting the education of all the 11 to 16 year olds in this manner. Surely it would be better to acknowledge that 6th form provision isn't viable and to allow 11 to 16 year olds the right of choice of Caedmon or Eskdale and allow the older pupils from 16 onwards to travel out of town. They are older, more able to travel the greater distances, will often get free transport as highlighted by Redcar and Cleveland College or Middlesbrough College or will may be even driving by this stage. 5 If the Eskdale site is disposed off, Whitby as a town loses valuable facilities such as the playing fields and tennis courts. The largest collection of tennis courts are located at Eskdale. A significant number of Community groups currently use the Eskdale facilities including many sporting teams which will effectively be rendered homeless by the disposal of the Eskdale land. It provides a base for the East side Community of Whitby and has strong links with the community groups and business, including the Penny Hedge and Sainsburys. 6. Very little consideration has been given to the practicalities of additional school buses / cars picking up and dropping off around the Caedmon sites, which are located on the busiest stretch of road in Whitby. Buses are not able to unload on the school sites and instead must do this on the road side (particularly at the Normanby site). The prospect of an additional 300 pupils dashing across these roads, with additional buses etc is horrific. During the summer season these roads bring the town to a standstill as it is - add another 300 pupils to the mix and you have tragic accidents waiting to happen.

I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School with Caedmon College Whitby. I am a Parent of a year 7 Eskdale pupil and a year 6 Sleights Primary pupil who is due to start Eskdale School in September. I am extremely concerned about the effects that the proposed amalgamation will have on the Education of both Eskdale and Caedmon College pupils. As a parent I am also very concerned about the physical and emotional effect that the uncertainty of this ill conceived process is having on both my children. In a speech about Education David Cameron said "It is about changing the structure of education – spreading choice, giving schools more independence, recognising the need for competition.....so we create real and permanent pressure in the system to drive improvements. Instead of parents having to take what they are given, we are giving them real choice in where their child goes to School." I fail to see how this proposed amalgamation bears any resemblance to this commitment from our Prime Minister. What is being proposed is in fact completely the opposite. We as a town, as parents, as pupils are being denied any choice at all. As we are all now well aware one size education does not fit all. The schools geographical location and that of the surrounding catchment area adds further weight to this argument, many of the children who attend Eskdale come from small primary schools with year groups of less than 10, to expect these children to go from this to a School with 1,600 pupils is wholly unreasonable. XX states that "the issue of choice is a valid one" however he then tries to draw an analogy with other towns in North Yorkshire that they have only one school. The geographical location of Whitby make this an impossible comparison, our children would face a 40 mile round trip daily commute, not on a major trunk road but over the moors, on roads that's are frequently cut off during the winter months, having to change buses on rural isolated roads. The towns which XX mentioned in his propaganda video during a meeting at CCW on 3rd March 2016 include Northallerton, Stokesley, Thirsk and Easingwold. In Northallerton you would need to travel 7.38 miles to an alternative Secondary School, in Stokesley there is 3.89 miles to the next Secondary School, in Thirsk it is a journey of 8.25 miles to alternative Secondary Education and in Easingwold it would be 8.41 miles. I think you will agree this is very different to the journey you are asking our children to make to find alternative education. I have carried out some research into choice in Secondary Education in the UK during this I have discovered that in no other town in the UK with a population between 13,000 - 14,000 do children have to travel more than 10 miles to access a choice in Secondary Education. And even within North Yorkshire itself nowhere do children have such a restricted choice in Secondary education, Hawes has a population of 1,137 and yet within a 10 mile radius they have access to 1 maintained school and 2 academies. Eskdale School is situated in an area of long term deprivation, the school site gives this part of our towns community access to opportunities which would not be possible if the town ceased to exist for example Tennis Club, Archery, Youth Football, Volleyball, Christian Fellowship group. To further disadvantage this area must surely be a failure in your duty to care for your electorate. A great deal has been made of a potential loss of income to Caedmon College should Eskdale proceed with the plan for 11-16 education, I can see how this would be a major concern to XX however, on the basis that Eskdale students will leave at 16 and if they choose attend CCW 6th form I find it highly disturbing that you state that this will impact on 6th Form provision! Why would money that is allocated to 11-16 provision impact on 6th Form provision? Am I to understand that you are planning not only to close my child's School but to also utilise her 11-16 funding to educate the 6th form. My eldest child is profoundly dyslexic and has struggled in education from day one, she is now making great progress at Eskdale and is currently exceeding expectations in a number of subjects. However, this is largely due to the level of care and support she receives from the teachers and support staff at Eskdale, she will require every penny of her 11-16 funding to ensure that she attains the required level of GCSE's to pursue relevant education at post 16. XX told us at a meeting on 3rd March that you had pledged him funds from the sale of Eskdale School for a shiny new 6th form building is this yet another sign of predetermination in this process. Is this democracy in action? XX states that you are not hearing how we tackle the issues that we face and what are the

alternatives to that. I would put it to you XX that an alternative was proposed to you by Mr Robert Goodwill MP, he recommended that you consider the option of two secondary schools in Whitby Eskdale 11-16 with NOR of 550 and Caedmon College Whitby 11-19 with a NOR of 900 with the sale of the Scoresby site being used to fund development of the Normanby site. However for some reason this is not an option you wish to consider and therefore you have dismissed it out of hand. If we really want to look at long term sustainability of education in Whitby surely we would be looking to develop partnerships with another "Good" or "Outstanding" post 16 provider in order to make our sixth form desirable to not only the majority of students from our town but also to attract students from elsewhere. Is the reason that this isn't being considered or even explored because by sustaining a failing sixth form on funds from Key Stage 4 a position of total control can be maintained by CCW? You want us to view this situation in a dispassionate way and look upon our school as a business, I think it is clear that as the 6th form provision is the area that continues to incur major losses and require continual investment from the other parts of the business, surely this where the review should be focused. Why can't it be self-sufficient? Why can't it attract people from out of area? Surely a partnership with a successful 6th form to offer more diverse courses is the way forward, that is if we are looking at the bigger picture. As parents we chose Eskdale for our child for a number of reasons, yes we looked at OFSTED reports but then we visited the Schools we looked at how our child interacted with teachers and other pupils there. At Eskdale our child was relaxed and engaged in activities, happy to explore independently from us at Caedmon College she was reserved, quiet and reluctant to leave our sides to take part in anything. None of the reasons why Eskdale was our choice have gone way, it remains our choice, if this amalgamation goes ahead we, along with many others will be reluctantly be taking our children out of Whitby for the remainder of their education. Would you accept this for your child? In XX's You Tube video he uses a quote Cherish your dreams, they are the children of your soul, they are the blueprints of your ultimate achievements. Well I would like to tell XX and XX my children are my dream, they truly are the children of my soul and they are and will continue to be my ultimate my achievement! That is why I do not accept this amalgamation is in the best interest of the children of our town and why I will continue to fight to save Eskdale School. North Yorkshire County Council continually under estimate the people of this town, do you really think we will just stand by and watch as you strip our town of yet another valuable asset, short change our town and our children once more. I think the people of Whitby have demonstrated many times since this decision was made that this is one step too far 5,000 signatures on the petition, 500 marching through Whitby, 120,000 views of the video made to give our children a voice in this process, hundreds of people in attendance at both consultation meetings. Does this not show you how passionately the people of Whitby want to retain choice in Secondary education in our town and to retain the wonderful unique, caring place that is Eskdale School for our children and for future generations of this town. Why is our Conservative County Council not following the Conservative national Education Policy in Whitby. Our town is already an economically deprived area please do not place our children at any more of a disadvantage. One School in our town is equal to no choice!

Closure of Eskdale School

The proposed closure and amalgamation of Eskdale & Caedmon is poorly conceived and driven by financial considerations at the expense of the children of Whitby. It does not take into account safeguarding issues for children who may be bullied and not having the option to change school. 1 size fits all does not work with children. It is insulting the consultation process as the council have no interest in looking at alternatives and it is clear the drive is to get their hands on the money from the sale of Eskdale. Their appointment of the head, prior to the consultation process ending, further shows poor judgement. This is the head that allegedly knew about a teacher having improper relationships with students. Please reconsider this poor proposal and show that the NYCC are not morally bankrupt as well as financially. Remember the paper every child matters?

the closure of the school would be detrimental to the children in the area both in the short term and the long term. my 3 children are in year 8, 6, and 4. The boy in year 6 doesn't even know where he will going to school in September. my eldest boy loves eskdale and the personal approach offered there, at eskdale you are not just a number. i passed cademon school a couple of weeks ago, the traffic was horrendous to the point of being dangerous. imagine if even more pupils were to attend this school

The proposed amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby, Is, I feel the wrong decision for the town! Why are we being rushed into this decision? Yes, it may have been spoken about for years in secretive meetings, but why suddenly now is it being really pushed? I for one don't listen to rumours and scandal, I want to be presented with facts, figures and reasoning, for AND against this proposal. Only then will I feel equipped to make an informed decision. I have researched lots, and I must admit, it's not been the easiest! Yes, I understand that Eskdale got a 'Requires Improvement' from their latest Ofsted, and I know that this is following their previous 'RI' from 2013. I do appreciate that this needs addressing, but after reading the Ofsted reports I didn't get the impression that it was a failing school, it was improving. I feel gutted that my daughter 'chose' Eskdale, we looked around both and she was very happy with her decision to pick Eskdale. After just a term, she was told that the place where she was happy, thriving and safe in, was to be no more. That is a lot to take in for a twelve-year-old, its caused some anxiety that's for sure! These days are meant to be the happiest, most care free days, this situation is definitely getting in the way of that! I believe that happy children will do well, not everyone is obsessed over exam results, my daughter is bright, and would cope anywhere, but I didn't want her to 'cope' I wanted her the happiest she could be. The size and feel of Eskdale suited her, she has made the transition from Primary to secondary with ease, growing in confidence and blossoming into a lovely young lady. I love that the staff are encouraging her to step out of her comfort zone, challenging her and ensuring she is fulfilled. This may not be measurable by Ofsted as such, but as a parent I am very happy. I am not doubting the teaching staff at Caedmon College Whitby, but I feel that a school the size that is being proposed, if your child is perhaps not as confident as others, then they may go unnoticed. This thought saddens me, as the 'middle of the road' kids that may just keep their heads above water as it were, will, I believe, not get as much focus as they deserve. They will fail to flourish and just go through the motions of school. How can I be assured this wouldn't happen? I am wanting my kids to grow as people, to be able to make mistakes, but to have guidance on how to rectify the problem, whether it be educational, or emotional. I really am struggling to get my head around how this level of care is going to be achieved in a school that has itself only quite recently gone through an amalgamation. Are they actually in a position to take on an extra 300 pupils? Seamlessly? I have heard reports from pupils in attendance that things aren't quite running as they should be, this is understandable, there is always an unsettled time after such a change. Let the dust settle from the previous changes, iron out ALL the problems, then and only then can you look at moving forward! I do not wish for my child, or any child for that matter to be part of all this upheaval, are we not trying to take the awkward age fourteen transition away? Not add another lot of site moving and transition? In 'A Guide to Models of School Organisation/Collaboration' (Maintained schools can use this guidance, and the sources referenced in the guidance, to explore the options available to them. NYCC officers are able to support and advise schools on the detail of these options once there is commitment by governors to pro-actively explore them.)

It clearly says:

- Reduce the potential disruption to the education of children and young people through unnecessary points of transition. (This whole situation quite clearly contradicts this! Perhaps it will be sorted for the children coming up after the next few years, but what about the children now?!) We have no evidence that Caedmon College Whitby is even 'good' according to Ofsted yet, yes I don't judge everything on Ofsted results, but I feel it's only fair that I have this information. The Local Authority have undertaken a review, where they judged the school to be 'good.' I have been involved in a school in reviews that have said this, only to be found lacking in the actual Ofsted inspection. We need this information, from someone impartial. Or what about an independent review on secondary education in Whitby? In all this talk, I have not heard that this has happened? I would feel a lot happier, if I felt that it was properly looked at, not just a decision being made on what some would prefer, there are a lot of people that don't want this amalgamation, they can't all be sentimental and haters of change? Talk of the 6th form provision suffering if the amalgamation doesn't go ahead? This worries me, as I think it's going to scare people into believing this is the only option? Has no one looked into collaboration with another provider? To ensure financial stability and choice that is desperately wanted? The courses on offer at 6th form level are narrowed year after year. I understand the financial pressures that 6th forms are under nationally, it's obviously a real challenge, so look at options to bring more to the town, not less! I've heard in meetings that 80%+ of Whitby students stay on to go to the 6th form, but when I've looked into this, I found 66% for 2014, with only 61% for 2015... which is right? Why is it not clear? How can we believe what we're being told, if we happen to find information that contradicts this? It doesn't fill me with much hope that I'm being told the truth. I feel this is the route cause of most people's frustration. We deserve to know, don't treat us as though we don't matter or are too daft to question. We are looking out for 'Our most precious assets' and we deserve to be given the full picture, not just snippets of what you think will appease us! We as a town deserve to have choice, not just on courses available, but on the approach and the ethos. To attempt to amalgamate the schools won't be as easy as we're being led to believe, there will be lots of issues to resolve, and I for one don't particularly want my child to be part of this 'experiment'. There will be lots of teething problems, and I don't feel at all confident that these have really been thought about! My child is switched on and doing very well, I really don't want that to change! How can I be assured that it won't affect her? It's not just about having space for the children, they need to feel a part of it all, not like cattle being herded about! This is something that is happening to them, they aren't being heard or really considered. I know as a grown up, I'm struggling with this, so a child will be surely? Other small market towns not too far away can manage to support 2 schools and 2 6th forms? Malton and Norton, (Their combined population is around what Whitby's is) Plus they have good transport links to be able to go to York. We are geographically isolated. Whitby is 21 miles away from the nearest alternative 6th form, so if a child doesn't fit in or is unhappy, or expelled for example, they will have no option to travel that distance, a 42 mile round trip, daily! Yes, some choose to do this, but they had the choice 1st of two schools in

Whitby, not one that is being proposed! Primary numbers are predicted to increase by 6% over the next 5 years on average across North Yorkshire. Plus, with the new potash mine and the wind farms, surely these will bring people to the town? Shouldn't we as a town, (and the authorities) be anticipatory for this happening? Surely we don't want to close a school now, to potentially need to build a new one in just a few years? This can't make financial sense?! In 'A Guide to Models of School

Organisation/Collaboration' It says that NYCC should

- Prepare well for the projected growth in primary pupil numbers which may not be in the areas with current spare capacity. An act of parliament, The Education and Inspections Act 2006, clearly states that, Local Authorities (LA's) have a legal duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places. The Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA 2006) means that when providing those places LA's must also promote:

- Parental Choice
- Diversity
- High Standards
- Fulfilment of every child's educational potential
- Fair access to educational opportunity

LA's also have to take account of and respond to parental views and concerns about the quality of local schools. The EIA 2006 puts the LA in role of commissioner of school places, rather than the provider, a position reinforced by the EA 2011. Let's consider this, the bigger picture, and not rush the whole thing, isn't it easier to do it right once now, than be trying to fix what's gone wrong over the next few years?! We owe it to ALL the pupils to look into ALL the options. Don't regret not daring stand up to make the right decision, it's not just about money, but what's right and a vision for the future! We (the people of Whitby) are willing to change, but... Let us keep choice!

Eskdale is a very special, caring and unique school that is highly valued by the members of the community that it serves. As Assistant Headteacher at the school, with responsibility for the personal, social and emotional development of the pupils in our care, I am very proud of the safe and nurturing environment we provide for our pupils and even more proud of the wonderful young people with whom it has been my privilege to work over the last fifteen years. The support that the school enjoys from the community, the pupils and their parents cannot be underestimated and has been made clear very eloquently; not least in the short film that pupils produced and presented to XX, XX and other members of the panel at the public consultation in Whitby. There are many arguments for opposing the proposed closure of Eskdale School its amalgamation with Caedmon College Whitby and these have, I am sure, been made repeatedly and clearly by the many stakeholders of the school throughout the consultation period. To my mind, however, all of the arguments can be encapsulated in a simple question: "Is Eskdale School worth saving?" The answer to this question from the community that we serve is a very clear and resounding "Yes". It is therefore surely the responsibility of NYCC to work with the governors of Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby to explore innovative ways forward that will simultaneously lead to improved outcomes for young people in the Whitby area, whilst at the same time preserving the unique ethos and nature of Eskdale School. The proposed amalgamation of the two schools in Whitby can guarantee neither of these outcomes and as such the proposal needs to be abandoned and alternative proposals need to be made that respect the views of all stakeholders. Both of Eskdale's most recent OFSTED reports highlight areas in which the school needs to improve. As Assistant Headteacher I am fully aware of the work we need to do and am confident that we are well on our way to addressing these issues. Both reports also accentuate the many positives about the nature of the school community: "The school has a very caring ethos. Staff, pupils and parents value this. As a result, excellent relationships and good behaviour are the norm and pupils feel safe. " "The curriculum prepares pupils well for life in modern Britain and provides for their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively." "The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is good. Pupils are well looked after in this very caring school. Many parents made comments in response to Parent View about how happy, contented and settled their child was at the school. There was particular praise for the transition from primary school into Year 7 and the pastoral care provided for pupils. As a result, pupils feel safe and exhibit self-confidence at school." This is surely a community worth preserving, investing in and supporting on its journey back to becoming an "outstanding" school. The number of families choosing Eskdale as a school for their children has increased not fallen over the period covered by the last two OFSTED inspections. Parents have faith in the school to deliver the best possible outcome for their children in a small school where they are known and cared for. This is not a failing school and parents know this. As such it deserves better than to be simply merged out of existence. An amalgamation would in effect mean that Eskdale and all it stands for would cease to exist. It is precisely because Eskdale is a small school that it can deliver the outcomes that parents and pupils value so much. This ethos could not possibly be successfully transferred to a school that would be five times the size of the current school. This has become abundantly clear in the plans already being made should the merger go ahead. If Eskdale is worth saving, there are clearly a number of difficult issues that need to be addressed to enable this to happen. Underpinning NYCC's proposal to amalgamate the two schools are some very real and understandable financial concerns. There is an issue of surplus places as well as the issue of post 16 education. Any alternative proposal for the future of education in Whitby has to tackle these issues and there has to be much closer collaboration between the schools. However, the solution cannot be simply to close Eskdale and thereby lose what is not just a highly valued part of the Whitby area community, but hopefully also an institution which NYCC would not wish to see disappear. I think I speak for many in summarising my response to the

current proposal to amalgamate Eskdale and Caedmon College as follows: • Eskdale School is worth saving • The current proposal should be rejected and new proposals brought forward that guarantee Eskdale's future as part of a more collaborative approach to secondary education in Whitby. • Please do not ignore the wishes of a whole community

I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY I am the parent of a Y9 pupil at Eskdale School. After visiting both Eskdale School and Caedmon School (as was) in both Y5 and Y6 my daughter chose to go to Eskdale. I was fully supportive of this - she liked the feel of the school, was impressed by the facilities, like the welcome of the staff and, having come from a small village school with just 7 Y6 pupils, the smaller size of the school suited her. I have been very impressed with the support of all the staff in the school - my daughter was a victim of bullying in Y7 by Y9 girls and I cannot fault the way the situation was handled. I was informed and kept up to date with actions that were taken, we were both supported by the Head of Year and my daughter was made to feel that she could avoid/cope with incidents if they arose. From what I have heard from parents whose children attend CCW this is not always the case there. This worries my daughter and myself very much. If she has to move to the school and safeguarding is not dealt with in a sensitive and proactive manner where will she go? There will be no alternative school for her to attend without a long journey across the moor. Plus I could not afford the transport costs. I attended Eskdale School with the transition at the end of Y9. This was not good - making new relationships with teachers you didn't know yet they were to teach you up to the GCSE exam; a new building to get used to and new peer groups to integrate with. It really was the wrong time in my educational journey. To learn that Eskdale School had decided to extend their KS3 to KS4 was fantastic. No worries for that transition period. My daughter could stay and work with the staff who had been so supportive of her. In February, the night after we should have been at school discussing her GCSE options with her teachers, we were told that it was "thought best that the current Y9 transfer to CCW as usual". This would be less disruptive. Really? I strongly disagree. There seems to be a problem with extending to KS4 in the eyes of some. Not to parents or to pupils. Teachers are trained to teach - whatever they are asked to teach. Most of the staff at Eskdale School will have taught up to 16 (and beyond) in previous employment. They have also had to cope with the changes thrown at them by the ever-changing National Curriculum for years!! I know there has been a lot of planning and professional development for this step and the whole school community was excited about moving forward. It has been wanted for a long time. The ethos of the two schools are completely different and the small family feel of Eskdale will be lost in a 1500+ pupil school. There is no way it can survive in a vast, split-site urban style school. This is worth far more to parents and pupils than an outstanding OFSTED grade. Pupils from Eskdale go on to achieve academically just as well as those from Caedmon School/CCW. I have a lot of questions about my daughter moving to CCW. Eskdale School has not had a good OFSTED but neither had Caedmon School prior to it's amalgamation with WCC. How do we know this merger has been a success? Nothing official has been published? The LA "mock" inspection came out as good. How do we, as mere parents, know this was not biased? It is not answerable to any official body. A recent merger of secondary schools down the coast was a disaster. How can you assure me this won't happen again? The leadership team from CCW was sent by the LA to help and support Filey School but all that happened was that it went into Special Measures. Not something that gives me hope for Whitby education. I AM NOT IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSAL TO AMMALGAMATE ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY

I do not agree with this proposal, I think it is against everything we as a community want. Choice is vital, one school having a monopoly is not desirable. It would never be allowed to happen in the world of commerce. 21 miles to the nearest other secondary school does not mean we have choice as parts of Whitby are poor, so transport costs are way out of the pockets ok most. One size does not fit all., Sir Micheal Wilshaw pretty much says the same thing. Eskdale has a unique ethos where every child really does matter! Parent view says that 83% strongly agree that children are happy and contented, way about national average. Smaller schools mean staff know pupils well and visa versa. Education for the whole person with a focus on practical skills not just academic. ofsted said(2015) they rated personal development, behaviour and welfare as 'Good'. Ofsted also states that there had been little time since the last inspection (23mths) to see the results of the implementation's that had been put in place. What was the return visit so quick? Ex Eskdale students achieve as good or better in there GCSE's overall as CCW students. That shows that the reaching at Eskdale is good as if it wasn't those students that transferred from Eskdale would be behind. Staff at Eskdale are dedicated and do already teach GCSE's as the prep begins at Eskdale before students transfer. Most staff have already taught in much bigger schools so are very experienced. What proof is there to show that merged schools do well, we have only to look at Graham in Scarborough to see the process is far from easy and is a much greater risk to students education. The disruption had a much greater negative impact on students education, this is there time and once gone is lost forever. Just this week it was revealed that a further 245 houses are to be built on the west side of town adding to the hundreds that are either in the process of or have been built recently. This proposal is very short sighted and outdated as it does not seem to take into account the new job prospects coming to the area and all of this housing development., also primary numbers are on the increase. Where will all these children go, certainly the old WCC site won't be able to accommodate them.it is far better to keep 2 schools where students or staff will not be on the move between sites. Certainly having a main road between 2 conected sites as CC is now cannot in the long term be good. It is open to all kinds of safeguarding issues. Added to this are the 28 tonne lorries that will be passing those entrances many times throughout the day once work at the potash mine begins. Recently on the news much was made about pollution from stationary traffic even in market towns. Students have to line up daily beside the main road at the old WCC to get on and off coaches at very busy times of day putting them more at risk. Over 5,000 people signed the petition to save Eskdale school, much was made at the consultation evenings about it 'not been a done deal' and about 'we will listen'. I hope that you will listen and look at the other possibilities that are being suggested like Eskdale 11-16 ! CC 11-18. Why is it such a struggle for the 6th form ? Many other samiliar size secondary's seen to manage it. After all there was money from Caedmon school and also more money to help the merger, where has that all gone. Whitby has a population at present of around 13,500 with a catchment of around 26,000, surely it is not impossible to keep 2 schools, that means students are more likely to finish their education in the town as once they leave either at 11 or16, we know they are less likely to come back. Keeping Eskdale open will only bring positives to the education of OUR children in Whitby. This is their time NOW , they have made there choice of school, PLEASE do not take that away from them! Even our MP Mr Goodwill thinks Two schools is the answer. Split the money that you would give to a merged school between ESKDALE and CC TO ENSURE OUR CHILDREN NOT ONLY GET CHOICE BUT A BRILLIANT EDUCATION TOO. SAVE ESKDALE SCHOOL!

This consultation is a rushed ill-conceived plan to stop Eskdale becoming 11-16. Clearly it has been executed because the Head of CCW is frightened to loose money. it is about saving their 6th form rather than Eskdale being a failing school. The fact is that many schools the size of CCWs exist perfectly well and get good results so it is a business problem on their behalf rather than anything to do with Eskdale. Their management is top heavy and costly. Their courses are unpopular and their results poor - non of this will change with amalgamation. No other options have been considered. The public have not been given the full facts - the report is full of speculation and inaccuracies. Added to this XX has tried to influence the outcome with scaremongering and bullying. He uses vulnerable students to put his point of view forward on social media and has skewed the consultation responses by having the students fill the responses in at school whilst staff advise them what to put! He uses his newsletters and website to promote his side of the argument - has Eskdale done this - no!! They have played fair in all of this - not to be brought down to his level. The process has been pitted with issues and biased - it is not about CCW versus Eskdale - it is about student choice, it is about parent choice and it is about promoting successful education. One does begin to wonder what the support agenda for Eskdale has been since going into RI? Getting a second RI fell right into NYCC's hands and there is pattern of it being a case of setting them up to fail? It is also interesting to note that Bob McGovern has now resigned - now that his duties as an NYCC employee are now over and his job is done? There are too many coincidences in the timeline of this issue that keep going back to advice/support from NYCC for it not to be thoroughly investigated as a case of intent and planned closure. CCW governor meeting and follow up visits from XX show a definite purpose and predetermination to this report. The proposal should be disregarded - thrown out for the farce it is and support given to Eskdale to move forward. The community needs the school and students of Whitby need choice. CCW will move to be an academy in the near future anyway and then there 6th form issues can be sorted by someone who knows what they are doing!

As a parent of 3 children, one currently attending Eskdale and the other two to enroll over the next two years, I'm am concerned about the provision of secondary education in Whitby. My points for consideration are as follows: • Only having one school will not allow students to elect their preferred place in which to continue their studies. Some children will prefer a smaller more child centred environment which Eskdale provides and these children would probably not flourish in the chaotic atmosphere of Caedmon College • Removing competition in terms of academic provision will not improve standards as there will be no local comparison with which to guage against. The standards at Caedmon College will at best remain the same (which I understand to be inadequate at this current time) or more than likely, decline. If this is not the case, then why are students having to attend extra classes during holiday periods? • Why is the position of Headteacher the only post that does not have to be interviewed for? • If students are not satisfied with Caedmon College, then they will face at least a 40mile round trip every day. This, during winter months and adverse weather conditions may not always be possible. • How will access to the Caedmon site be improved? It's chaos at that end of Mayfield road now without adding hundreds more students and cars arriving at the site. There will be a fatal accident either on the crossing or near the entrance to the site. • I don't want my children to go to a school where there are serious issues regarding safeguarding and standards of behaviour. I've seen no evidence to suggest that measures have been taken to rectify these problems. I do not agree with the proposal to amalgamate the two schools.

I am both a staff member and Parent of Eskdale School and I am 100% opposed to the amalgamation proposal. I have worked at Eskdale School for 6 years and also worked at previously named "Whitby Community College" therefore I am able to make an informed decision about my child's education and what is best for the students of the Whitby area. I can assure you I had no intention to send my child to CCW! Eskdale has a very special and unique ethos which "you" claim would be maintained by the amalgamation, I don't believe this is at all possible from my previous experience of WCC and therefore Eskdale as we know and love it would be lost forever. Your proposal talks about surplus places and quality education, Eskdale was well on its way to becoming an 11-16 school "which it still is on paper!" and would therefore significantly reduce the surplus places and with GCSE results could prove pupil progress which would be one more step to a good/outstanding school. If financially viable schools is your concern then why can't Eskdale be left open to achieve its potential as an "improving school" and reduce CCW to one site, therefore reducing costs and still having a plot to sell and recoup the costs of extending one of CCW's bases? Pupils have and will always choose for one reason or another to switch from either one school to the other, therefore enabling pupils and parents to make necessary changes to their education. Whitby is Geographically unique and therefore if the proposal goes ahead the closest school in any one direction is over 20 miles away! I am also deeply concerned about safeguarding issues at CCW. There seems to be a lot of speculation in the media at present time that supports a lot evidence to the fact, I hope that NYCC are going to investigate these as a matter of urgency as this is a massive safeguarding issue! I regularly visit both CCW sites to share ideas and good practice with others within a similar department/job role, this allows good practice of the schools but also has allowed me to see the difference between student/staff behaviour and I can honestly say that I am not impressed by this at CCW. I would not be happy for my child to attend CCW or "Whitby School" as your proposal states due to the issues that I have heard and personally seen. Therefore this means that my child will have to travel in excessive of 20 miles across the North Yorkshire Moors and all weathers which will have other detrimental affects on an every school day. If this proposal goes ahead their will be many other students/families that may have no option but to send their children to the new proposed school. I believe that this will have an enormous impact on student well being and lead to depression, anxiety and absences which would have a dramatic affect on education in Whitby. As a staff member we were invited to attend a staff consultation hosted by a representative from NYCC's HR dept. With all due respect to her she was sent to be the public front of NYCC to bring guidance to us as staff members. She was not in a position to answer 80% of the questions that she was asked by staff and simply said that she would find out and respond to us. No such response has been made to me and I am therefore having to fill in this response without all the the facts and details that I should be privy too! This HR consultation was a complete waste of my time and left me with more questions than answers. One such question that has been constantly ignored by all concerned is why it seems this amalgamation is being rushed through. The timings of the proposed amalgamation are beyond ridiculous and at a time of year when year 6 are making their decisions of secondary education. If the final decision is not to be made until June then how do you expect there to be enough time to organise your proposed plan by September 2016! This entire proposal has so many unanswered questions/problems that have not been fully addressed that The whole plan needs to be scrapped and an independent review of Whitby's education system needs to implemented. **SAVE ESKDALE SCHOOL!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Eskdale should not close.my son attends this school.he loves it.my son has dislexia.He's had fantastic support at Eskdale.will this continue in a super school you want to make.Teacher now the children will this still be the same In the school you want to make?.If my child does not like the new school what is his choice?.I have a 10 year old who also wanted to attend this lovely school.but you want to rob this from my children.surely we have a choice in Whitby.This is about my children not your bank account .

We need good school's like Easkdale. Not more housing

Eskdale has been an excellent choice for my daughter who was home schooled for the year leading up to secondary school and hence very nervous about starting at secondary. XX and the team have made every effort to help her settle in, a level of attention and care she and others, who may need extra help, would have no hope of receiving in a large amalgamated school. One size certainly does not fit all. Both caedmon and eskdale received disappointing ofsted inspections but reading between the lines of the reports the issues at eskdale are much smaller and easier to resolve than the deep rooted issues at caedmon. As a parent living in a spread out rural community such as ours there is no real choice of schools if eskdale were to close. My child has already gone through enough settling into a new school at age 11. She is now very unsettled and upset at the prospect of moving again so soon and into a massive school with new teachers, rules and ethos. The children were all so excited when it was agreed eskdale could move up to age 16. Every single child there wished for that and there is no reason to take that away from them. Closing eskdale to fund the 6th form college at caedmon is not treating our children and the staff at eskdale with the respect they deserve. Eskdale is a happy place. Look at the passion the children, parents and staff have demonstrated in the recent weeks. This is a community school with great spirit and a wonderful caring ethos. The academic results are the easiest things to put right once this in place. Caedmon does not have this so putting that house in order, while gaining a few hundred extra children who are going to be very unhappy with their move is a recipe for disaster. Eskdale is a great school -the children are happy and eager to improve and do well. We need choice. This is our right and by closing eskdale there will be no choice.

Having a choice is a moral right ,for both children and parents . Choice is based on lots of reasons , preferences in schools, logistics of school runs , where siblings or friends are . Also I appreciate there will always be issues no matter which school our children attend but some schools have known issues where we as parents would not be in our right minds to send our pride and joys into a school where there are known issues that seem to be constant and well known about the community .i appreciate schools have issues and I'm sure in many cases they get dressed but if a child attends only one school and safety becomes an issue and let's say for argument reasons the same issue persist we as parents have less avenues to explore to try and remove our children from known issues . We have our daughter to move to high school in September and our other daughter in a few more years . My wife also asked several questions around the decision getting completely different responses from the powers that be in making the decisions . Hence a simple question with different answers causes serious doubts from the start .hardly a great start . I doubt for one minute all of these observations / suggestions will be read , so in my unprofessional but honest appinion I think and assume there is more to this than meats the eye . We are in touch with a lot of people that are in the teaching profession and by the sounds of things , things have been manipulated to suit the decision as there was No true reason to try or to close the school . All about the money , all about the politics , and not about the true feelings , wellbeing , education & choice for us as parents with children in this area . If we could afford private education we would do this in a heart beat than send our children to another school rather than Caedmon. I'm sure and hope you (the powers that be) have done their homework , I'm not a professional on this issue and maybe speaking out of term but I fear there are many areas that have Not been really thought over ..I tell you now and quote me if I'm wrong (there will be serious issues causing many to loose faith if this decision goes ahead) many voices will be heard screaming " I told you so "...

The amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon Schools is a misguided and ill conceived plan. The education of an entire generation of children is being put at risk. No explanation of any worth has been given as to how Caedmon School can possibly cope with the extra number of children. It is clear that the people of Whitby want to keep the two school system. The short term gain from the selling of the Eskdale site for building projects is not an acceptable reason to disrupt our children's education. I was appalled to see Caedmon students being taken across Mayfield road as they moved between the two campuses. It was clear that they were idling and beyond the control of the poor person in charge. This is simply not going to work.

in my vue nycc have made a mistake with whitby school and caedmon amalgamation and are now in a position were the only way out for them is to bring eskdale in to the equation its quite obvious .why els do they now wont caedmon school to be used as a 6th form .time lost and children traveling i km between classes teachers being late for class .and classes being unattended by a teacher because there in transit is not the fault of eskdale .!!

Very unhappy about the merger as I don't want my child to be part of a large school. Do not like the attitude of XX and XX concerning this supposed "steering group" . There views do not represent the views of any parents I know.

<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. The main reason being that children should have choice in their place of education. Only having the option of one school in Whitby is not good or healthy for children. A happy child is a happy learner and if they are forced to be in a school they do not want to be in how can they be expected to achieve. Not all children suit one type of school and what if it doesn't work out for them, then what? Because of our geographical location the option of choosing another secondary school to attend is practically impossible, taking into consideration the distance and the weather on the North York Moors during the Winter. What is the alternative? What about children who are possibly excluded where will they go? The small school ethos of care and nurture has the potential to be diluted, a child in a school of 1600 can become invisible with staff being unable to know all the children problems can be missed. Another issue is the split site, If staff are having to travel between sites this can only be disruptive to the childrens' education, if a child needs to talk to a member of staff after a lesson and they've had to go then what?</p>
<p>This process would have been much improved if it had been in the form of a questionnaire. A series of closed questions, or a "strongly agree/disagree" format would have made it possible to quantify the level of approval for or disapproval of the proposal. I am not aware of any stage in the consultation when the opinions of those affected have been polled in any quantifiable way - no "All those in favour", no yes or no questions. All we are left with is a series of heartfelt but individually expressed opinions, rather than figures which are not open to interpretation. With this in mind: (1) I am convinced that the proposed merger is a bad idea. (2) I believe that the entire consultation is a stage managed performance, and that the outcome was decided months ago behind closed doors. (3) I believe that parents, children and school staff have been last on the list of considerations during this process, and have been poorly served by those who are employed to represent them. (4) The consultation should be kept open until an OFSTED inspection of Caedmon school has been carried out. Much has been made of Eskdale's performance, without any evidence to support the idea that Caedmon has had any better results.</p>
<p>No text supplied x 34</p>
<p>I have two children in secondary school and one in primary school. My eldest two now go out of town for schooling. We are only in the catchment area for CCW and Eskdale at the moment. I wanted my children to go to Eskdale. My eldest loved her three years at Eskdale but was unable to stay on due to the current system and would have had to go to CCW. We didn't want her, and she didn't want to go there. We didn't have choice so preferred to pay for her to go to a school out of area. We then decided that with the uncertainty in Whitby, we would send our middle child out of town to be educated. Our youngest child is due to start secondary in September. Again with the uncertainty, we felt we would prefer to pay for him to be educated out of town so have fortunately secured a place out of area. If Eskdale were to remain open as 11-16, we would not hesitate in our children returning to Eskdale to finish their education. I know the council are wanting to use the money from closing Eskdale to put into sixth form at Caedmon College but we think that maybe merging the sixth form with another college in the surrounding area rather than the secondary school would be better and keeping two school as 11-16. Also this would be better if one of the schools is not suitable, they could move to the other and vice versa, especially if there was bullying etc. My opinion is that the two school should not amalgamate.</p>
<p>From a personal HSE perspective, there are many concerning areas surrounding this proposal, which are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The volume of traffic at present creates hazards for children who make their way to school on foot as there is no crossing provided at the Caedmon school site entrance (car parked in layby on left is where some pupils are dropped off). • Children are left with no choice other than to cross the path of traffic travelling across the new bridge if they are walking from the east side of the town towards Whitby Community College & Caedmon (top right picture). • During the dark winter months when hours of daylight are limited, children need to cross this road during poor weather conditions where there could be poor visibility for drivers. So what can be done to minimize and control these hazards? • Slow down and obey all traffic laws and speed limits, both in school zones and in neighbourhoods surrounding the school. • So we obey the current 40mph speed limit in the vicinity of Caedmon school and revert back to the above factual statistics? • Should the new bridge be a 30mph zone with warning lights/beacons highlighting that this is a school area with the provision of becoming a 20mph zone during school times, as are other built up areas around North Yorkshire towns/villages? • Comply with local school drop-off and pick-up procedures for the safety of all children accessing the school. • What is going to be enforced for the additional cars, buses to ensure the safety of the children? • Avoid picking up/dropping off children at locations across the street from the school. This forces youngsters to unnecessarily cross the busy main road rather than at a crossing. • How are children going to avoid doing what they have done for years with no crossing in place opposite Caedmon school? • Pupils have always had to cross this section of this 40mph zone due to the inadequate crossing provisions. • This hazardous situation will become much worse if the essential crossing facilities are not put in place prior to this proposal being accepted. Anything else for consideration? There is the potential for travel disruption with regards to having to divert traffic to other routes in this small town and possibly having to divert over the old bridge which is unsuitable for some larger vehicles which the new bridge is designed to withstand. All this will need to be done while the work is ongoing. The link below is an accident which left an 11-year-old severely injured. This easily avoidable accident occurred after several recommendations to implement a crossing failed. <p>http://www.shropshirestar.com/news/2013/11/23/safety-campaigners-make-school-crossing-case/ The next link shows a similar situation to that at the entrance to Caedmon school, across a busy main road. This is taken directly from the HSE website which also has many safety cases relating to school safety and vehicles.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is going to be

done to prevent our child becoming one of these statistics? <http://www.hse.gov.uk/search/search-results.htm?q=school%20crossing#gsc.tab=0&gsc.q=school%20crossing&gsc.page=1> • There is no provision for bus stops apart from inside the Caedmon school grounds which will need to accommodate a much higher volume of vehicles during drop off/pick up. There is no crossing available and children are forced to cross the busy main road when dropped off opposite the school entrance. Hopefully the Health and Safety at Work act 1974 has been seriously considered with the proposed amalgamation as there are areas within, especially section 2. <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1974/37/section/2> Please refer to..... (d)so far as is reasonably practicable as regards any place of work under the employer's control, the maintenance of it in a condition that is safe and without risks to health and the provision and maintenance of means of access to and egress from it that are safe and without such risks. Below is an extract from the link below to the HSE website page. • Schools need to assess the risk from vehicle movements on their premises and manage those risks in line with current workplace transport guidance e.g. segregation, marking and lighting. • Schools should consider in their risk assessment vehicle movements occurring immediately outside the school premises which may be associated with school activities, such as staff arriving and leaving work, school buses delivering pupils, delivery vehicles. <http://www.hse.gov.uk/workplacetransport/sitelayout.htm>

I have read the proposal to amalgamate the schools and I have attended all the meetings and as a parent of a pupil at Eskdale school and a member of this community, I am categorically opposed to the amalgamation. I find the proposal worrying mainly because it is almost completely lacking in evidence and is one sided. My daughter and ourselves chose Eskdale school. We thought it was the best school for her and as it turns out, we were right. She is very happy and as a result of that, she is doing well. We love the ethos of the school which is particularly suitable for the children from village primary schools where they have been taught in a small, friendly environment and for children with special educational needs and vulnerable children. I believe that choice is a necessity not a luxury. Choice drives up standards, gives people more options and covers a much wider range of needs. Lack of choice will have a huge detrimental impact on this area. Whitby is an isolated town, people will have to send their children approximately twenty miles away to the nearest other schools if the amalgamated school in Whitby does not suit them or is failing. What will happen if the amalgamated school does not 'secure high quality education'? There are no guarantees that an amalgamated school will be a good school and no evidence in the proposal to support this. It is very worrying for parents who, due to a lack of a recent Ofsted inspection at Caedmon College, have no idea how well the school that they may be forced to send their children to, is doing. I see almost no mention of children's wellbeing in the proposal. There would be an enormous amount of work to be done to ensure a smooth transition for all concerned and I do not think this has been looked into properly. I am very concerned about the dangers of pupils moving from site to site, the pupils having to cross busy roads and the inconvenience and disruptive influence this will have on all concerned. I can't see how this will "secure high quality education". I accept that Eskdale school has some work to do in order to improve in certain areas- which school doesn't need to improve? I am also aware that the uncertainty of the future of the school that has been looming over the staff and governors for the past few years will have had a huge impact on the last Ofsted report. The feeling I got at the meetings I have attended is that NYCC are trying to push through the Amalgamation at such a speed that really important issues are being missed or ignored and I feel that in order to get the future of secondary education right in this area a lot more time and research needs to go into it. We need to get this right first time, we will not have another chance to get it right.

I am strongly opposed to this proposal. CHOICE - a choice of school in the town, for the town and it's children is essential. Due to the geographical area, Whitby is over 21 miles to the next nearest school. Considering the distance, weather restrictions on our roads in and out of Whitby and the demands this would place on the children and their families in both time and money, this is not a REASONABLE CHOICE. Having one school does not necessarily raise educational standards. ONE SIZE does not fit all! I personally do feel that this proposal discriminates against some children and their families, families on lower incomes, single parent families, families with a disabled parent/carer, families where a child or young person is a carer, or families with more than one child - how could they afford to send their child to another school if this one isn't right for them? Or afford to send to the only other local private school? I couldn't afford either of these options so I am being discriminated against! ETHOS - EVERY CHILD MATTERS! Pupils, parents and staff are happy, ParentView supports this and is above the National Average, unlike Caedmon College which is much lower, and, I am particularly concerned about the poor scores here around Bullying and Safety. How can YOU guarantee my child's safety or child protection for all? Two weeks ago I became aware of a current (and older) pupil at Caedmon College being insulting and abusive via social media about Eskdale and about individuals from a meeting. I sent these comments and a lengthy email to the Head of Caedmon College and I have still received no reply! How can I be assured by this? How does this show any kind of Ethos other than a poor one and one I do not want my child to be part of? The comments were abusive, vulgar and used appalling language - is this acceptable? It appears to be. My child was involved in the music video made by the pupils of Eskdale School, as has been verbally abused in the street by children from Caedmon College because of this - appalling behaviour! Children at Caedmon College have been told about all the exciting things the school will do 'WHEN' they get the money; Not 'IF' but 'WHEN' - this smacks of carrot dangling, when my child and all of those around her are in limbo, not knowing what will happen. My child, her friends, peers and other year groups around her are in a state of anxiety and distress - this is not acceptable. My child is upset on a daily basis, worried about her future and anxious constantly and keeps asking me 'what will happen?' 'where will I go?' - I cannot answer his and it is so terrible to not be able to ease her concerns, or answer her questions. Her current school is small, they all matter, every child is focussed on, the whole of them. It is a nurturing school with sound values, principles and a strong ETHOS. My child's confidence has improved massively, her results and

progression have significantly improved and she has an excellent support framework in place. This consultation has come after they were told they would be a school with 11-16 status, something my daughter was so happy about, and everyone else was too, only for that now to be ripped away from them. It makes me wonder if it was the plan all along, knowing it wouldn't happen anyway?! Given the nature of the school, it is SAFE. One site, no travelling in between, small, accessible, welcoming and nurturing. The proposal removes all of that for me. I see groups of children at Caedmon College going between sites now and it worries me now! The proposal would significantly increase the risks. I went to both Consultation Meetings at the Pavillion, and I was not assured at all. It raised more questions and answered none. The presentation felt tokenistic in regards to children and young people, and patronising towards parents/carers. The language between the two evenings also change, the first night a few slip ups were made as it sounded as though it was definitely happening, this was changed on the second night but the damage was already done. In the presentation it stated that the head of Caedmon College would be the head of the amalgamated school - how has this been decided? Has a fair process been adopted for this, and if so, how? If this is only 'proposed' at the moment how can this have been decided in a fair, open and transparent way? I spoke to the head of Caedmon College after the meeting and he couldn't answer one single question I had, his constant response was 'I don't know' or 'I cant answer that' - hardly gives me a push of confidence. Not once did he show any passion, compassion or even enthusiasm! I have seen large schools in action and they certainly do not work for everyone. This is a very risky proposal; my child and others at both school will be the victims if it fails. You don't get second chances with children! No evidence has been shown or given to assure that the amalgamation of Caedmon School and Whitby College has worked/is working or has been effective? How can you rush into another without knowing if this has worked? I have spoken with some children from Caedmon College, they have said they feel like a number, excluded, forgotten 'like sheep being herded' - how is this best for them? How is this best for any child, for my child? How can you take a chance with these children? My child and all the others are off at the moment, are they enjoying their holiday? No, they are worried, anxious and distracted. It appears to me that the only options looked at or explored have been those that mean the closure of Eskdale School. I have seen nothing that proves otherwise and I am sure that there are other options that could be explored. This shouldn't just be a money saving exercise! This is about my child, every child and the future of Whitby!

I totally disagree with the amalgamation of these two schools. PLEASE SAVE ESKDALE SCHOOL

My daughter XX is in year 8 of Eskdale School. She chose this school because she expressed that it felt the right school for her. She has now had 2 very happy, and fulfilling years at Eskdale. I feel very strongly that the school should not close down. All children should be given a choice. Eskdale was her 1st choice NOT CAEDMON. Going then to Pickering or Scarborough is NOT A CHOICE!!!! Eskdale should remain open for all the family's and children who all love this wonderful school. Amalgamation would be chaos!!! PLEASE SAVE ESKDALE

I STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE SCHOOL WITH CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY!

I am writing with regard to NYCC's plan to close Eskdale School in Whitby. I am a parent of a child who currently attends Eskdale in year 7, a past pupil who is in year 10 and a child in primary who is in year 4.

As you are aware the provision of secondary education in Whitby has been less than ideal, with the use of two middle schools for KS3 and a transfer at year 10 for KS4. Historically most people have been extremely happy with the choice of either Eskdale School or the old Caedmon School. The major concern was when children go the upper school (Whitby School/Community College Whitby), this school has had a history of problems including several years in 'Special Measures'. Most children wish that they could have stayed at Eskdale/Caedmon to do their GCSE's that has been the case for 20+years!

The main problems have been the difficult transfer at the age of 14 to the upper school, the lack of choice of KS4 provision and over capacity of places in the three school sites.

The question now is: what is the best way forward to provide secondary school provision in Whitby. There are two available options:

1. To follow the plan developed by XX NYCC, in conjunction with XX of Caedmon College Whitby. Which is to close Eskdale School and transfer all children to Caedmon College Whitby, which would then be the only school providing education for pupils aged 11-19. This school would then have to operate over two sites.
2. To keep Eskdale School open, let it take on year 10 pupils in September 2016 so that they are able to take their GCSE's in summer 2018. This would then leave Caedmon College Whitby to consolidate onto one of their sites. One school 11-16 on one site, another 11-19 on one site.

So what is the best option? If you believe XX and XX, Whitby would be best served by one secondary school (1500+ pupils) over a split site and force all children to attend it. Economies of scale, more money, but would it deliver better results for all children? There are many problems with this plan. The concept of operating a split site has several problems. They claim that the children would be able to use the best facilities of both sites, and best teachers, but would they? Are the children or teachers really going to walk 1km from front door to front door, over a main road, between lessons? How is the management of the two site work? Senior management would be based on the old Community College and the Caedmon site would be alone for most of the time.

The structure of school may be dysfunctional. This would not be in the best interests of the children. If the proposal goes ahead, there will be a year, possibly longer, when the school will operate over 3 sites. How can this be considered as a cohesive approach to education?

If this proposal goes ahead, then the school will not close until the end of the summer term, then there is going to be a year of chaos. One school split over not 2 sites but over 3 sites. How are any of the children in Whitby going to achieve any progress when they are in a school with no cohesion, a lot of the children don't want to be a part of it, a lot of the teaching staff don't want it, a lot of the parents don't want it. I am receiving a lot of feedback from current Caedmon College parents and they don't want it. The proposal will see some children attending 4 different school sites in 4 years. One year at primary, at year 6. One year at Caedmon Scoresby, year 7. One year at Eskdale, year 8. Finally, transition to Caedmon Normanby site in year 9. How would that help learning? How is that removing transitions? It is looking like a disaster.

We don't have to look too far to see the disaster of the amalgamation between Graham School and Raincliffe. Graham School was considered as Ofsted 'Good', Raincliffe was considered Ofsted 'Requires Improvement'. After they merged they were considered 'Special Measures'. We do not know what the result of the merger between Caedmon School and Community College. When the merge took place, Caedmon was rated as 'Requires Improvement' yet their rating has been 'waived' when they merged taking the 'Good' of Community College Whitby rating. Yet whatever is said the last OFSTED rating of years 7, 8 and 9 is 'Required Improvement' and the new Caedmon College must have an awful lot of work to do to ensure the standards are pulled up in at KS3 Whitby School was rated 'good' at its last OFSTED inspection, but reading the report only just. XX repeatedly states that during a recent 'LA inspection' Caedmon College was rated as 'Good'. However I question the validity of this report. The LA has a "longstanding view that a single school in Whitby" would be best, this is based on College being the single school. Would the 'LA Inspection' really undermine the LA position of their "longstanding view"? Would it jeopardise the plan to close Eskdale School? Yet as the school since the merged, it has not had an up to date OFSTED inspection to prove that it is worthy of such a rating. I would suggest this needs doing as if Eskdale was to close and CCW was to accommodate these pupils it could be disastrous for their education. The last thing Whitby wants is one school in special measures. A recent merge in nearby Scarborough with Raincliffe School and Graham School is an illustration of this. Indeed just last month the North Yorkshire Performance League tables ranked Caedmon College Whitby as 27 out of 53 for KS4 and 28 out of 38 KS5 hardly top of the class?? (Graham School achieved rank 47 at KS4). None of the schools on the Yorkshire coast performed that well, where is the help that is needed from the LA.

XX has stated that if secondary education in Whitby was being planned from scratch, then everyone would agree that it would be best served by a single 11-19 school. However that single school would not be planned to be set up on a split site, separated by 1km, split by the A171 the main road through Whitby. That single school would be not planned to use a hotchpotch of buildings, some over 100 years old, some prefab buildings. That single school, with two sites, would not be planned to be sited on the busiest road in Whitby, it would not be planned adjacent to the busiest road junction in Whitby. That single school would not be planned to have such poor access for vehicles, busses cannot enter Normanby site so have to drop off on main road causing traffic chaos, cars find it difficult to enter or exit at the tight junction, it is partially a single lane to the

limited parking area. That single school would not have such poor pedestrian access, the footpath opposite Normanby site is single file, pedestrian access to the rear of the school (those pupils walking from the town centre) is via a road which goes under the old railway line, that road is single carriageway, it does not have a footpath! This single school plan has too many compromises compared to the ideal vision.

A lot has been said about the need for this amalgamation to happen to save the 6th Form. I find it extremely difficult to accept that it is ethically and morally correct to accept that money designated to pupils in KS3 and KS4 should be used to subsidise the 6th form provision. XX and XX have both used the statistic that over 80% of pupils stay on into the 6th form, how is it that they are both using incorrect statistics? Destination data published on Caedmon College website clearly state that over the last three years only 61-66% pupils stay to go into the 6th form. <http://www.ccwhitby.co.uk/colleRe-profile/destination-information/>. The numbers then fall to 50% who manage to stay on to complete the 2 years. The actual figure doesn't matter, the fact is that 20-50% of pupils do not gain the benefit of the subsidy; they have their KS3 and KS4 education damaged since funding is syphoned off to the 6th form which they do not later receive the benefit.

However in my opinion Whitby would be best served by having two secondary schools, one 11-16 and another 11-19. These could be provided also on two sites. One of either Caedmon College sites would have to close. Eskdale School would have a capacity of about 550 and Caedmon College capacity of 950. Both schools would then be at capacity and be at full efficiency. There are several reasons this would be better.

Choice has to be the main motivator. Education policy nationally has been driven on the concept of choice and diversity. If a child has a choice of which school they go to, they are empowered about that choice, they are more motivated about their learning, they are proud about their school, they have ownership of their education, they work harder at school and as a result achieve better, which was evident in the past when both Eskdale School and the old Caedmon School were so well regarded in the local community. When there use to be SATs at the end of KS3, both Eskdale School and Caedmon School were regularly at the top end of league tables, at a time when Community College Whitby was in 'Special Measures'. If Eskdale School is forced to close, where is the choice? Due to Whitby's geographically isolated location, the next nearest secondary school is over 20 miles away, either in Scarborough, Pickering or Guisborough. So travelling over the North Yorkshire Moors at the age of 11 is not an option for many, especially considering the cost involved and in wintertime when the roads can often be closed/difficult due to the weather. This might have to be a consideration for some pupils, one size does not fit all. There could be a problem of not fitting in, bullying, exclusions etc. that would require a child to choose to go to another education establishment. With choice comes competition. It could be said that free choice and competition are the drivers of the western world. It is what has led to the deregulation of British Rail and energy markets since the 1980's. The concept of competition and free market drives up standards and efficiency. In Whitby two schools would be driven by competition. They would have local benchmarks to measure themselves against, this would drive up standards, increase attainment, improve results. Better outcomes for all children. This is what happened with Eskdale School and the old Caedmon School.

What would happen if our children had no choice and there was no competition? There may be greater resources in one school, but would the children be as motivated if they didn't have the choice, would the children be as empowered, would they have ownership of their education? Would the school and teachers have any competition to beat? Would they be driven to give 100%? Would they have anyone to compare themselves against? You might argue that competition would still exist with other schools in North Yorkshire, but as everyone knows the team you want to beat the most is the local rival, nothing like a local derby match to increase the stakes. The result of a single school in Whitby could lead to a lack of motivation and a drift into mediocrity. This was evident in the old Community College. It was also evident in Filey, where there is only a single secondary school in that town. It has recently been in special measures and has now been taken over by Ebor Academy. Interestingly the LA, in a belief that it would improve results, sent in the Senior Leaders from Caedmon College to Filey School. However the impact was not good, the school went from 'Requires Improvement' to 'Special Measures', hardly effective interventions.

Personally I have found Eskdale School to be excellent. My eldest daughter went through the school and did amazingly well. My middle daughter has started in year 7 and I am extremely pleased with the ethos at the school and how well she has settled in. She would be devastated if it were to close. My son is in year 4 and it his intention to go to the school. I support pupil choice in the town and do not want to see just one school. If my middle child had wanted to go to Caedmon College she would have chosen to.

Eskdale School has an excellent reputation that extends well beyond the local area. The online petition on change.org, fighting to keep Eskdale School open shows the huge level of support for the school and having choice in the town. It has been set up by an ex pupil and has already got 5200 signatures online and via paper copies.

<https://www.change.org/p/north-yorkshire-county-council-stop-the-closure-of-eskdale-school>. I would strongly recommend you to view the numerous comments on this petition. There is also overwhelming support on Facebook page 'Fight to Save Eskdale School' <https://www.facebook.com/saveeskdalschool/>. It is also evidenced in the huge turn out for the protest march which occurred on the 13th of February. 500 people marched from the Whitby Abbey, down the famous 199 steps, along Church Street and over Whitby Swing Bridge. The Pupils voice, heard via Alistair Griffins collaboration with the children, had over 120,000 hits on their video 'Somewhere only we know'. The 2 consultation meetings at the Spa in Whitby were packed both nights. The amount of interest in saving Eskdale School is huge.

The online OFSTED Parentview is one of the best I've seen. Indeed a staggering 91% of parents would recommend the school to another parent, compared to a national average of 83%. Ofsted Parentview just shows how much the parents feel that Eskdale is a good school. 2014/2015 85% strongly agreed that their child was happy, the national average for secondary schools was 52%, Caedmon college result was 50%. Interestingly the current year figures show only 39% of Caedmon College parents strongly agree that their child is happy at school and 22% strongly disagree that their child is happy at school. As a parent your children's happiness is of the utmost importance. I would say that a happy child must be a happy learner! It seems pupils' happiness is not taken into account in education decisions today. The most recent OFSTED report rated 'personal development, behaviour and welfare' as 'good'. Why on earth is the Local Authority considering closing schools where pupils and parents are happy and without consulting them before proposals are in place?

I support pupil choice in Whitby and I know from first hand experience that the quality of education is of a high standard at Eskdale, pupils are happy and thrive. Furthermore, if the decision to close Eskdale is taken this will lead to increased pupil numbers at Caedmon College, disruption there would be an issue for all pupils. This school is already dealing with the merger of Whitby and Caedmon. Caedmon College has yet to be subject to an OFSTED inspection since the merge, However, issues lie in the school as I

have first hand experience as our eldest daughter transferred there after Eskdale and started in year 10 in September. From my daughter's experiences, the school, because of its size, struggles to know its pupils well, targets aren't clear or up to date, books aren't marked and errors are made when reporting. There is some very poor behaviour that isn't always addressed effectively due to its size. My daughter chose to leave Caedmon College in December.

It appears there has been a drive by XX and XX to have a single secondary school in Whitby. They, it appears seem to be in cahoots and continually undermined Eskdale School at every opportunity. Turning down Eskdale 11-16 application a few years ago, blocking Eskdale Schools bid for Academy Status (whilst College planning their own), causing problems when Eskdale were able to do their own age range change. Is it right that an officer of the council to, so openly, undermine one of its own schools in favour of another? Or is it NYCC policy to have a single secondary school in Whitby? If so, has it been debated in a full council meeting? Has the public, pupils, teachers, parents been consulted about the policy to close their school? There has been a lack of proper process by which NYCC and XX have acted regarding Eskdale School. The policy they have followed has been cynical at best.

A lot has been talked about the need to save the 6th form. The school with the 6th form provision, if Eskdale School stays open and provides 11-16 education, will have a net increase in funding compared to two years ago. When it was a 14-18 school Community College had pupil numbers of 829 at the Ofsted inspection in 2013. Caedmon School had pupil numbers of 340 at the inspection in 2014. If Eskdale take 200 pupils for its 11-16 plan and following their amalgamation between Caedmon School and Community College, the 6th form school has had a net gain of 140 pupils compared with 2013, an approximate increase in funding of £750k pa compared with 2013. The 6th form would be more financially secure than two years ago. The overall numbers would have increased by 140 pupils, to over 950+. Two financially secure schools at full capacity and efficiency.

It is extremely unfair to the year 9 pupils currently in Eskdale School who were so excited to be the first cohort to do GCSE's at Eskdale School. After several years to achieve 11-16 status and the future of the school to be secure, to have it taken away in this manner is a travesty. I would request that you take this opportunity now to reject the plan put forward by XX immediately. Allow the current year 9 pupils to continue their education at Eskdale School. If this plan proceeds then it will be inevitable that these year pupils will have to attend Caedmon College Whitby, or make a choice to go elsewhere if practical, for their GCSE's, even if after the long consultation process Eskdale School stays open.

The number of children has been dropping over the last 10 years or so in Whitby. The number of children who choose Eskdale has been fairly constant; however the number on roll in the Caedmon School KS3 has fallen dramatically. Ten years ago Caedmon had about 64% of the pupil population in KS3 and Eskdale 36%. However recently the proportion has changed significantly Caedmon College

now has 53% of KS3 pupils and Eskdale 47%. The gap has narrowed, despite the difficulties Eskdale School has had with trying to develop its 11-16 plan, which has been blocked and hindered by the Childrens and Young People Services.

Despite a lot of talk between the 3 schools and NYCC a solution to work together was never found. Eskdale solution for their school was to become a 11-16 school, change its age range, provide education up to GCSE's. However this move was not backed Children's and Young People Services. To try to get around this Eskdale School tried to move to an academy, academies are now a government policy for all schools by 2022, however Children's and Young People Services blocked it.

Fortunately for Eskdale School, a change in regulations in January 2015 allowed schools to change their own age range, following consultation and developing a business plan, Eskdale School moved on with its desire to be an 11-16 school. This 11-16 plan would solve the problems of the transfer at 14, and spare capacity. The business plan is available on Eskdale School Website under the governor section.

I believe that Eskdale School as a 11-16 school is an exciting proposal, the children were excited, the parents were excited, the teachers were excited. It is a win-win-win situation.

The only spanner in the works has been Eskdale Schools Ofsted inspections. In December 2013 they received 'Requires Improvement'. The school accepted this and worked extremely hard to improve in the areas that needed attention. Unfortunately Ofsted re inspected after 23 months, why they came back so soon I have been unable to get a straight answer, for 'Requires Improvement' the inspections should be 24 months, but they are currently running behind at 30 months ish.

The inspection was in Nov 2015, they got a second 'Requires Improvement'. Although the inspection was 'Requires Improvement', a lot of the judgements stated that there hasn't been enough time to see the full effects of the improvements implemented. If Ofsted inspected now, the result would be much better. There is an HMI inspection due soon and I am sure that they will recognise the improvements.

The problem with Eskdale can be solved if they continue with their plan to be a 11-16 school. At the moment there is no national test data at the end of KS3, these were abolished in 2008, interestingly when there was KS3 SATS, Eskdale was judged outstanding. If Eskdale had GCSE's they would have the hard evidence. Eskdale becoming 11-16 would solve the problem of transition at 14 and the spare places within the school. It is what the pupils want, it is what the parents want, it is what the staff want, it is

what the governors want. This would then in turn would have to lead to a rationalisation of accommodation of Caedmon College, move onto one site. Their current system of working on a split site is failing. There still is a transfer at some point, too much time is lost when staff or pupils travel between sites, and it is not a cohesive approach to provide education, it is not effective or efficient.

It is evident that the parents and pupils at Eskdale School do not want this to happen. The teaching staff at Eskdale School does not want this to happen, many staff have spoken out about this even though they may find themselves in the difficult position of having to work in the new school. The Governing body do not want this to happen. They were put into an impossible position where XX told them that they had to agree or he would remove the governing body and place an 'Interim Executive Board', they were bullied into agreeing with this, is that the behaviour that we should expect of an Officer of North Yorkshire County Council.

This proposal to amalgamate is not in the best interest in all the children in Whitby and the surrounding area.

Whitby would be better served by having two secondary schools, one 11-16, Eskdale-550 pupils. The other 11-19, Caedmon College-900 pupils. This would solve the problem of transitions; solve the problems of spare places. This would provide CHOICE, CHALLENGE, COMPETITION, problems solved.

I STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE SCHOOL WITH CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY!

Parents of pupil at Eskdale School

To begin, the NYCC Consultation Form is worded in such a way that you could presume that amalgamation has already been decided upon.

e.g. 'Observations and /or suggestions on the proposal'.

Our own observations /or suggestions on the proposal

Our first observation is that the proposal is mainly financial. It is obvious that at present there are too many excess places across all sites and this coupled with too many teaching staff means it is not viable to continue with this model.

We are been lead to believe that this proposal for a single school is for the benefit of the children and is the most likely to provide high quality education. We are aware that research shows that a middle school system is very outdated and that children are at an academic disadvantage due to an extra transition. However for our children it has worked. They have moved from a very small primary school to Eskdale for 3 years building confidence and maturity needed to move to a larger school (which in the past was WCC) and being able to deal with all the new challenges that it throws up such as making new friends, undertaking new work programmes and walking from the train station to school and crossing busy roads on the way.

Our second observation is that eventually when all the 11-16 children are on one site it will be a very large school. Much larger than we had ever anticipated our children would attend especially as they live in such a rural area. At Eskdale our son who is presently in Year 8 is not just 'a number' he is known really well by all staff including the Head Teacher. He is a quiet boy who surprisingly coped well with the transition from Primary to Secondary school and is very happy and wants to stay here. As already mentioned above we like the idea of them gradually becoming part of increasingly bigger groups of children as they move through a series of schools all the time gaining the knowledge and skills needed for further or higher education or the world of work.

Suggestion – *The previous system of two 11-14 schools feeding into Whitby Community College worked well for our eldest son, who is now at University. However we realise that it is not financially viable, there are flaws in a Middle School model and children now begin GCSE work in Year 9. It would be lovely (but probably not financially viable) if all the Year 7 and 8's could transfer from their Primaries each year to the Eskdale Site and remain there for two years and then move to begin three years of GCSE work.*

We did feel that the comment made at one of the consultation meetings about making an 'inner city school' was very pertinent. Due to the location of Whitby and the surrounding area we are lucky to have space and that is a luxury that other towns and cities often don't have. We are then going to cram all the 11-16 children onto a site that already has very little open field space and coupled with this is the close proximity to Mayfield Road which is very busy and dangerous. We need some reassurance that a very safe way of getting from one side of this road to the other is made and is ready for September.

Suggestion - *Although not mentioned in the proposal, it would seem obvious that the 11-16 children would have to access the fields and astro turf at the new Sixth Form site because as already mentioned they have very limited facilities on their own site. Either a footbridge (similar to that at Northallerton) or apparently there is a track that goes or could go under the road. Could this track be developed? Whatever crossing system is put in place we would want it to be completely finished and fully enclosed from traffic so there is no chance of any child coming into contact with any vehicles.*

Our third observation is that it is a very short amount of time from June to September for everybody to be ready for amalgamation. Mistakes could happen and difficulties arise that could be detrimental.

- Movement of children too many times effecting continuity of learning. The present Year 7 children at Caedmon College who have already had one transition from Primary school will move again to Eskdale in September 2016 and then presumably move for a third time back to Caedmon College (renamed Whitby School) when the new classrooms are built. We feel very sorry for those parents and children who are presently at Caedmon College and had no idea that the proposed amalgamation would affect them (until after the first Consultation Evening on Monday March 14th 2016).
Suggestion- *Difficult to make a suggestion here as all children can't fit on one site from September 2016. Whichever Year groups you kept at Eskdale it wouldn't be ideal and would cause several transitions within their Secondary education.*
- Injury or even fatality due to new scenarios for where children will be walking to and from. For example, those children who will be in Years 7 and 8 in September and would previously have gone to Caedmon College but will now have to make a longer journey to Eskdale. Those on the train who will be Year 9 in September (and eventually the Year 7 and 8's) will have to walk from the train station to school (the newly named Whitby School)
Suggestion - *Could the road/roundabout at the bottom of Chubb Hill be manned with a School Crossing Patrol Officer? See also suggestions for safer crossing at Mayfield Road made at end of second observation .*
- The Year 8 and 9 children unprepared for their move. Year 9 children (who will be Year 10 in September) will be joining their counterparts, already at Caedmon College, who have been undertaking GCSE work. We also feel that the present Year 8 (with regard to my own child in this cohort) at Eskdale have been taught by staff been distracted at times with issues such as seeking academy status and becoming an 11-16 school.
Suggestion – *Groups of children and their parents working closely with staff at Whitby School with the expectation of children 'aiming higher'. For these groups to be open to all children and their parent's not just those, hand - picked by the school. To have regular set homework that parents oversee and report back on to staff. If any homework isn't completed, staff to immediately contact parents. Some form of folder system to keep pieces of homework in good condition and to create a sense of pride in their work.*

Our fourth observation is that the proposal to a large extent seems to be led by the need to secure a Sixth Form for Whitby. At present it seems ideal to have this provision in Whitby for children to continue on with their education. The proposal to have the Sixth Form on the Scoresby Site seems a good idea because they would be separate from the 11-16 school having their own identity and would also be old enough to walk between sites.

Suggestion - *Maybe we need to look more closely in the long term and forecast that when we have one 11-16 school in Whitby whether Post 16 provision can still survive and provide a good range of A Levels. The funding for schools and Sixth Forms is from different 'pots' but it looks as though at present one is trying to subsidise the other. Would it be better for NYCC to arrange transport for students to travel to Scarborough, Stokesley or Pickering (all within North Yorkshire). Some already choose Prior Pursglove at Guisborough because they like the idea of a completely separate Sixth Form, a 'new' start or provide A Level courses that they want.*

Other suggestions

- *Parents having more involvement and say in what GCSE's their children choose.*
- *A regular meeting time for Head Teacher and parents to work on strategies to establish good relationships so that all parties (Head Teacher, parents and children) feel at ease and can work together on creating an environment where the Head Teacher knows every 11-16 child (and parent) in his school.*

To conclude we feel that this is a very difficult and complex situation that we have arrived at and find ourselves involved in. We think NYCC should have intervened much earlier and also been much more honest about why amalgamation was necessary. It would seem that many parents and children are still confused and don't realise that this has to happen. We have been very honest with our Year 8 son and as a result feel that we haven't been able to give the support to Eskdale School that we would have liked to and they really need. We don't want our son to be under the impression that he will stay at Eskdale making it even more difficult for him to move this September. He is extremely happy at Eskdale and wanted to stay here for the foreseeable future. Luckily he has a strong friendship group and they will all remain together whatever the outcome.

Responses from parents or carers of pupils who attend both Eskdale School and Caedmon College, Whitby

I believe in our community there is a place for both Eskdale and Caedmon College . My children have done ok academically at the College but I believe had they not attended Eskdale that taught them self worth and the importance of trying your hardest they would not have achieved so much. The nurture and caring side of Eskdale has a place in education of Whitby before the exam factory setting of the College. You only need to look at the high achievers of the College most are former Eskdale pupils year after year !

I have a step daughter who attends Caedmon and one who attends Eskdale as I am well aware completely different personalities. I feel Caedmon has mismanaged the situation had there been more caring approach like Eskdale then the situation would now be more under control and indeed more exam points would be had. And this is the main difference at Caedmon pupils consider themselves exam points . I have 3 young children I want the choice of education , I would choose Eskdale at year 7 to progress them and nurture them and ideally at year 10 I would like the choice at GCSE level where perhaps exam points are what should drive a school.

Whitby needs choice, children need choice, one school will not work for most off our children, what about all the sports teams that use the fields? Where are they ment to go? You will be driving the children off Whitby out off this town, i really do fear for the future, my children's future

I feel very strongly that at least until there is an Ofsted inspection of Caedmon College, plans to amalgamate the two schools are premature. There is, as yet, no indication that the amalgamation would be anything other than detrimental to the children of Eskdale who have no desire to attend the college. As a parent of the one of the village children, I feel confident that Eskdale caters to the needs of these often more innocent children, and having witnessed the stress involved in relocating to the larger school of Eskdale, cannot begin to imagine the pressure and strains placing these children in the larger amalgamated school would bring. The best thing for our children would be to maintain the schools in their current format.

I have had two children go through the schools system in Whitby. They both went to Eskdale, and on to college. The change at 14 was not easy for either of them, but they coped. When it was 4time to CHOOSE which middle school both of them went round both schools. As it happened they both CHOSE Eskdale. They are both very different schools, both with there good and bad points, nothing is perfect, but you take the best Choice for your child . The real problem in my mind is that IF we end up with one school in Whitby you are taking away choice for all. As you know the nearest choice is 18 miles away. This is not a Choice for most families or pupils. If cost was covered, it still takes a special personality that can cope with the long days and do there best with there education. Whitby is unique with its geographical position. You don't pass Whitby, you have to make an effort to come here and we still need CHOICE and one school does not give us this Please reconsider keeping it at Eskdale 11-16 Thankyou

XX@gmail.com

I am against the amalgamation because I believe from personal experience that leg schools are not the answer to a good education. I thrived when I was younger and at what were classed as smaller schools but when I moved to a larger secondary school (not in this area) my education went down hill fast. The teachers although very good at their subjects just didn't have time for us all. The classes weren't necessarily large but the school was. I got left behind and lost interest in my school work and was allowed to get away with it by numerous teachers because they just either didn't notice or didn't have time to do anything about it. The school had 1300 children roughly the size that this one is going to be. My children live here and I have one at each school currently. I like both schools for different reasons but I do feel that if my youngest had to go to Caedmon college even with the current numbers he would get lost along the way and is currently doing really well at Eskdale. My daughter at ccw is doing ok too but she is more able to get on with things herself without pushing although we have had a few issues in the past. If the amalgamation goes ahead I will be sending my son to a school out of town one that is better suited to him with a smaller amount of children. I may even move my daughter if that is what she wants to do. I have heard from quite a few people that they are considering doing the same. So in my opinion the future of whitbys education is really in serious trouble. From what I understand the amalgamation is to try and gain more funds for the 6th form college part and if all these children start moving to out of town schools now during younger years there is not much chance of them returning for their future education at 16. Lack of numbers will force the funding to get lower and have a negative effect. I do hope something is done before all this happens or before long there will be no school in Whitby or if their is it will be tiny and unfunded and not a very good school.

<p>I strongly disagree with the proposal to amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. I have 3 children, 2 of whom we CHOSE to send to Caedmon School and 1 we CHOSE to send to Eskdale School. One school did not fit the needs of my one family so how can it fit the needs of an entire town! There is not a manual that comes with children, you cannot treat them all the same, they have individual and differing needs which are, at the moment mostly being meet with people of Whitby having a choice of schools. Some parents I know CHOSE to send their children to schools outside Whitby, and they pay for that choice. Many families in this area simply can not afford that choice. Please listen to all these protestations. WE NEED CHOICE!! Again I re-state my opening sentence. I strongly disagree with the proposal to amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposed merger, amalgamation, closure of Eskdale School. The population of Whitby is and will be in the future, too big for one school. Reports suggest that there is shortly to be a crisis in many parts of the country and there will not be enough school places. Whitby is isolated geographically and pupils cannot easily travel to other schools, most of which are many miles away. There needs to be two schools in Whitby. Please look at other options, particularly the option of removing costly post GCSE provision, at least for the foreseeable future. Older students, many of which already travel, are much better placed to travel for further ed, especially as CCW does not offer a wide range of quality post 16 courses anyway.</p>
<p>I would like to call for an open, full and independent investigation into secondary education provision in Whitby. I have a child in both Eskdale and Caedmon College with a third child at primary. I feel it is important to explore the needs of the town fully and to take time to arrive at a decision which will affect the future of our children. To have a choice in the school our children attend is extremely important as the nearest schools are over 20 miles away. Let's get it right for the children Whitby by taking time to consider all the options</p>
<p>The pupils at Eskdale school are currently well looked after. I have seen no clear plans as to how this situation will be maintained in future upon which I am able to comment. Simply stating they will be 'amalgamated' with Caedmon' does not in any way answer this question. the notion of amalgamating with Caedmon simply raises further concerns on my part for the education of Caedmon pupils. I would need to see a detailed rationale as to why amalgamation is the best option for all the pupils at Eskdale and Caedmon and assuming such a proposal was watertight what plans there are for staffing, resources and leadership of the new institution. I would expect that if such change in the size and nature of the organisation were to go ahead that the Headship would be advertised externally with the current incumbents able to apply.</p>
<p>There are so many reasons why Eskdale School should remain as an option for the children of Whitby and the surrounding villages and area. It is, in my opinion, a unique school by virtue of the care and security that it offers to students as well as the academic and extra curricular opportunities. It cannot go unnoticed how strongly the parents and pupils, both past and present, feel about Eskdale and their dismay at the proposal to close it, or to merge it with another school.</p>
<p>KEEP ESKDALE SCHOOL AN INDEPENDENT EDUCATION PROVIDER. If I wished to purchase a new TV on the high street and there was only a Currys store there, that doesn't provide a choice. Likewise only having one secondary education school in Whitby does not provide a choice. The Eskdale School board of governors should not be bullied by the NYCC to recommending the merger proposals against the backdrop of NYCC replacing the current Eskdale School board of governors with the NYCC's own choice of representatives. There is a zero tolerance to bullying policy within schools which NYCC appear to be contravening. If NYCC allow further housing to be constructed on the current Eskdale School land this would mean a higher population in Whitby and as a consequence more school place requirements. This cannot be provided by Caedmon College alone. How can NYCC determine Caedmon College is the best solution for education provision as they have not had an OFSTED inspection since October 2014? Why has Eskdale School not been allowed to attain Academy status when this is the route of choice promoted by the current UK Government? NYCC appear to have ignored the previous consensus (within the last 3 years) that Eskdale School patrons wish this school to remain independent and not merge with the "XX". The Whitby College and Caedmon site model is already not fit for purpose as either the daily transfer of staff or pupils between the two sites reduces teacher (not a teaching assistant)/pupil contact and teaching times. XX scaremongering holds no weight with regards to sixth form provision as he has suggested that if Eskdale School continued its learning provision until the age of 16, the College will lose the ability, financially, to provide a range of sixth form courses. I would like to point out the College does not offer a full range at present. What realistic choices do parents have with regards to educational provision for their children If their child does not settle or is bullied they would have to travel at least 21 miles to either Scarborough or Pickering, or is NYCC willing to fully and continuously, subsidise travel to either of these areas or fully subsidise a child's education with the NYCC paying fees at Fylinghall School. Is any financial provision going to be made to all parents (regardless of household income) of pupils at Eskdale School for the procurement of a new school Whitby College school uniform if this enforced merger was to proceed?</p>

No choice if schools amalgamate for a choice of school in Whitby area. Too much traffic from buses pick-up/drop off school time on Mayfield Road, along with tourist traffic. In smaller schools children are nurtured more, Caedmon College Whitby won't do this due to being so big.

Although I am cautiously in favour of the proposed amalgamation, I am particularly concerned with the following points: 1. A new single school will be a massive change for children moving up from the village primary schools. Eskdale manages this particularly well as it is not too large itself and it has some key staff that are tuned into the childrens needs at this age. Very careful consideration must be given to how to help children settle in to such a large new school, if they are not happy, they will not learn effectively and it is this that makes Eskdale so special. XX particularly has a superb grasp of managing what is needed, he is a large part of what makes the school unique. Not only do I think that he should be a major player in the new school but I also think his ideas and views on teaching should be applied to ensure a good element of Eskdale makes it into the new school. He is worth fighting to keep. I am pleased to hear that a new Governing body will be made up of teachers from both schools but it is the early years of a new joined secondary school that worries many parents. We must strive to keep the uniqueness of Eskdale but with the benefits of a combined school. 2. The money from any sale of Eskdale site must be put back into the new school. Safety getting between the sites, car parking and pick up points and playing fields will all be hugely challenged. With limited enclosed land at both the Caedmon sites and an increased number of children at the sites these things must be carefully considered. 3. We must keep a facility for post 16 education in Whitby and if an amalgamation is going to help fund that then ensure the money stays with the school. Here's hoping we can get behind this and all pull together to create one great school.

I don't think it's a good idea to combined to school to make such a large school for the rural area. My children are coming form a primary school that has 33 pupils in it, having a small secondary school like Eskdale is perfect it has got 300+ pupils in it but it's not as terrifying as a school that has 1500 pupils. Like a lot a percentage that I have spoken too on this subject I will not be sending my kids to Caedmon if it goes ahead. I know that other parents of year 5 and 6 are looking at other nearby small school. If this goes ahead you aren't going to fill the spare places at Caedmon that you've got because parent will be filling places at other schools. If Eskdale stays open all my children like many others will stay on and leave at 16 years old. I have a child at Caedmon college year 10 and I am not impressed at all it really isn't that good of a school and none of my other children will be attending it. I have spoken to other parents of Caedmon that came from Eskdale school and they have had the same problem that I have had it have put up with it.

Although both our children have enjoyed being at Eskdale School and have benefited from its excellent pastoral care, we feel that the best outcome for the future of education in Whitby would be the formation of a single school. This would be the most cost-effective solution in a cash-strapped environment and would allow the new school to build on the best of both present schools - the College's educational aspirations and Eskdale's pastoral care. We also feel that Eskdale does not at present have the capacity to teach beyond the KS3 curriculum and, therefore, should not be an 11-16 school. However, we do have some concerns about the amalgamation: 1. All staff, from both schools, should have their positions protected - no one should lose their job due to the amalgamation. 2. There is some question about the physical capacity of the College site - is there room for the extra pupils without too much building work which would be disruptive for everyone? 3. Access to the College site is already difficult and will be made worse by the increase in numbers. 4. How will the new school ensure that all new pupils are well catered for and ensured of a smooth, stress-free transition? In the past, Y9 pupils have spent several weeks at the College before the summer break to ensure that they are ready for Y10 in September - this has allowed new pupils to relax over the summer instead of worrying about going to a new school. A similar system would work well this summer, before the new school year in September. 5. Close collaboration between the two schools will need to be ensured so that current Eskdale pupils are not disadvantaged by differences in the curricula that they have been taught. 6. The proposed amalgamation will take place before the newly federated Caedmon College Whitby has been inspected so there is no evidence that the College has the management structure in place to cope effectively with a further change in the school structure. 7.. There are two memorial trees located on Eskdale's field for Jamie Dobey and Jude Roberts that my daughter (who was friends with both pupils) is very concerned about should the Eskdale site be closed. Consultation with the children in Year 11 who were involved in the planting of the tree would be essential when deciding where these trees will be moved to if it becomes necessary.

I disagree with the proposal for amalgamation. By closing Eskdale you are leaving children in Whitby and the surrounding area with no choice, no freedom, there will only be one school that you have to go to like it or not. Your ridiculous proposal shouldn't be call a proposal at all as it is just another way for you to make more money to put into your pockets, if you close the school then it just shows your true views on the opinions of the people of Whitby, you fashest, overly right winged selfish ignorant excuse for a council.

As a parent of four children, three of which are affected by this proposed amalgamation causing lots of stress and uncertainty for them. My eldest son is in year 11 at C.C.W currently studying for his G.C.S.E's. I am very worried about how all this extra stress at this already stressful time is affecting his study and revision. My younger son in year nine at Eskdale was so happy that he had the choice to stay on at Eskdale, only to have that choice whipped away from him without any consideration for his thoughts and feelings. Well I can tell you he was extremely distressed and totally devastated being told that he now has to go to C.C.W. My youngest daughter year six at a small village primary didn't even want to go and look around C.C.W. She had heard from her brothers how good Eskdale was and had seen that for herself when she went to their open evening making her mind up there and then that Eskdale was her school of choice. What is going to happen to her now should the proposal go through? She doesn't want to go to C.C.W. Should this proposal go ahead a school with students, teachers and facilities spread out over three sites is going to cause nothing but disruption to all the children's learning, wellbeing and happiness. Not to mention teaching time lost and risk to personal safety to all the children that have to walk between the school sites over the very busy road at a junction that seems to have more than its fair share of traffic accidents! This is from my own and my children's point of view. Eskdale is not just "a school" it also plays a vital role in the community providing affordable use of its facilities to many local clubs and groups. What will happen to all of those who make use of Eskdale should this proposal go ahead? I totally and utterly disagree with this proposal and ask that ALL the other proposals should be seriously looked into as they should have been from the start. What is being proposed will cause nothing but damage to our children and their continuing education and to Whitby and its surrounding communities. You need to listen to the majority and we say a definite NO to this rushing through of an extremely flawed plan to amalgamate our schools!

A parent of current year 7 and year 12 students, and University student (ex WCC). I have strong concerns regarding the major impact that these changes will have on the Education of my year 7 child. If the Amalgamation should go ahead moving up from a small primary school to a secondary school of approx. 1600 students would have devastating effects on some children. Eskdale is known for its qualities of Putting the Child first - indeed the Ofsted report quoted "Personal development, behaviour and welfare" as Good. Split sites is a big worry as I am told that by the time the Girls at WCC have got changed and walked over to the Normanby site for Physical Education, it is almost time to walk back again. And when Teachers are changing sites in between lessons we have seen classes left unsupervised. This also causes me concern as the traffic management outside of the Scoresby site is not adequate for the number of students attempting to cross the road or wait for buses and this is likely to get worse with the Heavy Potash mine traffic. I must comment on the current Leadership which I believe is set to stay intact if the amalgamation goes ahead - I have no faith in the leadership at WCC primarily due to attitude and self importance rather than the students' interests which should come first and do at Eskdale. I have found that both of my older children's grades have suffered at WCC. I would suggest that NYCC should Retain Eskdale and Normanby sites as separate 11-16 schools and Dispose of the Scoresby site running the schools under 2 separate heads, but sharing specialised teachers, this allowing for choice and healthy competition between teachers. Please allow us to have a choice.

Until I went to the consultation meeting, I wasn't sure about the issue but I was disgusted at how it was all a done deal. You tried to say it wasn't but there had clearly been forces working behind the scenes for a long time. To say it is a consultation but then give a presentation on how the changes would be made, what the school would be called and what the uniform would be like was just insulting to those who believe in democracy. It would also appear that XX is so involved in all the process that it is totally biased and NYCC have written off Eskdale already? Whitby has truly come together to show NYCC that they won't be rode roughshod over and if NYCC don't listen then it would be so totally wrong. There is clearly an agenda and you appear to not even be bothered who knows it. My daughter came back from school and said she was told what to put in the form that they filled in online during a lesson - is this how consultations work? They have also been given assemblies that were clearly marketing talks as to how Eskdale's decision to go 11-16 would harm CCW. A man who can drag students into his arguments is not fit to be in charge of one school never mind two. Normally I am not good at filling out questionnaires but I have been so outraged at the dirty tricks going on at the college I felt unable not to contribute. If the students from Eskdale are forced to join with CCW, the school will be too big and there is no likelihood anything will improve. When the two Scarborough schools joined - it was a disaster and there is no guarantee this won't happen again. Therefore I am totally against the proposal and wish to express my dissatisfaction at the whole way the issue has been handled. There needs to be a full enquiry into the activities of those concerned!!

As a mother of a boy in the 6th form at Caedmon college and a girl in year 9 at Eskdale we have been a family strongly affected by first the formation of Caedmon college recently and now the proposals for the amalgamation. Despite worries about the formation of Caedmon college my son's vital GCSE years went well after his move from Eskdale and the teaching wasn't disrupted as many had feared. I sincerely hope that any disruption caused by an amalgamation can be kept to a minimum. This may be a long term view for the education dept. but for this next year's GCSE and A level students it has to be a good choice in the short term too. I noted that the college is hoping the amalgamation will improve the breadth of subjects taught. I do believe my son's choices have been limited at A level this year but I know that some of this was due to a lack of interest from the students which meant a German A level was unavailable whilst there are big classes of BTEC Law students. This suggests that it isn't only about numbers of students. A level languages seem to be back on the curriculum but this could happen with new subjects that the students are unfamiliar with unless they are encouraged earlier in their education to look at lots of different career paths and things they'd enjoy studying. My belief is that a school that offered exceptional careers advice and a better variety of subjects would keep more of it's GCSE students. Numbers of students that leave after GCSEs is shocking. Money from the sale of Eskdale could be spent on improving the 6th form. Both the schools have many really good, committed teachers and I am anxious that teachers from Eskdale will not be lost to the area. I hope that they will be involved in the decision making of a new school and bring Eskdale's ethos with them. I have been very aware of the animosity that all this uncertainty has created between the schools, some students, parents and teachers and governors. This can't continue, a decision has to be made and then we can go forward with the choice made to improve education in Whitby

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Responses from Parents or carers of pupils at Caedmon College, Whitby

I think the amalgamation is a good idea. Competition is not the best thing we need all pupils to have the best education. One good school is the way to go for a consistent education for all pupils. I believe in Whitby the schools should amalgamate most pupils in other places go to one large school, this will help with the sharing of resources.

Best plan for town is one large school, more facilities, better choice of subjects as more resources can be put into one school. Money saved by using 2 sites instead of 3

Amalgamation of the two schools is a terrible idea! The freedom of choice is something that has worked well for us for a long time. It also drives up standards in each school with healthy friendly competition. Caedmon will not cope with the influx of double their current population. Class sizes will be larger and learning will suffer. The decision is only money orientated with thoughts to selling the land and not to the consequences of closing the school. If a whole community thinks it's a bad idea then that is what it is. No one can convince them otherwise. Listen to the people for a change!!!

Children in Whitby need choice, different children have different needs and both schools cater to very different needs and provide a very different environment. Quality of teaching will only improve with 2 secondary schools in the area. I do not see how one huge school will better provide for children's needs especially as the population continues to grow. It would be a huge loss to the area and statistics have proven that larger schools do not necessarily produce better results it is usually the smaller schools that fair much better

Whitby needs choice

Nobody in town wants this, as a parent of a child at Caedmon I certainly don't want this. Parents should have a choice, pupils should have a choice. Combining the two schools will only cause trouble, unsettled parents and pupils who don't really want to be there, causing upset for the pupils who are already there and enjoying their time.

I agree to the proposed merger between the 2 schools as I think that with the falling numbers of students and the continual pressures on the budgets of the schools will mean that there will end up with less choice for our students not more, especially if Eskdale do go ahead with the 11-16 school. I think that we would end up with 2 underfunded schools offering very little choice at GCSE due to budgetary constraints. It will make the education in Whitby stronger as there will be funding coming in to 1 school so no need to 'share' resources. Also Caedmon College has been achieving more year on year and is in my opinion an up and coming school where there are a lot of happy students. The merger with Caedmon School was well handled in terms of the students and I have no doubt that it will be the case if the proposed merger was to happen.

I don't believe 1 big school is beneficial to Whitby & its students.

Although I can see that parents feel passionate about Eskdale I do not feel they are being realistic. It is not good financial sense to keep it open and if a cafe had a really nice atmosphere but wasn't viable it would close. Choice for children can still be given in a bigger school if the management strategy allows. It is essential for a fully functioning and varied post 16 educational choice to remain in Whitby. Times have changed and the educational offer in the town needs to develop at the same pace as in other areas.

I think the amalgamation of the both schools would be the best solution. I believe that one large school based at Caedmon would be far better as a "super school" with a closure of both Eskdale and Whitby school based at the Caedmon site.

I would like to register my complete opposition to the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale school with Caedmon College Whitby I would like to see the education system in Whitby stay as it is without any changes

<p>Both my children attended Eskdale. One was High Aspirations and one is autistic. My X child is now in y10 at vice. The SEND provision is diabolical there. Eskdale's was far superior. I would have loved my child to have stayed at Eskdale. The teachers are wonderful, caring, nurturing and the whole ethos of the school is a more secure, close-knit one. The head of SEND at WCC walks passed my child in the corridor. Please keep Eskdale open and make it an 11-16 school. The children deserve it. The parents deserve it. The teaching staff deserve it.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposal.</p>
<p>I DISAGREE with the proposal to amalgamate the schools, in my opinion bigger is not better. One size does not fit all and the two schools are very different, therefore catering for very different needs. Two smaller secondary schools would provide choice and a much better learning environment for the children of Whitby. Eskdale needs to be given the opportunity to expand to 11-16 and to put processes in place to improve their ofsted rating, closure would not be providing the best opportunities for local children. There is also more opportunity for teaching standards to improve in two competing schools rather than one big one.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation, there needs to be other alternatives. My niece and nephew attend Caedmon College Whitby at the present moment and both have said to me they feel that the original merger between Caedmon and Whitby Community College has affected their education. They have told me on quite a number of occasions that pupils are going from one site to another and its affecting lessons. The road outside the college is already busy enough with out more traffic. The footpath that joins the two paths is a public footpath and as IO remember from my days at WCC it was not a place where I'd want to walk alone. Caedmon was in special measures and since the last amalgamation it has taken on WCC off stead, but really there hasn't been an off-stead for a few years and if the amalgamation happens the off-stead will be put off again. There needs to be choice in Whitby for 11-16 education. The college needs to look in to why 50% of students after GCSE leave the college. I live in Fryup dale and I've already seen the effects of children from primary school going straight to secondary schools outside the area. Its going to hugely affect the our rural communities. My husband travelled to Lady Lumleys from Fryup dale and it resulted in not knowing anyone from his community. People don't have faith in CCW in our rural communities. In the last few weeks I've read lots of information re-guarding Eskdale school and if a student attends Eskdale he/ she is more likely to do better in their GCSE's. Whitby's location is very different to other areas and if the amalgamation goes through and parent still want choice then children will have to travel over 20 miles in all sorts of weather. What about all the clubs that use Eskdale schools grounds. Whitby will probably end up losing some great clubs to another area. Whitby doesn't have much green space and since the field at Heradale road was sold off its our last green space. The NYCC and other organisations are trying to promote mental health for young people and I don't see how this whole process in the middle of some children's education will be good for their mental health. Caedmon College are still in the process of their previous merger and I feel they haven't stood on their own two feet properly yet and haven't shown are community what a good school it could be. Its shrouded in lots of doubt that's its a good school. I feel the proposed amalgamation could really hurt the education of the currant students at the college. Eskdale should have been allowed to prove itself as a 11 - 16 school. My main worry is the affect it will have on our rural communities.</p>
<p>Please think about the effect this will have on both children from Eskdale and Caedmon college if the decision is made to close the school my Daughter started Caedmon College last September and has settled into secondary school very well so why cause upheaval for all these other Children having to change schools and also for the children of Caedmon it's too much of an upheaval for everybody and can only cause disruption to learning and the general welfare of the individual.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale school and Caedmon school...</p>
<p>i would prefer to have 2 11-16 secondary schools in whitby and have 6th form education financed elsewhere by more specialist providers offering more choice</p>
<p>I'm the frequently asked question section, you say that it's the council's decision where the money would go if Eskdale school is closed. Yet before the consultation and in the minutes of the meeting of Eskdale governors where they were forced to agree to this plan, it was detailed that the money would only be used for education in whitby. why are people lying?</p>
<p>i think its stupid putting all them children together why change it they chose which school they wanted to go to so why change it</p>

<p>We need 2 schools in this town, as in the winter months it is too dangerous to travel in any direction as the Scarborough Rd - m'boro & Pickering Rd all close easily with a small amount of snow. Children & parents need a local choice, a large school can be frightening for children from a small village school. All schools suffer problems with bullying & parents will have to travel to another town to protect their child or suffer the bullying. You cannot give birth in our home town & soon we may not even be educated in our town! More houses are being built which equates to more families yet there will be a shortage of school places of huge classes which benefit no one & those 'average' children will be lost in the numbers. Education will suffer!</p>
<p>I would not be against the merger of the schools. I think it makes financial sense. I have two sons at Caedmon college who are not at all worried about the merger. I have found the pastoral care excellent and have been kept up to date with the progress of both boys.</p>
<p>NYCC - listen to people. Leave Caedmon (old Whitby school site) and Eskdale to run as 11-16 schools then make the best use of the old Caedmon school site as a 6th form college. Gets sponsors for this as other 6th form providers do. Do not go ahead with this proposal, I do not agree. Act now and change your plans before it is too late</p>
<p>I am shocked and saddened to hear of the potential closure of Eskdale school. Though I wasn't an Eskdale pupil myself I believe the school holds a vital role in providing a balanced choice of education in the town. For example children suffering from bullying need the option to move to another school without being penalised by having miles to travel or facing home schooling. Closing the school will mean Caedmon faces huge numbers and stretched resources which will negatively impact upon the education of our future generations. Also many pupils suffer anxiety when in a very large school environment so this will be another downside. Not to mention the impact upon present pupils of Eskdale school, I know several personally who are very traumatised and upset at the idea of having to move school at such an important stage in their education and at what is a sensitive stage in life for youngsters. Please powers that be see the long term effect of this and allow future generations choice and chance to flourish instead of seeing potential for quick income in the short term</p>
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<p>I do not want Eskdale school to close as the children of whitby need to have a choice of where they go to school ... They should not be made to attend just one big school as this would not be the best way to get the best from them if they are not happy then they are not going to achieve their potential ...</p>
<p>I think it is an excellent, if long overdue, idea. I went through the old system in the 1980s and it was very unsettling and ended up going out of town for sixth form. Having the current amalgamation has been beneficial to both my children in years 9 and 11 with regards to continuity of teaching etc. The idea of having a sixth form college on a separate site is also an excellent, if long overdue, idea. I only have positive thoughts about the amalgamation.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the closer of Eskdale School if they close it means my kids arnt gonna get the education they need and encourage more kids to miss school.</p>
<p>My child is currently in year 7 at Caedmon College I feel it would have a massive impact on education and the welfare by moving year 7s upto Eskdale in September. These children are happy where they are so why cause all this upheaval to save money it's children's lives you are playing with, this decision could ultimately affect their education and have a detrimental effect on the individual involved.</p>
<p>If the amalgamation goes ahead you say there will be a new school, new board of governors, and a new name. Why then are we not getting NEW LEADERSHIP? In industry, fire service, police or borough or county councils where there is re-structure the head of department always has to re-apply for his or her job. Why is this situation so different. Maybe if there was a new head the people of Whitby may feel differently!!!! I would like to see a vote on this. The current year 7's of Caedmon, if this proposal goes ahead, will have at least four moves in 3 years don't try to tell me that this will be good for their education and now adding to that is the change to an Academy. God help these children.</p>

<p>I do not want this to go ahead at all my child choose Caedmon not Eskdale and I feel you are been unfair I do not want my child with Eskdale or at Eskdale. Also if this does happen who says the kids from Eskdale will follow. Who says the teachers will for that matter, why can't you just leave things as they are if all works well. Eskdale happy! Caedmon happy!</p>
<p>As the parent of a thirteen year old pupil of Caedmon College and an ex Eskdale pupil myself, obviously from many years ago, I cannot see any disadvantages if the two schools were to merge other than the loss of the building itself which clearly has great sentimental value to a lot of people in Whitby and the surrounding area. As a teenager I found the whole moving to another school, at such a crucial point in my life, very unsettling and I can still remember that feeling of dread at having to make new friends, find my way round and get to know new teachers. Would it not be better? For the pupils from all the Primary schools to come together in year 7 where they have time to settle into a different routine and get used to timetables, new teachers and each other, also in some circumstances they may well have the same teacher right up to sitting their GCSE which would be good for both pupil and teacher. If both schools came together as one it would combine the strengths of both schools which surely can only be a good thing for the young people of this area, the only thing that would be lost is bricks and mortar but it's not a building that makes a good school it is the people in it of course one of the biggest protests of the proposed amalgamation is that parents and pupils would no longer have a choice, but at the moment they don't anyway as they all study for their GCSE at Caedmon College. The potential loss of a sixth form facility in the town if the merge does not go ahead is a bigger worry to me as a parent, not all children have the self-confidence to go to somewhere new and try to fit in, A levels are really hard work so it makes more sense for them to be able to study for them with people they know in their home town without the added stress of having to travel every day, personally I know my son will not be happy to travel and honestly I don't want him to do that, of course some students will travel to Scarborough or Guisborough if we lose our town's sixth form then there will not be a choice. One last observation from all this, I get the impression that the children from both schools now feel that they are at war with each other, I can see this being a problem regardless of the outcome, was it such a good idea to involve the students to the extent that they have been in the "save Eskdale school" campaign?</p>
<p>I wish to support the merger of Eskdale & CCW. Long term I think it is best for Whitby. Lots of apprehension at the moment, but I think if all the parents have all the information they will realise it is in the best interests of the children of Whitby. One site would be better though.</p>
<p>Please merge the schools into one 11=19 provision, preferably with a sixth form centre. Although the issue is causing fraction now in a few years it will actually help to bring the community together. In addition it will save pointless transitions and enable the continuation of a 6th form for our town.</p>
<p>Totally support the amalgamation of the 2 schools because the segregation of East and West Whitby has gone on for years....this joining together of young people will help bond the community together and create a more tolerant and inclusive atmosphere for young people to grow in. Caedmon College is an excellent school and its staff have the strength to accept and develop a merger as shown with the old Caedmon school.</p>
<p>I agree with the amalgamation 100%. Following the Monday meeting (14/03/2016), parts of the meeting were awful on the side of "Save Eskdale" they didn't want to listen or take in the reasons for the amalgamation. It was embarrassing, childish, intimidating & at some points I felt very uncomfortable being there. I feel for the children of Eskdale, they are being 'fed' bad feeling& do not know or understand the full facts. 'Save Eskdale' could not come up with an alternative, they just want bricks & mortar to remain – it's a building that doesn't have enough 'bums on seats' at the end of the day and an amalgamation is a way of saving money and giving more choice to the children of Whitby. I think one school on one site is ultimately best. The traffic/travel situation will end badly. There will be casualties unless it is changed. Cars come round the filter lane & don't stop at the lights. As for Mike Wards comments about the 6th form – he is disgusting – he should give the students of Whitby more credit. We need aspirational students – he needs to see the long term picture – 6th form brings more money and more CHOICE, which at the end of the day is what 'Save Eskdale' is supposed to be all about isn't it?</p>
<p>I have been through an amalgamation previously, nearly two years ago. This amalgamation was successful previously so I don't foresee any problems occurring should it happen in the future again</p>
<p>I am shocked by what I have just read. I did not realise that Caedmon school children will have to be taught at Eskdale school premises while building work takes place! This makes me angry and concerned for the education of my son. He is currently in Year 7 at Caedmon. As parents we chose Caedmon as the school we wanted our son to attend. The disruption that takes place when moving from a small village school to a secondary school is hard enough but to then learn that he may have to move premises again to Eskdale and then on to Whitby College premises is ridiculous! This is going to cause more harm than good! Now we have Accademy Status to contend with on top of this! I and my husband are definitely against this proposal.</p>

<p>Firstly, We are hopeful for both schools to come together and amalgamate, most of all this would help to reunite families, children and staff in the local and wider community. Feeder schools could work more closely with their most obvious place of secondary school, rather than some feeder schools working with one and not the other. Education could be holistic. In the long term, We feel amalgamation would improve morale for both children and staff, allow for greater mixed expertise and a new way of thinking. Secondly, with our son starting y7 in September, our daughter going into y8 (thankfully our eldest is leaving y9 to go to Scarborough etc in y10) I am concerned that both our youngest children will be located at the Eskdale site. The familiarity of the Scoresby site for our daughter which has just more or less, after a time settling in become a stable comfortable and homely place for her to learn. The disruption and 'play' going forward with this idea of y7 and 8 at Eskdale is going to really impact on both our younger children, not to mention the issues that could arise for other children from both schools. One of my other concerns is the state of the Eskdale building, the demoralised staff, its outdoor areas, resources for our children staff and staffing itself, with more unfamiliarity and uncertainty, fewer modern facilities and location of the school. We had very strong and concrete reasons for choosing Caedmon in the first place! Why would I want my children to go to Eskdale at this point in time? Then to move again in 2017 is simply not logical, it shows a lack of care and respect for us as parents and the welfare of our children and the community as a whole. There must be a more civil alternative although amalgamation seems most reasonable, we refuse to allow our children to go to the Eskdale site. Lastly, we really hope this movement does not happen in this way, surely the Caedmon sites can accommodate all the children if they have a shortfall in numbers already? These are our most obvious concerns and our perspective, without mentioning others thoughts brought to our attention and other indirect issues. This we look forward to the outcome in the near future and hope there will be time for parents to act accordingly.</p>
<p>Having attended both the consultation meetings last week, please can you consider the following points: my child is in year 7 at Caedmon, this means that in year 8, my child will be at Eskdale and then year 9 back to Normanby site at Caedmon. This means my child will have moved schools 4 times in 4 years. Surely the disruption this will cause to my child will impact on her education, having to settle into 4 different places. I find this hard to comprehend. Also as an Ofsted has not been completed on the current Caedmon school, no one actually knows how this school is actually performing! Plus the MAJOR fact that our Caedmon Year 7 have it yet had a parents evening...? When we are 3/4 of the way through a school year..? This suggests to me that maybe the school is too concerned about gaining more pupils but not looking after its current ones! Lets talk about SEND children, How do I explain to my younger child who is currently flourishing in a small country primary school that when he moves up to his secondary school, there will be more children in his school year than previously in his whole school. I know a bigger school than Eskdale will cause my child difficulties... He has Spastic Paraplegia and learning difficulties which his current small primary school have embraced. However I must add that I had removed him from our local primary school as his needs weren't being met! Should this proposal go ahead then you are forcing me to look further afield for secondary education as both my children's education will be severely disrupted. My SEND child needs to go to school in Whitby as his progressive illness plus his learning difficulties will not in the future allow him to leave Whitby therefore he needs to be schooled in a town where the community are united and look out for their own. Please reconsider, thank you</p>
<p>it is unacceptable that my daughter, currently settled into CCW year 7, is expected to transfer to Eskdale next year, then transfer again the year afterward. The mantra from county has been that transfers are a bad thing and disruptive of childrens education. How can this now be acceptable for all year 7s and year 6s? Is it acceptable for our childrens education to be sacrificed? All concerned should be thoroughly ashamed of themselves. As parents we chose CCW for our daughter, and did intend her to have to go to Eskdale. We did not want her to transfer at any age during her secondary education.</p>
<p>As a parent of current year 7 and year 8 pupils at CCW I am horrified to think that the school is going to amalgamate with Eskdale school. I am very worried about the class sizes, traffic around the sites as its bedlam anyway. My daughter chose CCW as her choice of school as the head of CCW had said that now that the old Caedmon school had merged with the old Whitby School there would be no transition as they would be at the same school but over two sites until leaving. My daughter would do years 7 and 8 at Scoresby then the rest at Normanby. Now we have been told that if Eskdale closes that in September the new year 6 and the current year 7 will be up at the Eskdale site !! So over a period of 4 years my daughter and her year group will have been in 4 school sites !! How is this easing transition!!! Why not put the 6th form up at Eskdale?? Put all year 7 and 8 in the Scoresby site? Or surely there's room at Normanby?? . We live on Uppgang Lane so CCW is a decent walk, it shocking to think that she may have all the way to Eskdale to walk on a morning and again after school, especially after school clubs on dark nights. I'm very worried that the education of the children is getting forgotten here .</p>
<p>i think that its a bad idea because i think its kids not gash</p>

<p>i have a very negative view of this merger, due to fact that Eskdale pupils, parents and teachers have been belittling Caedmon College, whom i have three children attending. The two meetings attended by the Eskdale parents was very rowdy and negative towards Caedmon College. It should be noted that I as a Caedmon Parent object in the strongest possible terms to this merger. It will disrupt years 7-9, and i have heard one proposal that years 7/8 will be taught at Eskdale school. Should this be the case i will have to consider whether i want my children to attend Caedmon for the new 2016 school year. Putting it bluntly if this does happen my children would be home schooled. I see no positives in this merger and Eskdale students, Teachers should seek their education needs elsewhere if Caedmon School is so poor.</p>
<p>Eskdale School should not merge with Caedmon College. Eskdale should be allowed to go 11-16 then one of the Caedmon sites can close. NYCC will be happy because one site has closed and parents and children will be happy because they still have a choice of secondary schools - very important. Why all of a sudden is 6th form funding a problem. Whitby School/Whitby Community College was a stand alone school for many years doing o levels / gcse's and a levels serving four year groups. Then it merges with Caedmon School getting 500 more pupils and the funding that goes with them and they still want more students bringing more money - Eskdale's students. This is Caedmon's problem not Eskdale's - do not penalise Eskdale.</p>
<p>I am writing this letter to say I am so unhappy that we had the choice of secondary school for our child, to then get an email saying she has a place at Caedmon, for then to be told she will go to Eskdale School for yrs 7/8. I am not happy and this will not be happening. If I have to I will keep her at home for 2 years then when her time is to be back at Caedmon she will then go there, I am very dissapointed by hearing this as my daughter is dislexic so she will not be attending Eskdale, <u>WILL NOT</u>. Both mer and my husband work full time like many other parents and we cannot get her over to Eskdale that's one of the reason why we all picked Caedmon. We already have a another child at Caedmon School who enjoys it there, and is doing well.</p>
<p>As a parent of students at both schools and having children that have completed education at both it is my belief that there is a place for Eskdale School to stay open. My children have done reasonably well at CCW but I believe that the values and ethos they learned that allowed them to suceed were learned at Eskdale School. The self belief, commitment and tenacity was all taught at Eskdale, where they thrived and were happy. I am in the unique position to have witnessed a close family member go into year 7 at CCW at same time as my son, they have been unable to instill the same values, their attitude to school are miles apart! The goverers, councilors and CCW tell us that Eskdale is behind academically that Eskdale children struggle when starting in year 10 - so why year after year when results at GCSE are published in the paper so the majority of high achievers come from Eskdale. Please reconsider the proposal, Eskdale is a true asset in the Whitby community and like CCW there is a place for them both. Numbers of children are rising - the mine, wind farm and extra housing = more children. College has had no OfSTED - what if they need improvement? We need a choice of education in Whitby ideally 11-16 but even 11-14.</p>
<p>I fully support the prosed meger of Eskdale and Caedmon College, Whitby. The merger is necessary to ensure sixth form facilities are kept in the town. My daughter is due to enter sixth form in September 2016 and does not want to travel out of town. One school would as a result of amalgamation enable tthe funding shortfall to be achieved without inpacting on the education of the students in the town.</p>
<p>Each child deserves high quality education, to amalgamate schools is the only answer. Whitby desperately needs 6th form provision, this is essential. Both my children, one in particular excelled at WCC 6th form beyond any expectations and is now studying chemistry at York expected to come out with a first degree this is due to the teachers at CCW without their dedication this definately would not have happened. Teachers already know the students and can help each child in the right direction.</p>
<p>I agree with the proposal for the amalgamation of both schools as it would result in more choice of post 16 education which the majority of young people in Whitby will require. For amalgamation to be sucessful some points to consider. Better & safer approach to college - drive and back path. Possible bus layby on Mayfield Road.</p>
<p>All I need to say is if Eskdale stays open my son will transfer!! From CCW to Eskdale!! The school is full of bullies!! The kids area laready excited at the fact Eskdale kids will meet with them so that they can fight. What the hell are you thinking!!!</p>
<p>To provide a KS3 and KS4 educational provision on both the Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby sites will not provide the most valuable educational choice for the young people of Whitby. It will, in fact, limit their opportunities allowing for only a constrained and narrow curriculum duplicated across two sites. A move to one KS3 and KS4 provision would obviously allow for a broader curriculum and greater opportunities that would meet the needs and aspirations of much more of our learners and give worthwhile choice.</p>

<p>No thought has been put in to the impact on the children, their education, infrastructure or financial impact of merging these schools the only thing that appears to be pushing this merger is the apparent need to rescue the sixth form which is completely inadequate already. No thought for the safety of the children either walking from the other end of the town to Eskdale at 11 years old or the emotional impact let alone the impact on special needs students or students with severe health issues. The safety of the children should be paramount however it seems that nycc is only interested in financial gains rather than protecting the children and their health well being and educational needs. Eskdale was granted 11-16 status which caedmon college and now nycc have sought to block and for what reason? So XX can become head of one huge school which can not and will not cater to all abilities. Without the choice in a town of this size the children's futures will be at risk the possibilities of travelling to another town across the moors which often get cut off is putting the children at extra risk. Financially it is viable to have two schools in a town of this size and surrounding areas</p>
<p>I have grave concerns on the level of teaching that will be available to ALL children on one site. It seems that these proposals are being put in place to broaden the range of courses on offer to 16+ pupils at the expense of the younger ones. I would prefer the 11+ children to have the choice up to GCSEs age. After that they are at an age when travelling for further education and training is not a bad thing, if anything it helps broaden their horizons and encourages them to seek out different options and opportunities. I believe that the best 'option' would be to keep two different 11-16 schools and seek other options for 16+ rather than getting rid of eskdale to support a 16+ school which is not financially viable.</p>
<p>my reasons for wanting Eskdale school to remain open and not amalgamated with caedmon college Whitby is firstly Eskdale school is a good school where children are happy and happy children learn better also 1600 plus children in such a small area near a busy road is dangerous and just having a large school may not be the right environment for some children to achieve their potential some children like small schools where every teacher including the head knows their name not just a few who teach them please I urge you nto to go ahead with the proposal to close Eskdale school it is not what is right for the future generations of Whitby</p>
<p>Very concerned about the whole thing from how big the new school would be with a large amount of pupils. The way it seems to be rushed through with at first splitting over 3 sites. The safe guarding of all pupils their safety int getting to whichever site they may be based on also possible movement between the sites. The amount of traffic that will be using the Normanby and scoresby sites when/if eskdale is closed. If it happens there will be no choice for whitby students</p>
<p>I am the parent of a caedmon college pupil and I do NOT want the proposed amalgamation to go ahead as I think it will be detrimental to my child's education</p>
<p>1. Under the proposed new amalgamated school there will NOT be 'improved' provision - just not any <u>worse</u> than now. There is already a limited A level choice with some classes overcrowded (Health & Socail care with 24) While other subjects have disappeared from the curriculum (Music, German). Can Whitby provide an adequate 6th form curriculum in the present financial state under the proposed regime, or shouls we be looking to 2 11-16 schools with our older students travelling to Guisborough, Scarborough or Pickering to study? 2. One very large school limits choice - the 2 school system has resulted in two good, but different schools catering for different students needs. 3. Should the Head-teacher of the original college automatically become Head of a much larger institution? The palnned 3-school amalgamation may need more robust management with greater educational vision. A school three times the size of the original college needs appropraite <u>leadership</u> - this should be chosen through competitive interview.</p>
<p>I picked Caedmon as that's the school my child wanted to go to, we live right opposite Caedmon school. I do not want my child walking all the way up to Eskdale School. Myself and her dad both go to work early. She will not be attendning Eskdale School if this goes ahead for year 7-8, what will you do with my child for losing 1 or 2 years of her education. Not happy at all she will not be doing this XX, Caedmon parent, XX@talktalk.net</p>
<p>The demans is there for Eskdale to remain open. Regardless of current capacity issues. From news reports and what the Government are saying pupil numbers are due to rise and the current low will rise. Another council tactic to push our small town into doing thisngs that we do not want to do. Let Eskdale become it's own academy and be led by its own staff/governors before it is reined by CCW.</p>
<p>What thing to stay as they are. Don't what son who is going to Caedmon in Sept to go to Eskdale for potentially 2 years. Won't be a happy chappy if this happens.</p>

I am a 58-yr-old maths teacher, ex-Governor, parent of 3 past Eskdale pupils, former university lecturer, with private-sector experience. I have had teaching experience at two 1500-plus schools locally (Laurence Jackson and Nunthorpe), and at Caedmon, Eskdale, the former Whitby Community College, and at a feeder primary school (Belmont primary) to Laurence Jackson School. My own secondary school was closed (after I left it): the caretaker committed suicide in the emptied buildings, and the school was razed and was replaced by a mono-culture of nondescript houses, with the added irony that the children have to travel many miles to school. The death of the school still hangs over the housing estate more than 30 years after its closure. The proposed closure of Eskdale leaves me with a sense of despair. I add my testament to the many who have told you that Eskdale has been a model of fantastic schooling, perfectly tailored to the children of its natural catchment area. Our three children have thrived at Eskdale, and in spite of my experience of a variety of schools I cannot imagine a better start to secondary school life. As a governor I took the view that schools are unique, living, vital elements of society. As a governor one takes responsibility for a school's ups and downs, and a basic tenet is to keep the school alive and healthy. Eskdale has been one of the most healthy schools I have known. There is no natural law that dictates the size of a school, but there is evidence that diversity is healthy. The banal 'economy of scale' notoriously brings with it unhealthiness for plants, animals, and humans. People are of course incredibly resilient, and the PR machine can talk up larger schools, but it is a fact that larger schools have more people further from the centre, they are invariably more authoritarian, less personal. I have observed the brightest primary school children move to a 1600 pupil school and lose so much confidence. The bigger schools have larger clusters of celebrity children and at the other end larger clusters of disaffected children. Eskdale does not suffer from these extremes. Over twelve years I attended probably all of the functions put on by the school children at Eskdale. They have been some of the happiest times of my life. At the larger schools, these events were much less engaging for the school community. A significantly smaller percentage of the students and parents took part. Why is this not valued? By simple arithmetic, at the smaller Eskdale, more students get to do more confidence building stuff, representing the whole school. Why, for decades has Eskdale been free from threat, and now, without any impropriety at the school, is it proposed for closure. This is at a time when the richest are getting richer and the poor poorer, when the ruling Cabinet is possibly the wealthiest for a long time. Over the twelve years that my children attended Eskdale, we saw the school support four new head-teachers. Three of these heads, XX, XX and XX, have gone on to bigger jobs. These people were supported by the staff, community, and the county, in a manageable role that gave encouragement and confidence for them to consider more challenging positions. Clearly this is one measure of Eskdale's value. I note that those three heads are male. The current head is female, XX. It is impossible for me to imagine that Eskdale would be under notice of closure if it was headed by one of the three men. I suggest that NYCC considers this aspect carefully. XX has been a fine head-teacher, but it seems that since her arrival, the vultures have been circling. I believe that NYCC is mediating cuts originating from central government. The way that this has been presented is not convincing. A lot has been invested in meetings and planning that point to one outcome, the closure of Eskdale, and the sale of its assets. Democratic responsibilities seem to be non-existent, or at least being paid lip-service. Many people feel disenfranchised, and there is a strong feeling of betrayal. What are we to teach our children if not this, that their school is being closed under pretense and misleading claims? That there is no weight given to the value that the community holds in their school? That the people who will be rewarded are those who will collude in the deceit. There is a very well appointed plaque, in the entrance to Whitby hospital, commemorating the thousand local people who lost their lives in the two worlds wars. It is a great credit to Britain that after the second world war an effort was made to reduce inequalities. This was achievable directly as a result of the massive sacrifices borne by the less privileged. Whitby hospital has lost its surgical unit, its maternity ward, and other wards, and is now reduced to one ward. No doubt the vultures are circling there too. The present government is embarked on using public money to take public assets away from the public. This applies to Eskdale school. Schools should be seen as national treasures. As a governor I supported keeping a school open that was vulnerable to closure. It is one of my greatest pleasures to see that school continue to live on, with all its varied staff and pupils. I urge you to keep Eskdale going, and I am confident that you would never regret doing so. More than that, I am confident that it will give you great satisfaction in later life to know that you stood with the cooks, cleaners and admin staff of Eskdale school, and protected their jobs, and supported such a well-loved school. It means standing up to pressures that will you will come to realise more clearly do not serve the public good. Eskdale (even unchanged from its KS3 status) could be the quirky bit of variety that you can retain in the patch that you can point to, and say, yes we kept it and it is proof of responding to the democratic will.

I Do not want the proposed amalgamation to go ahead my reasons are that I do not want my child to be taught in a large school I want my child to receive the best standard of education possible and I believe that a small school can deliver that a large school comes with lots of negative effects on children's education I also have concerns that the bullying will get worse than it is already at caedmon college

I DO NOT AGREE TO THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY I am the parent of a Y9 pupil at CCW and I also have another child in Y6 at Hawsker School. My son chose to attend Caedmon School moving from Westcliff School with most of his year group. The school met his needs educationally for the most part (I found some of the low standards of work accepted by some of the teaching staff worrying). I also had concerns about the last OFSTED Inspection results and expected a concerted push by the school (with LA support) towards improvement. Instead the school amalgamated with Whitby Community College. The RI OFSTED outcome has been hidden beneath WCC's good. How do we know the new school is good? The merger means re-inspection is delayed. There has been an LA one day "inspection" where the outcome was good. However, an LA inspection of the old WCC in 2005 gave it good yet 5 weeks later OFSTED put the school into Special Measures! I have no faith in the current situation. CCW does not seem to have the same tracking of pupils progress or "finger on the pulse" ability - is this due to the increase in pupil numbers and staff not able to keep up? My son has not had his Planner signed or looked at for weeks by the school; he was having problems with English homework yet I was not made aware of this until a formal Consultation Evening - should I not have been contacted when it first arose? More recently there has been an issue with very little or no homework being given in several subjects. Again I had to contact the school and initiate a review. Not what I expect. The creation of CCW has taken away the transition at the end of KS3 for my son, a good thing. BUT - it has also meant movement between school sites and lost classroom time - "slippage"?? Both the pupils and the staff are often late arriving. He has Food Technology lessons in the old Caedmon School site during the morning, he then spends the rest of the day on the old WCC site yet the food he has made is still in the Food Tech room. At the end of the day he has to cross the main road amid the chaos of school busses, cars and pedestrians to pick it up. This makes him too late to catch the school bus!! I also have concerns about the safety of pupils travelling from one site to another across the main road with minimal supervision (alternatively dodging mud and dog faeces on the underpass). In wet weather he gets soaked and does not have a locker to put his wet coat in (why are there not enough lockers for one per pupil) so has to carry it round the school with him. After a year and 2 terms I am not convinced the amalgamation was a positive move and as I stated earlier there is, as yet, no reliable evidence to say it has. There is now the proposal to bring another school and 300+ more pupils into the mix?? How can this work when there seem to be so many issues still unresolved? The overall image of CCW may be that of success but the small daily, individual bits and pieces are not being addressed. In addition to my son's situation I know of safeguarding issues that have been so grossly mishandled (if handled at all) that parents have moved their children to Eskdale School. The proposal is that those children now move BACK to CCW! I would hate to think it was my child being placed in such a worrying situation. I also know of pupils with "behavioural problems" not being supported within the school but being sent to the outreach centre or offered home tuition or very limited (1 hour per day) 1:1 tuition in school. How is this meeting their needs or helping them through problems? I do not think CCW has a very good record of support for those who are not average or above. I am also concerned about the reduction in choice of subject for GCSE. It has become quite limited especially with the school choosing to introduce the EBacc early. It has been quite difficult to make choice combinations to fit with his academic strengths and interests. Creative subjects also seem to be quite reduced. This is not education of the "whole child". I have not considered moving my son to Eskdale School because he is happy there and has a good friendship group however, if my concerns became too great there is the option to transfer. This option would disappear if the two schools amalgamated. My other concern is for my daughter. She is currently in Y6 and has visited CCW and Eskdale School in both Y5 and Y6. She has chosen to go to Eskdale School in Y7. This may now not happen. Eskdale School is a small, caring school with a great family-style ethos. She needs this. I don't think she will flourish in a large split-site 1500+ urban-style school, particularly coming from a small rural primary school. She loves the creative arts and Eskdale has strong traditions in art, music, drama, dance and crafts. We were very pleased when Eskdale decided to offer 11-16 education as it removed the transition at 14 (very unsettling and often accompanied by a dip in achievement). This meant that following her GCSE she could then decide whether to attend 6th form in Whitby, go further afield or look for work-based training. One size does not fit all! A cliché maybe but very true when we are talking about individuals and their ONE chance of education. I DO NOT AGREE TO THE PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY.

I attended the consultation evening at the Spa Pavilion. The assurance given by the governors that any capital receipt from the sale of the Eskdale site will be reinvested in education in Whitby is unachievable. The funds would simply go to NYCC and would be absorbed by them. NYCC itself cannot ring fence the capital receipt for education purposes, and it would be unlawful for them to do so. I have 2 children at CCW. They both complain at the overcrowding in corridors at the moment. This is bound only to get worse if the merger goes ahead. Similar complaints have been made concerning lack of space in the dining room. Both my children happily attended Eskdale and would return there tomorrow if they could. The town needs choice. Eskdale should remain open offering 11-16 education. If the way to achieve this is not to have 6th form provision in the town then I would support this. The 6th Form provision in town is extremely limited and under resourced with the emphasis of CCW being GSEs rather than post 16 qualifications. Had I known this was the case I would have encouraged my child to look elsewhere.

<p>As a parent of one daughter currently in the 6th form at CCW and two other daughters who attend CCW I can honestly say that I have been more than happy with the education & care all my daughters received at CCW. All three attended Eskdale & transferred to CCW at the end of year 9 with no problems at all. However as a staff member at Eskdale for nearly 10 years I have experienced first hand the firendly, caring atmosphere at Eskdale that pupils at the end of year 6/beginning of year 7 need & deserve. I understand that finances must play a part but I passionately believe that children in Whitby and the surrounding villages, at the end of year 6, deserve and need a choice. I don't think travelling 20 miles over the moors is an option I am not in favour of the proposed amalgamation.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the planned amalgamation I do not want my child going to a school which has over 1600 pupils even if this amalgamation produces a new sixth form centre the demand just isn't there and it would need to be subsidised with gcse funding</p>
<p>Both schools have great qualities, if this amalgamation moves forward, I would hope that the ethos of both schools evolve with it. The SEN children have always benefited from Eskdale's nurturing approach, and I truly hope this is adopted through this merge! I would definitely welcome a separate sixth form college to our town, as I believe this would help our young people to gain more independence, and hopefully this would enable Whitby to offer more in terms of subject choice to our 16+ children? I am not against amalgamation, but, like other parents, I am concerned about the disruption during setting up the new school. With a child going into year 9 and embarking on her GCSE's, this is of particular concern; I hope class sizes remain much the same, and their education will not suffer during this transition! I also hope parents are kept informed of any changes; the town needs a transparent approach from here on in. I feel this would benefit both the school, and the families of our town. Whitby has proved through this proposal, that it has a passionate and energetic community, and our secondary provision should therefore harness, reflect and incorporate this into its new school.</p>
<p>I live near the parade, my son is currently year 7 at Caedmon. Quite away to walk when your small for your age, laden down with cooking ingredients and your p.e. Kit. Not too mention hood up when pouring down! 40 mph on main roads all the way worries me. The new bridge at home time is extremely busy. Reduce speed limit at set times of day would reduce possibility of fatal accident. I have been on the bridge when lorries are driving past and the force of the wind created really could pull a child into the road. Maybe a bus service or using the one that serves Staithes and area could be arranged. For people who could drop off children before they go to work will there be a breakfast or an after school club facility? I don't think the merger is a bad thing, in fact in many ways it is a good thing, but how about sending the 6th form over to the Eskdale site. It makes more sense as they are a lot older and maturer to deal with the traffic and accommodate the rest of the years on the other 2 Sites until such time Caedmon are ready for them all. Common sense really, younger children closer and safer!!</p>
<p>XX@gmail.com</p>
<p>The proposed amalgamation should not go ahead as it isn't in the best intresting of all the children of whitby it benefits caedmon college Whitby the plans for the new post 16 centre is what they have been promised and his will still be funded from gcse funding the demand for sixth form in Whitby isn't there children choose to go out of town not just for the courses but it helps them make new friends and develop skills for when they move away to university . nycc are only interested in one option as this will give them around 17 million pounds from the sale of the site</p>
<p>No text supplied x 19</p>
<p>There are many year 11 pupils in Whitby who are now getting no education at all because Caedmon College Whitby didn't work for them due to their needs not being accommodated. There was no alternative school in a reachable distance for these pupils. Please don't expand this to a wider age group.</p>
<p>Caedmon College Whitby doesn't meet the needs of many local children and there is nowhere else for them to go for their education. If Eskdale School is amalgamated with Caedmon College Whitby this problem will extend to many local children from year 7.</p>

<p>Whitby needs choice-one 'super school' will be the end of choice for the young people of our town. The east side of town has barely any amenities as it is, if it were not for the Sainsburys supermarket we would not even have a cash machine! Our children choose a school at 11, there is a reason some choose Eskdale and some choose Caedmon. If the proposed amalgamation were to go ahead where would children who don't 'fit in' at Caedmon (or vice versa) go? The amalgamation in Scarborough has gone spectacularly wrong with regards to ofstead! How can we be sure this would not happen in Whitby? Also I have attended all meetings that have been held on behalf of Eskdale School and, especially at the consultation meetings at the Spa a lot of emphasis was put on the 6th form facilities and how the closure of Eskdale would somehow 'save' the 6th form? I don't think it was fully explained how this would work as when Caedmon and Whitby Community College joined together they gained 400+ students and the 6th form offered even less subjects to study this academic year (even with the 400+ pupils funding!) so I don't see how adding just under 300 pupils from Eskdale is going to save the 6th form? Also I agree with what was brought up in the consultation meetings about Whitby not needed a 6th form-I would much rather see Eskdale and Caedmon go 11-16 yrs and close the 6th form and I am speaking as a parent of a current 6th form student!</p>
<p>I went to the consultation evening on 15th March. I have no confidence whatsoever in the panel of people making the decisions.</p>
<p>I am not in favour of the proposed amalgamation of the two schools. I think there should be two schools so students and parents have a choice. My son has been at eskdale for three years and has been very happy and gained lots in confidence during his time there. He has dyslexia and I felt he was supported in his learning at eskdale. Since he has moved to college he doesn't feel he has the same support and he is reverting back to a cant do attitude that he used to have as his confidence has dropped. I feel his grades will suffer from moving schools. This is why eskdale needs to stay open and let children attend from 11-16 so they can continue the fantastic education eskdale give them.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the amalgamation. I have lived in Fryup Dale my whole life and I find this situation worrying for the future of our community up the valley. I went to Lealholm Primary school but due to my gran passing away I continued my education in Pickering. Even though my education in Pickering was brilliant I find it worrying that other children will have to go through what I went through and that is not being apart of my own community. Travelling to and from Pickering everyday takes time and I travelled with my parents, whereas if I'd have gone to Whitby I would have travelled with friends and neighbours and kept my bond with my community. I had quite a lonely child hood in a very isolated valley. It alarms me that this is happening more and more, three children from my hamlet in Fryup are going to Stokesley school and they go early in the morning and return late in the evening. Children going from the valleys to possibly three different schools is really going to hit our community hard. Village sports and social occasions will be hit. There will be a huge knock on effect to our community. At least if the kids stay at Eskdale they are more likely to stay on at the sixth form if they head to Stokesley or Pickering the chances of them returning to Whitby to be educated are very slim. I've spoken to people in the valley and asked why they don't like CCW and people keep saying that they have no faith in the school. Can Education in whitby afford to lose the money from the valley kids? I hope you are reading our comments and taking it on board.</p>
<p>My two daughters attend Caedmon College Whitby, and I want them to both have choice in their education I disagree with the Amalgamation of Eskdale School with Caedmon College Whitby.</p>
<p>The split site isn't working! Two sites is bad enough never mind three! I hate it and can not wait to retire</p>
<p>My children currently attend Caedmon College Whitby and my son is due to start in September 2016. I do not want Eskdale School to Amalgamate with Caedmon College Whitby. My son was bullied at secondary and the pupil who bullied him is due to attend Eskdale and if this Amalgamation goes ahead I will have to apply for another secondary school out of the area. As I do not want this pupil to be at school with my son. Whitby needs choice of secondary School</p>

Responses from Pupils of Caedmon College, Whitby
<p>This is going to give the children of Whitby no choice. From a pupil in year 10 at Caedmon I'm appalled at how class sizes are growing to numbers were teachers can't cope with the class or were they can't even teach my class. If u have 30 kids and only 6 of them want to learn the teacher is not able to teach the class and with more pupils joining the school pupils learning would be hit hard and as a pupil I feel like the council have failed MY education as teachers are sometimes taking 5-10 minutes to actually get round to help me as they may have 10 pupils who need help and if a 1/3 of a class needs help then I'm stuck and so are 9 other pupils who have to wait. Many pupils in Eskdale did not want to join Caedmon school in the first place, its why they chose to move to eskdale and its vise versa to the pupils at Caedmon. This is in my opinion a clear gain for money as at Caedmon I sometimes feel more like I worth the 3 grand the council pay the school to have me and the school bang on more about money than they do our learned. This government and council think money solve issues. But Caedmon's class sizes are growing to levels were there is no spare seats meaning moving pupils with bad behaviour is hard. Over all this is a bad move from the council to shut Eskdale school and as a pupil from Caedmon who takes a interest in politics I see more economic gain for Caedmon and while that's happened MY learned and other pupils learning are being hit the most and I feel sometimes my grade would be higher in a school outside of Whitby due to smaller class sizes witch in Caedmon are beyond stupid.</p>
<p>Whitby is expanding. We need more than one school, the amalgamation is an economic exercise, nothing to do with the quality of education. This year there is a 45 million pound development in Scarborough for Education, is there a link between this and the cost cutting exercise in whitby? Eskdale School is a valuable asset we cannot afford to loose, it should be secured for future generations to meet increasing educational needs. Caedmon college was once a grammar school and is now a collection of different buildings crammed on the site, yet the road access is single file, just 1 lane. There is hardly anywhere to park as it is for staff or visitors, no turning area and this problem will be exacerbated if Eskdale is to be added to the site. Also, Whitby is practically gridlocked as it is at 9.00 when taking children to Caedmon college and Mayfield road will become even worse, especially because there is no roundabout at the major junction near the school. Whatever direction parents come from, children are dropped in the road (no pull-in places) and the driver is committed to continue driving in that direction until finding somewhere convenient to turn around. I think adding several hundred more pupils to the same school will cause major traffic issues. My main concern though, is the loss of a fabulous school. I don't believe that one school can serve the needs of every child and it is wrong not to be offered a choice.</p>
<p>leave eskdale as it is kids and parents need choice</p>
<p>choice for familys keep eskdale open</p>
<p>I am going to reference an email that I sent to X XX a while back:As an ex student of Eskdale secondary school and a current student in Caedmon College Whitby sixth form, I would like to express my concern over the recent developments in the process of deciding to amalgamate Eskdale with CCW. > > My experiences of Eskdale school compared to CCW are highly superior. Eskdale school is a caring and friendly school with helpful and knowledgeable staff that always go the extra mile to help meet the needs of each and every child. In comparison, CCW has a lot to be desired... > > I would like to raise the concern that Caedmon College have not yet had a formal Ofsted inspection since the amalgamation of what was previously Whitby Community College and Caedmon school. I am confident that an inspection was due around the September mark and I suspect that the school would struggle to achieve a 'good' status, as the quality of education is definitely not up to scratch in my opinion and the opinion of many others. > > I also think it should be taken into consideration that Eskdale school continue to produce positive results from happy and content students. In my experience and the experience of my peers and children currently attending the school, Eskdale and it's staff are dedicated to educating children in the highest manor, whilst enabling them to have a successful and positive experience of education. > > Generally, the staff at CCW are not the issue. It is instead the management (X XX) that are the main concern and worry to our small and tight knit community. This is why many people within Whitby and the surrounding areas are concerned, as XX is seemingly incapable of managing the current College. > > Eskdale school provides a fun, friendly and supportive learning environment for children of all ages. It's morals are positive and the school gives parents and children an option of where they would like their children to be educated. In my opinion, education is the basis and foundation of life. It gives children the chance to develop within themselves, whilst they gain knowledge and learn essential life skills. Parents should be entitled to a choice of where their children can be educated and it is generally a community belief that Eskdale provides a fantastic education option for children in the area. > > I really hope that you are able to see how passionate everyone is about Eskdale school and how it's individuality and unique caring attitude towards education is vital if this community if going to thrive. > > Eskdale secondary school have been essentially cornered into agreeing to this amalgamation, as all staff, parents and children are extremely upset about this recent news. We all hope that North Yorkshire County Council can see how devastating this would be to our community. Please save our school. ></p>

please leave my school alone i love eskdale i picked it because i was bullied by the caedmon kids the thought of maybe having to join them makes me feel sick i cant concentrate at school i cry most nights please i beg you sir dont close the school i choose and love and learn in please :(

I'm a current year 12 at Caedmon College. Firstly I want to address the claim that you made on Monday's consultation (14th March). You said that the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College will give GCSE and A level students MORE choice. When Caedmon School and Whitby Community College merged, I was choosing my A levels. Because of this amalgamation, ALL LANGUAGES, ENGINEERING and PSYCHOLOGY were cut from our options. I was also told X X X X sixth form that I could not do English or Maths (core subjects) as these options did not 'fit' with my other options which were Biology and Health and Social Care. You cannot possibly tell me (and other students) that this will not happen again. You say that one of the main priorities concerning your proposal is that children have 'choice' and you state that the the additional income from the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon College will create MORE choice for children. However, this theory of 'amalgamation + choice' has already been disproved within our town last year. So, if the amalgamation is unlikely to provide more subject choice, what other motivation is there? Obviously there has been accusations about the proposal being 'all about money', but I do not think that way. Understandably, some changes have to be made to the education system within Whitby as financial times are hard. However, with over 5,000 people in our small town passionately asking you to reconsider your proposal, how can you not listen? Whitby has a rough population of around 13,000 and a large proportion of these people are elderly. This means that they are unlikely to be able to respond and understand the full depth of this proposal. Whitby also has a large proportion of young people, who also cannot respond to such proposals. So 5,000 of our population is a huge amount. This should surely demonstrate how passionate people are about a school with 300 students. This surely speaks volumes. I attended both consultation meetings and it was obvious the amount of support Eskdale had in relation to 4 Caedmon College teachers on Monday and 3 additional students of Caedmon College (these supporters were asked to relay XX messages, but I won't be petty). You further asked in your consultations for people to suggest 'alternative resolutions'. Many were proposed on both nights, however 1 particularly stood out for me. Why not get rid of the sixth form in Whitby? Roughly 50% of students stay at Caedmon College for A levels and 50% travel away to other places such as Scarborough or Middlesbrough. This surely means that the small number of pupils in sixth form aren't providing a valuable and sustainable income for the college, especially as more students leave and seek other Key Stage 5 education elsewhere year on year. As a direct result of our government, apprenticeships are now seemingly the better option for a large proportion of Key Stage 5 students. This increase in apprenticeship interest will develop year on year, meaning less students will enroll in sixth form education full time. With this in mind, surely now is the time to act? Sixth form students who live just out of the Whitby area have to pay for transport anyway, so it wouldn't make a difference to them travelling out of the area e.g. Scarborough in order to receive Key Stage 5 education. A level students are old enough and mature enough to travel out of the area and can make sensible decisions about their education. Personally, I don't think the sixth form would be a huge loss to the community, unlike the proposed 'technical closure of Eskdale school'. I would also like to raise an important point. As a student at Caedmon College, I see and observe the college on a daily basis. As I'm sure you would agree, teacher's are naturally influential over children. Teachers are supposed to guide and nurture children into positive holistic development. This involves encouraging children to have their OWN point of view and NOT pushing opinions and values onto them. However, at Caedmon College, the proposed amalgamation is often the topic of conversation. These 'conversations' are always brought upon by teachers and include sarcasm, intimidation and the strong forcing of views upon myself and my peers. There was also an assembly held about the proposed amalgamation where XX, again, forced his views upon all attending (these were biased views of the proposal non the less). I have also been asked (multiple times) to fill in paper versions of this document and encouraged to write IN FAVOR of the amalgamation. I (politely refused these requests). This all led to myself (a 17 year old student) not feeling able to stand up and express my views in either of the consultations. I felt intimidated and was sure that my 'views' (which oppose my teacher's) would harm my education. This is also why I am not willing to state my name or address. In your presentation, you also say that XX will remain the headteacher of the proposed new amalgamated school. Can I ask why? XX and the staff at Eskdale School obviously have contrasting views on this proposal. Both sides are passionate about their opinions, which has (naturally) caused bad feeling between the two. As XX has shown to be biased in the past, he is bound to favor his own teachers, values and opinions rather than those of Eskdale should amalgamation occur. Wouldn't it be more sensible to appoint a NEW HEADTEACHER that has NO TIES to Eskdale or Caedmon. This would therefore allow the two ethos' of the different schools to shine through in harmony to create an educational environment suitable for ALL children. There is no valid reason why XX should stay headteacher of the proposed 'Whitby School'. If you somehow find it impossible to KEEP ESKDALE SCHOOL, then please, i beg of you, appoint a NEW, UNBIASED head that only has the best interests of the children at heart. Eskdale school has been graded as 'needs improvement' by Ofsted twice in recent inspections. As part of government policy, schools labelled with 'needs improvement' are required to be supported by the local council. Where has this support been for the school? How is it supposed to improve without the backing and support from the people in charge? The school produces all of the right facts and figures that indicates that it is in fact a good school. 93% of year 9 pupils from eskdale achieved an A* to C rating in GCSE science qualifications. Alongside an 80% pupil satisfaction rate, surely this screams that ESKDALE SCHOOL IS GOOD. Please, please listen to what the people are telling you. We NEED schools like Eskdale. They provide a holistic education for children. Although Eskdale is a fun and loving environment to learn in, they recognize that the sole purpose of education is not for children to simply 'have fun' as XX clearly stated in

<p>the consultation meeting. Eskdale continue to manage to produce amazing results and house happy students. So please, XX, XX, recognise that Eskdale is a true asset to Whitby. Consider how the pupil satisfaction will decrease. Consider how this 93% GCSE science A*-C rate will decrease. Consider how many vulnerable and 'at risk' children will have to chose between being uncomfortable at an overly large school or travelling for 20 plus miles at a young age just to access education that is suitable for them. You can do so much to change this. You've seen the support given. We care. Please come up with other options. 300 pupils NEED Eskdale school. Their parents need it. Primary school pupils need it. Teachers need it. Future generations need it. WHITBY needs it. Thank you for your time. I am sure that you will use your power to listen to the people and forget about the proposal and come up with an alternative solution to overcoming this financial crisis.</p>
<p>Our school is full now. We can not fir Eskdale in no room.</p>
<p>It will be overcrowded. It's like putting a pint into a half pint glass.</p>
<p>It would be stupid if the merge didn't happen!</p>
<p>I think it is a good idea as there will be one school, there will be more facilities involved with all three schools.</p>
<p>One school with separate sites for 11-16/16-19 as appropriate.</p>
<p>As a year 11 at Caedmon College, Whitby I think that it's a good idea for Eskdale to join with College.</p>
<p>I think that the merger should go ahead. Despite Eskdale being a good school it is neither sensible nor practical to have two schools in Whitby. I think the two schools joining together would create a better school and much better opportunities.</p>
<p>I think that it is a good idea to merge the schools however I would like a separate sixth form at another site, such as Scoresby, as I currently find a clash in maturity levels which may affect my learning in the near future.</p>
<p>I believe the wayer should proceed. It would be more beneficial for Whitby, our education and better pay jobs for staff at Caedmon College Whitby.</p>
<p>Yes I think it's a good idea.</p>
<p>I'm not too bothered as everyone going to one school could be good and bad. A positive is meeting new people and some you already know like people from primary.</p>
<p>I want them to come up because you will get new friends. Also I will think it will be better education and get new friends.</p>
<p>It doesn't bother me if they come up as it wouldn't make a difference in my school life. However more students in each class means less 1 on 1 with the teacher.</p>
<p>I don't mind if it goes through because there would be more space and 1 on 1 learning if it didn't but there would be new friends if it did.</p>
<p>In my opinion the proposed amalgamation will benefit the students of Whitby, especially having a separate sixth form, will benefit me as an individual, moving into post 16 education, however I feel transport should be provided to school free of charge, from the surrounding rural areas.</p>
<p>Do what you want as long as I get a good sixth form!</p>

In my opinion I think the proposed merger with Eskdale school is an important step to the future of education in Whitby. Having one big secondary school will benefit the town and therefore be more money invested into the education within the town. A post 16 centre is a good idea and will bring in more students and perhaps more students will stay on instead of choosing to go elsewhere. However I also think there should be more of a variety of options available for GCSE and A level students (including A level P.E)
I will be starting sixth form in September and I would like a good sixth form. So extra money towards a post 16 centre would be great. However I think if Eskdale was closed transport should be provided for people living on the east side of Whitby, to get to college on a morning. I think the assembly given at my school talking about the merge was <u>biased</u> . If the merge was to go ahead I think more courses should be provided at GCSE and A level especially A level P.E.
Pupils of Caedmon College have been presented with biased information. I think that the schools should merge, but I don't think there should be a 6th form college created.
The merge should happen. It's the best opinion for all sites, so some kids don't want to move but everyone feels like that when you move school. If it doesn't happen both schools will both crash and burn.
I think it would be a good idea, but I don't think it would be a good idea.
I think the merge should happen, because the sixth form here needs more facilities. It takes too much time to travel to a good college for A levels (Scarborough sixth form). This college needs more work put into sixth form!
I don't like the fact that Eskdale is closing and coming over here, it will be very crowded and annoying.
I think the class sizes will be too big and Eskdale probably won't want to come.
I'm happy for it to close because my friends would be here, but if they bring them here then I don't want it to affect my learning because I don't fault my learning and I like it here. And if they do come I don't want to be separated from my friends at Eskdale. I want to be with them.
I don't mind that they're coming because I would like to see my friends but I'm worried it would change friend groups and forms.
I think it would be good and I am fairly happy, but I don't want my classes to change.
I don't mind.
I don't mind, I will let it flow and be positive and make friends.
I think that they should merge because I will be going into sixth form this year and travelling elsewhere isn't an option; because I wanna be a qualified dance teacher and to do that I need to be at dancing for 4 o'clock on a night which I can't do if I go elsewhere. I also know that the merger will bring more money to the school making better trips so pupils will have better opportunities to learn.
I definitely think that the merge should go ahead because the pros outweigh the cons and we would have more opportunities as a community. Also we could improve the sixth form facility and give local people the opportunity for a good, high standard education, with a comfortable environment without needing to travel every day to a neighbouring sixth form. Travel is not an option for some people and I think it would be unfair to put people in such a difficult position. The merge would be fantastic and to be honest there wouldn't really be that much of a change.
I don't think it should happen. There is already a 15 minute dinner queue and once got your dinner there isn't anywhere for you and your mates to sit together and eat. Also the corridors are already cramped as it is, so adding another ten hundred pupils won't do any help. If this did happen you'd need another building to fit everyone in.
I would like the merger to go through as there are only negatives if it doesn't go through.
I guess I'm ok with it.

I am ok with this merge
I think it will be a good idea for the schools to merge, but I won't be bothered if it doesn't go ahead.
I'm not really bothered either way as it won't really affect me that much, however it would be quite good.
I'm not bothered about Eskdale coming to Caedmon.
I don't mind that Eskdale and Caedmon are coming together but I don't want my form group to be changed. I'm happy that my friends are coming and I'm excited to see them. I hope this doesn't change my lessons.
I am fairly happy but slightly concerned on the education and the room of both schools
I'm happy for the change
Don't let Eskdale join because it will be too overcrowded.
I'm not really bothered, I think that it may be quite full and I think that it should happen because I would like sixth form to stay.
I'm not too bothered. I think it might turn out to be a good thing. This would prevent the closure of sixth form.
I don't agree with the amalgamation because I think with two schools there's a choice with one school there's not.
I think it's going to be too busy in corridors and at lunch time. We need to be able to play football at lunch in the sports hall and the field. If Eskdale do merge with CC W then we need more facilities like IPads and things like benches outside. More trips to places in Geography and History also trips abroad. More fights will occur and more bullying.
I agree with Eskdale shutting down because it will give us chance to make more friends.
I agree that Eskdale School should get closed down because I would help all of the students in Whitby because then it is just one big school and they don't have to argue which school is better and it also attracts more staff and that means less people in a class room so it is easier to learn.
I agree that the schools should merge. Due to the minute opportunities, provided by the town overall and the individual schools it would be idiotic and show no signs of common sense to not merge the schools. Keeping the schools separate is not sustainable. Surely if there was one pot of money it would mean more opportunities, more resources, more qualified teachers and more subject specific facilities to all students. Surely the LEA (Local Education Authority) would argue that the merge would be most cost effective decision. Having said this, the whole situation does not boil down to money. If a child does not have to deal with transferring schools e.g. from Eskdale to Caedmon college and whilst being at school getting the best opportunities, level of care and quality of education then can't we all agree the amalgamation of the schools is at the best interest of all the students.
Personally I agree with the merge of Eskdale and college. I feel that it would be in the best interest of the children in this area for the schools to join together, as otherwise Whitby could lose its sixth form. This would directly affect my family, as my younger brother and sister would then have to travel even further afield to access a sixth form college, in which my mum would have to pay for transport. In addition joining together would result in a better quality of teaching being provided to all the pupils as there would be an increase in resources. I myself attended Eskdale school for 3 years and had no problems during my time there, however, I feel that now is the time for change, to allow the education available in the Whitby area to develop and progress.

<p>If the merge doesn't go ahead the 6th form could go under – meaning the young children will have to pay transport costs up to £3000!! To go to a sixth form college about an hour away from Whitby. Although I thoroughly enjoyed my time at Eskdale school, I feel the school has gone downhill – as reflected in the recent Ofsted reports. The teachers are very good at their jobs and very friendly, but I feel some of the teachers may struggle to teach GCSE's – which are very important exams in key stage 4. However if the schools merge the staff can work in teams to give all students the best possible education. – If the schools don't merge funding may be cut and this will mean the loss of extremely valuable teaching and resources.</p>
<p>I don't want the merge to happen because we made a choice to come here and the Eskdales decided to go there because they didn't want to come here. If we do merge then there will be more people in college and make it harder to move down the corridors but there is more room down at Caedmon. You should think about the children and how they feel about their future and what they want to happen, not you and cash!!</p>
<p>I am scared of what happens.</p>
<p>I don't mind what happens. I want Caedmon to be made bigger so we are not all crammed in.</p>
<p>It saves money that could be spent on other things.</p>
<p>What would the changes be? I honestly am against it I didn't really want to come here. I want a good education and increasing the population of problematic children/students may disturb that. Although I am wanting more educational trips.</p>
<p>I am kind of mixed. I'm happy but also scared in case we don't get educated as well as we do now. I am also excited because all my friends will be coming here.</p>
<p>I think it's a good idea but I think we need more forms/classes because the classes will be too big. And I prefer smaller classes because it's easier to learnJ</p>
<p>I do not want this to happen because there will be too many people.</p>
<p>I think the schools should merge as it would mean more money and therefore a better education for everyone in Whitby.</p>
<p>It's a good idea but it would be best if year 9's moved back to Scoresby site.</p>
<p>It should not go ahead it will be cramped in the school.</p>
<p>Amalgamation = good idea. Need a 6th form in Whitby?</p>
<p>I think Caedmon college should merge with Eskdale because we will all get better learning and get more opportunities also if we don't merge Caedmon college 6th form might not be around much longer.</p>
<p>I don't think this should go ahead at all because I don't like the idea and it would be cramped and horrible. And if it does go ahead we will have a change of uniform and I hate that idea.</p>
<p>Caedmon college should merge with Eskdlae because there will be lots more opportunity for students here and there will also be a bigger and better 6th form with a greater variety of course which will be available.</p>
<p>I am in favour of the merger because it will be a great opportunity. Especially post 16 centre.</p>
<p>There won't be enough room at dinner. There will be more bullying and arguments. There's no facilities for disabled people. Teachers will be out of jobs. And if you get bullied you can't change schools because you don't have a choice.</p>
<p>There won't be enough room for everyone if they join because there isn't enough now. If they do come together there will be more chance of bullying because if you want to move school because of bullying you will have to go to Scarborough. Teachers will be late more often because they will have to go from one school to the other.</p>

I don't think there will be much room at college if Eskdale closes. It would be a good chance to make new friends however if children don't want it to be closed then I don't think it should be because children will learn better if they enjoy going to school and if they don't want to come to college(or any other school) then they might not learn as well. If it did close then college would have better resources and have more opportunities.
I think that the merger of Eskdale to Caedmon college Whitby is a great idea. I think this because if Eskdale gets demolished and move houses get built in that area it will attract more students and their families to move there. And having only one large secondary school in Whitby would mean that the school gets more funds to help with sixth form etc. Another thing that would benefit us is that we could make lots more friends with people that go to that school.
I think the merge would be a good thing because you would get better education, the school will get more students to fill the over capacity of space in school but there might be to many students at the same on both sites which will make the school crowded.
Send the year 9's back down to Caedmon site please, then leave it be. Leave Eskdale alone. It's worked for the last few decades, so why should it change?
I feel like it's a good idea to sign up because more money will come to the school for more school activities and the Eskdale kids deserve better education. We should be able to have lessons at Eskdale because lessons are overcrowded anyway.
I think it would be a great idea for Eskdale to join Caedmon college so that us and Eskdale can make more friends J I AGREE
I'm not really bothered about it, however I do think the school is too small to fit all the kids in. In my opinion it will give kids more of a chance to call or make fun of somebody from someone else's prospective. Class numbers/sizes will increase so classes will be too big making it harder for us to learn.
I think that Eskdale should close as if it does it will create a bigger budget for lessons as for example I do electronics and have limited equipment due to old equipment being broken and not being able to afford new tools/equipment.
I think Eskdale school should stay open because it is a good school and pupils deserve a choice in Whitby.
I did attend Eskdale school and it was the best 3 years of my school life so far. I don't see why Caedmon college and Eskdale school shouldn't merge because even though Eskdale has a great history and teachers and pupils, the schools merged would make a great team. They can make Caedmon college bigger and better with a number of brilliant students and teachers and the school will be over all great place to learn and look good to the visitors and new comers of Whitby.
You should change Eskdale to an A' level site college as a 10, 11 and the Normandy site as 7, 8, 9. So all of the pupils are more spread out.
More houses are being built so more students but you want to get rid of one school, why not use Eskdale as a sixth form block so we aren't all squashed together.
Y9, 10, 11 at college. Sixth form buildings at Eskdale. Eskdale school should not be knocked down, but used for either sixth form or Y9's. There is not enough room for Y9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 including Eskdale students too.
I agree with Eskdale coming to Caedmon college.
Ye merge them but leave 6 th form here and put years 7, 8 and 9 at the other site, it's already too full here J
I think that they should close the old Caedmon site and combine Eskdale +CCW together keeping Eskdale open for 6 th form and college for rest of the year groups.
I don't think it will affect me because I'll be in year 11.
I think that it should happen well I don't mind if all of them go to Scoresby as the school is really crowded.
Don't care. Won't affect me, moving up a year.

I think Eskdale joining us is okay because it won't affect me at all.
Don't mind either way. I don't think it will affect my education.
It should happen!
I don't mind at all but I think it would be crowded.
The amalgamation will have positive however many negative aspects. As a former student from Eskdale I had the most amazing year 7&8. – I learned so much from having a bad experience at primary. Eskdale helped me gain confidence, meet new people (including XX, who has recently passed away). In year 9 – I lost X & X? – Eskdale handled this extremely well and I have carried the knowledge they have given me. Caedmon college have not helped me in the right ways in which I can carry on with my life and successfully do my GCSE's. If the amalgamation was to proceed – Caedmon must carry on the teaching and general actions that XX and the other teachers taught. (If the school were to close down – the trees we planted for J and J? must be protected
I don't want the schools to merge together because it's going to be crowded.
Just do it!!!!
I think we can get Eskdale to join to get resources.
Merge! It will become a bigger and better school. Eskdale are broke.
Think we should merge.
I aren't bothered on what happens.
I don't think it is a good idea as the college will be to over filled like it already is and not many people will be able to get lunch as we only get 40 mins and it takes nearly 30 mins to get something to eat.
I would mind if Eskdale students came here if they were less people here but because it is already overcrowded I don't want Eskdale students to come. There is already too many people and I don't agree with it!
We see MP's such as Heidi Alan talking of compassion and in my view this is not the compassionate thing to do, but it is all about money. Class sizes are beyond normal, many classes are packed to the top and teachers can't look after 30 children and it's increasingly hard for them if we need their attention. The classes will be even more crammed and in my opinion teachers will not be able to handle the amount of pupils. As a pupil I feel everything is about money and not my education. If money fixed everything there would be no problems as there is plenty of money. Instead leadership solves issue and teachers with smaller classes help. Instead of thinking all about that money solves all do what Heidi Alan MP says and be compassionate and do the best thing for pupils and don't merge and shut down Eskdale.
I would at the end of year 9 to have stayed at my school. So one school is good.
I like to stay in one school.
I would like to keep it how it is.

<p>I'm a year 7 student a CCW. I do not think Eskdale should shut, as I do not want more students and bigger classes at Caedmon. Secondly I am very disappointed to hear that from September 2016 there is a chance that the year group 7&8 will be going to the Eskdale site for one year. When I chose Caedmon I chose it for the main reason that the head of CCW said that now Caedmon and Whitby school are one, there would be no significant transition. However, if I end up going to the Eskdale site this will mean, I will have been in 4 school sites in 4 years. This is really not a good idea, and definitely not a smooth transition. Can they not put the 6th formers up at the Eskdale site? This would be more practical for us younger ones, especially as it will take me and many others about 50+ to walk there and back each day. I hope thoughts will read and considered. Thank you for reading.</p>
<p>Please do not merge Eskdale and Caedmon. I went to Eskdale and I wish I could have stayed there for my GCSEs. In Year 6 I looked round Eskdale and Caedmon. Even though I am in Caedmon's catchment area I chose Eskdale. It felt a happier, friendlier school with the older children willing to help with anything. The teachers were brilliant. They got to know my weaknesses and helped me improve in all my subjects. They weren't too strict but weren't soft either. They got the best out of everybody. I am still a member of Eskdale tennis club. What would happen if the school were to close. As well as us there would be Fishburn Park FC, Ultimate Soccer, Archery Club, Whitby Christian Fellowship, Onomy and caravanners in the summer who would lose their base. There are two housing projects near Eskdale with another in the pipe line. The children need the school. Do not close Eskdale you will never get it back.</p>
<p>Our education will plummet because of the class sizes and all they want is lots of money!</p>
<p>As a pupil which goes to CCW I do not think the schools joining is a good idea. I don't think this is a good idea as education is the most important thing for a child to have. Now, joining the schools would mean that we do not get the correct education we need at this vital stage of our lives, which is GCSEs. I don't think that anyone is thinking about the children, they are thinking about the money. I also don't think that they care about our education, because if they cared as much as they claim, then why shut a school down which provides good learning for students? Cramming all the students into a school is the worst idea they could think of. There is nothing wrong with how the schools have been run at the moment, which is two different schools. Stop thinking about their money, and start thinking about the children which need as much education they can get to be successful in life. I, as well as many others will agree that this is a terrible idea which should not go ahead because no one is asking the students what they think. They claim they are giving us students a choice yet none of you are listening to us and what we think. Keeping Eskdale and CCW as separate schools is the best decision, which has been for many many years, and which should stay that way for many more years. Start thinking about students and their education, and less about the money.</p>
<p>I am a former member of Eskdale School and I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School because Eskdale is a well more developed and interacting school than Caedmon. I think the way that Caedmon is run is also a disgrace with their head teacher XX (needs to be replaced for the way he treats his pupils). Eskdale is an amazing school and teacher who actually care about their pupils well-being. Eskdale is amazing and would be a great loss to get rid of!!!</p>
<p>I disagree with the merge because Eskdale is an amazing school, I went to Eskdale and I think I have learnt more in that school than I am ever going to learn in WCC and when I was in Eskdale everyone talked to everyone we just was like a big family, but in WCC it doesn't so I think Eskdale is the better party and should stay open.... CHOICE IS IMPORTANT !!!!! :)</p>
<p>No text supplied x 16</p>
<p>The proposed amalgamation in Whitby is a blinkered proposal. The consequences of losing Eskdale school might fill a gap in the budget in the short term but we would lose such a valuable asset for future generations, which can never be got back. The amalgamation between Raincliff and Graham school in Scarborough has been very unsuccessful! My niece attended this school which was put into special measures after the amalgamation, forcing children to travel great distances in order to go to a decent school. She now attends Lady Lumleys college in Pickering, where she is happy now. Before the amalgamation one small bus took the children from Scarborough to the school in Pickering, now 2 double deckers go in convoy, at parent's own expense. Should we not learn from our mistakes?</p>
<p>One school is not the answer - I personally got bullied in a very large primary school (30+ in my class) but once I moved to a much smaller school - My confidence was at an all time high. Once I moved onto Eskdale, I felt apart of a family having support from every teacher, knowing everything little thing about me which helped the way I learn in the classroom (having social anxiety disorder and depression). My grades at Eskdale were pretty good, I was excelling in Science, which something I never thought I'd achieve, grade B. This was down to the much smaller classes and the bond between teachers. It took a while to settle in what was formally known as Whitby community college and after two years I finally felt settled in (when it was time to leave). I went from being in a class of 15 to a class of 30 in classes such as History/English etc. My grades began to drop and my confidence went so low. I went back into my shell. I didn't have the guts to put my hand up in class, and also having 2+ teachers for most subjects lost my bond with them. I went from Bs to Ds and lower in my Science. I finished my GCSEs being fairly disappointed - The subjects I did well in</p>

were Art, music etc. as these were much smaller classes and less teachers teaching in different styles. I came back to sixth form due to being ill and my time in year 12 has been great. I love both Eskdale and Caedmon but merging is not the answer. I am one of many students who suffer in silence with mental illnesses so becoming one big school with dozens of teachers wont work. The grades will drop, the self esteem and confidence will suffer too. Leaving Eskdale as it is will be the better option due to the welfare of the children. Yeah I suppose money wise and status is one positive for this new school but at the end of the day, I want the children of whitby to feel good inside and walk in confidence and Eskdale is that solution. Nothing against the headteacher of Caedmon College (We've only spoke once since he realised I was against the merger even though I am one of his 'students'), however I have been there for over 5 years and he still doesn't know my name. How does he know how to approach me, talk to me, help me in anyway? I'm just one of over 1000 students to this new school 'IF' it goes ahead. This is not right! The school should really get to know the students here already before taking on another couple of hundred (that's if they want to come to the 'new' school). I don't want anyone else to feel the same as I currently do. This cannot happen. Both schools have different ethos - so putting them together WILL NOT work. Please take my points into consideration. I'm not the only one who is ill - currently 1 in 4 suffer with some sort of mental illness (so, roughly 7 in a class of 30 , nearly one third are scared in a big class to speak) - So how are they suppose to get their full potential when they are sat at the back of the class terrified and confused?. My maths are probably not that accurate due to re taking in a smaller class once I got to sixth form - my year 10 and 11 maths class was very rowdy and only 4 people passed at a grade C, the rest received Ds and Es. One school is not the answer..All you've got to do is look at the merger attempt in scarborough. There's your answer! I rest my case. Thanks for reading. CCW student

I am strongly against this proposal for the amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby. After being disappointed when being told that I could not stay at Eskdale for my GCSEs, I had no choice but to go to Caedmon College Whitby. However, having heard that my brother could stay on at Eskdale, I was relieved that at least he had the choice. Eskdale staying open means this as well as a choice, there is competition between the two schools resulting in higher standards and better education. DON'T CLOSE ESKDALE!!!!!!!!!!!!!! WE NEED CHOICE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Responses from Pupils of Eskdale School
I am against the amalgamation and want eskdale to stay as an 11-16. I chose Eskdale because it was right for me, I had a choice why do you want to take it away from us? I was badly bullied in primary school, luckily all the bullies went to Caedmon. Even if you go against everyone in whitby and close Eskdale I will not go to Caedmon College. I will not be bullied again, I deserve like everyone else to be the best person I can be and for everyone who chooses Eskdale that's what it gives them, not Caedmon College. We as children can see that this is mad and won't work why can't you as adults? Whitby is expanding and we are all young people not a number.
Keep Eskdale School open
I joined Eskdale in year 7 and am now in year 8 . I am very happy at this school and do not want it to close. I do not want to move schools .
We need choice not one school! Most people (including me) decided to stay at Eskdale, after the COUNCIL said we could have 11-16yrs, so now that opportunity has been taken away from us. Also what if people's older relatives have had bad experiences which has put them off going to Caedmon College, also you've said there are plenty of other schools around the area, most of these are specialise in certain subject or cost to go to, what if families don't have enough money or the right skills to go to these schools. Another reason why this is a bad idea is, there will simply not be enough space for all 3 schools put together.
I do not want Eskdale to close because people should have a choice and if they close Eskdale then that choice will be taken away from them .Eskdale is my school and I do not want it to close
keep eskdale as it is my boys got bullied at east whitby now there at eskdale no problems but if they have to go to caedmon they arnt gone like it has they be back with bullys my son has learning diffcultys if it wasnt for eskdale school he wouldnt be getting the help he needs i think we should leave it has it his build houses somewhere else theres plenty off other fields
i think you should keep eskdale has it is because if you built more houses up there theres goner be more kids ,kids and parents need choice for various reasons
keep eskdale as it is kids need choice
keep eskdale open i dont want to move schools
I am a pupil at eskdale school and to hear the news was devastating. I don't think this is a good idea because everything would be put under one roof. What I mean by this is that there would be more of things like bullying and disruption in classes. Also a lot of people's confidence would be knocked as going from a small to one massive school would be intimidating for some pupils. Another thing I would be worried about would be the class sizes. Surely they will have to get bigger to fit everyone in. If this did happen my learning would suffer because if I was stuck on a question I could be waiting for 10 minutes just for some help whereas now with a smaller class I can get help almost instantly and carry on with whatever I'm doing. Also if we became one big school I wouldn't be known as well as I am now. Even just walking down the hallway the teachers can say hello and know my name. If it was a bigger school teachers would just see crowds of pupils. There is a reason pupils chose to go to eskdale school and your willing to take that choice away from people's future and for what money? If you knock down eskdale for building houses (which many people are assuming you are doing) more people are going to come to whitby then you will need another school or a bigger one. Remember there is only so much you can do to one school. Overall I don't think Eskdale school should shut down or amalgamate. Whatever your plans are not many people are in favour of them and everyone will keep fighting to keep Eskdale open.
I think Eskdale should not close down because kid's need choice on where to go because if a child does not fit in one school they can go to the other school. Also if Eskdale and Cadmon were to merge it would be one huge school and the teachers might not know every child properly. I was really worried about going to Eskdale but as soon as I walked through the school gates already I felt really welcome and happy. The teachers are so helpful and caring and even though I have only been in Eskdale for a term and a half I have learnt the most out of my hole life in that time.
i get upset everyday worry if there going to close my school im happy at eskdale XX is like a second mother to me i got bullied at east whitby school for 4years and now im at eskdale im happy i dont want to go to caedmon as thats where the bullys are im happy where i am i dont want to be sad going to school as i know i will get bullied there

<p>my parents cant afford transport for me to go out of town unless your goner pay transport for everyone i have alot of learning disabilitys and XX done all she can for me i be oost without her please keep our school open</p>
<p>There is already a massive issue with traffic at the caedmon site at school opening and closing times and this will get much worse, its not fair that our children are going to have to pay hundreds of pounds if they want to travel to a different school. There is no way a school of the size it will be after an amalgamation will be able to give every pupil the support they need.</p>
<p>I personally think that the education in Whitby is great at the moment, and I'm sure everyone would really hate for that to change. Eskdale school is close-knit school where you know that you can always feel safe and confide in the teachers/other pupils. This is exactly what I like about the school. As someone who gets anxious quite a lot, it is really nice to know everybody there and not feel overwhelmed by walking down the halls. If the amalgamation goes ahead, I feel like that charm and feeling of safety will be lost.</p>
<p>I don't agree with the proposal. Because we need choice in education in Whitby and if Eskdale closes everyone is going to be forced to go to Caedmon college. If Eskdale merges with college they will be 1500+ students. We won't be able to have 1 to 1 chats with teachers because they will be too busy. At Eskdale everyday I can go and have a one to one chat with the assistant head of the school and he helps me so so so much. He has spent so much time talking to me and taking care of me, I won't get that help at caedmon college. We got told last year as year 9s that we could stay at Eskdale and do our GCSEs there. I was so so so happy. Best day of my life but then in January we got told as year 9s we have got to leave Eskdale because it's at a risk of closing. I cried myself to sleep that night because now my education is ruined. I didn't go to Caedmon college because I got bullied by people there and now I'm getting forced to go there. This isn't fair on students or teachers. Teachers haven't even been guaranteed jobs. Knowing in September im leaving the wonderful caring special school Eskdale kills me. Please make the right decision and keep it open. It isn't about the money you make in this its about the education of children. That is more important than money. If I was in your position I wouldn't try to close Eskdale. Please rethink your decision and make the right one.</p>
<p>Please keep eskdale open because I really want to go. I felt happy there because I felt like I mattered. I will be coming from a small primary school in September and don't want to go to a huge school. Please let me attend my chosen school that I chose for myself.</p>
<p>I personally think that the education in Whitby is great at the moment, and I'm sure everyone would really hate for that to change. Eskdale school is close-knit school where you know that you can always feel safe and confide in the teachers/other pupils. This is exactly what I like about the school. As someone who gets anxious quite a lot, it is really nice to know everybody there and not feel overwhelmed by walking down the halls. If the amalgamation goes ahead, I feel like that charm and feeling of safety will be lost.</p>
<p>I do not support the closure of Eskdale and the proposed amalgamation. Every stage of the amalgamation so far, and everything I have seen of CCW's treatment of Eskdale's current Year 9 students, have left me gravely concerned.</p>
<p>Please keep eskdale open because I really want to go. I felt happy there because I felt like I mattered. I will be coming from a small primary school in September and don't want to go to a huge school. Please let me attend my chosen school that I chose for myself.</p>
<p>Please don't close my school</p>
<p>I honestly do not think that Eskdale School should be closed down. Eskdale School is an amazing place; When I first started Eskdale I felt very welcome, and if I ever got lost - which was rare seeing it is such a lovely little school, I could ask anyone where a classroom was and they would hapily show me. Also, if Eskdale was to shut down, where would we go? There are so many of us, would we all fit in Caedmon? I know for a fact that some of my firends are considering going to Lady Lumley's if the school is to close down, and if the Eskdale site is going to be made into housing then surely that will mean more children that will need a school: so will there be space? At Eskdale we are all like family - I know everyone's name in year 7 and all of us are always friendly to each other; we smile, wave, and sometimes even go over and talk to each other when we see each other in public. Closing Eskdale would be a big mistake, mainly becasue Caedmon is so different and everyone will be loosing friends, and an amazing school. Can you not see how much effort everyone is putting in to keep this school open? There was 500 people on the march and over 5000 people signed the petition, isn't that enough?</p>

<p>Dear XX, I am writing to you as I would like to express my feelings about Eskdales current situation and where it stands. I for one was completely shocked and upset when I heard the news and I am pretty sure that I was not alone! In the past few months I have come to love being a pupil of Eskdale School and I see others around me doing the same. They have welcomed me and I have settle in brilliantly, so you can realise my confusion when I discovered what was going on! You probably see the merging of two whitby Schools as a good idea, but what if we beome 'the Eskdale Lot'! You can come and merge the schools, but can you merge pupils to work in harmony? Have you listened to the teachers and pupils that make up Eskdale School, have you taken into account their opinions? I walked down the hall and saw teachers as well as students crying at the dreadful news! We wear our Eskdale uniforms with pride so please do not take that away from us. I hope you will listen to the voices of Eskdale School. Hello, I am a current pupil at Eskdale School. I LOVE it.What I fail to understand is you have all the evidence right in front of you, you have pupils telling you about their experience of large schools, yet you choose to throw their views to the side, such as the views of all the other pupils and teachers and parents. Can't you see we do not want this to happen! Listen to our views and voices! I disagree with the proposal to merge Eskdale School with Caedmon Collage Whitby, because it would leave the children of Whitby with <u>no choice!</u> What happens when a child gets bullied, are you going to provide transport to take them 20 miles up the road? Why haven't you listened to: the 5,000 people who signed the petition, over 100,000 people who have watched our video, the 500 people on the march and all the voices of Eskdale School! SAVE ESKDALE SCHOOL!!!</p>
<p>I think that they should not close down Eskdale School because it is a special place and everybody loves it. Eskdale has helped me do even better in my subjects and I have moved up in maths and science. They have also helped me a lot in my music, they say that I am on my way to be able to pass my GCSE's at just 11 years old. How are you going to fit all of Eskdale into Ceadmon. There is going to be no room. I bet half of the kids arnt even going to go to school. So you should leave Eskdale School is perfect and we all love it.</p>
<p>I chose to stay at Eskdale School because I think it is such a friendly place to learn but now that choice has been taken away from me. So now I have no choice but to caedmon collage. Please give other people this choice and keep eskdale school open!</p>
<p>I am a year 7 student at Eskdale and I started in September. I'll be very disappointed if Eskdale closes because it's a great school and I may lose a lot of my friends. I'm also worried about the impact this may have on my education as I would have to get to know new teachers, a new building and settling into a new educational system. I chose Eskdale and if this decision goes ahead, I'll lose my right to chose in where my education is based.</p>
<p>Keep Eskdale open because it is fun and the education is good - the site is larger than Caedmon - more room to expand.</p>
<p>I don't want Eskdale to close because I'm happy here and I might not be any where else! I feal that in a larger school We may not be valude as much. If Caedmon College and Eskdale Amalgamate then it will cause both schools to get awful Ofsted reports much like the two schools in Scarbra. Therefor I think Eskdale and Caedmon College shouldn't join!</p>
<p>Keep the school open.</p>
<p>Amalgamation = good idea.</p>
<p>hi my name XX i am a year 7 student at eskdale school , let me just ask you this, have you ever been forced to go to do something that you didn't want to do ? have you ever felt like there is nothing left to fight for?well? well i haven't and i am not starting now</p>
<p>Hello, I am a student at Eskdale school and would like to have my say on the proposed amalgamation of Caedmon College and Eskdale School. I think it is wrong to do this because of what happened in scarborough with those two schools. look at that school now, it is absolute bedlam! where is your proof that this will improve education standards in whitby. I don't want this to happen because it is clearly not an amalgamation, it is basically shutting down one school and shoving the students into the other one because nothing of Eskdale is going to be kept. I find this wrong because what if the College gets a worse ofsted, then what are you going to do! Can't you see that every student is valued at eskdale and it has amazing core values! But I guess, change is for the better...</p>
<p>Hello my name is X and I am a current student at Eskdale School. I chose Eskdale School when I viewed both secondary schools,and I got told that I had a choice and now its been taken away from me also when I got told it broke me heart and the say listen to us as students. Who says we will choose the new school ?. And the schools spirit too and so can I just say can you give us a little more respect. I have a question, do you even have the right to shut down are school. Plus Eskdale is like a second home for me and others me and my friends are like sisters and brothers so your like taken away my family so I cant see them even more. Thank you for listening.</p>

It's not right as the children have to go to a school that they don't like and the the parents are probably panicking, can't they just keep the schools as they were before when everyone was happy. Plus I hate Caedmon!
i like being at eskdale so i disagree
I love being at Eskdale. All the teachers are always there to help you. I don't think we should merge with caedmon collage because people will not have a choice.
I think it should stay open because of the choice we got, now there saying we don't have that choise
How come that with all the opposition you are facing you still think it is a good idea to amalgamate the two schools? You are saying that Caedmon can house all Eskdale pupils but you are building an extension on the school so we can fit. Why are Caedmon who are the bigger school always the ones that get stuck up for in this mess.
I think you should keep Eskdale School open because Eskdale is a really good school. I think we also need choice because people bullied me in primary and they all went to Caedmon School so I really don't want to go to Caedmon School. I also learn loads every single day at Eskdale School and really enjoy learning at Eskdale School . So please take this into account and save Eskdale.
I think that Eskdale is a great school. Therefore I don't know why it should close down. I have made loads of new friends in year 7 already and now it is supposed to be closing. I thought pupils had a choice of two secondary schools to go to. However i think it should stay that way. None of us know when it is actually closing so i just treat everyday like it could be the last
i think they should be different school we need CHOICE!!!! 2 schools 2 choices
Make the schools join together
i think its a good idea
I think we should keep the school separate from CAEDMON and stay as a jewel of Whitby on its own
not a good idea.
I think it's a bad idea and eskdale should be an academy because it's better
Dear XX & XX This is a silly idea. Just keep it like before!!!!
I think if they do merge then its better than Eskdale getting shut down because it is a great school and shouldn't get shut down. People who go to Eskdale wont have to just leave they will be able to stay here. There would be more space which is good and more opportunity to do different options when going to collage.
i don't really think they should merge the schools but it they desperately want the too schools to merge then they should just make year 9 move up and have the school system the way it was originally.
In my own opinion i dont think eskdale should close. I had been promised my GCSEs at eskdale but now im having to do them at caedmon!

i think eskdale should not close but they should joing to getther but keep eskdaleopen .
I would like to stay at Eskdale school but it doesn't seem like that's gonna be possible the way things are going, i'm not entirely sure what's even happening to Eskdale school but I think it's a bad idea to stop us from going there because all the year 7's and 8's will fill up Caedmon plus it will cause a lot more hassle for everyone.
As more and more kids are born we are in need of another school then why close eskdale and rebuild another school. cademon has got a lower level of outstanding that eskdale so I think that you should close eskdale.
i think that Eskdale school should not merge with Caedmon collage because there would be no choice of anyone in Whitby.
I think its a bad idea because Eskdale is a very good school. Everybody is valued and cared for.
To county council. personally, i think Eskdale school should not be shut down. This is because Eskdale is a great school and if where Eskdale is is replaced with council houses, where are those new people from the houses going to go? will there be space at Caedmon? If i go to Caedmon, we refuse to pay for the bus journey! we are not paying £2 a day to get across the bridge. Its your fault and this transformation of Caedmon school should not take place. Thankyou. X
i think that the 2 schools eskdale and Caedmon should stay the same this is because every student is happy where they are now
KIDS NOT CASH!KIDS NOT CASH!KIDS NOT CASH!KIDS NOT CASH! (repeated several times)
In my own opinion I feel like I have had false hope being promised my GCSE here then being told to move. I think you should give Eskdale a chance to get to the suggested rate and if they don't you should it stay open for year 7- 9 and if it goes well it should be an academy. Yes, I know you will lose small bit of cash but doesn't the education mean the most? For an example a student from Whitby now has limited choice because it is either Caedmon or going miles and spending money to go to somewhere different. One size does not fit all especially with huge schools many children cannot cope in such a busy environment (not to mention students like me with a fear of change). With all due respect I do not want to go Caedmon Collage and I can speak for some other students. Caedmon Collage is a great school but I prefer offers with somewhere else. Especially with those new pathways (blue and Green). I knowmoney means a lot and I agree with some of the points at consultation evenings but Its kids not cash, thankyou
I think this is a very bad idia!!!.
I think this is a bad idea and you should not go ahead with the plans you have made.
I think shutting down Eskdale is a bad idea because its better than Caedmon so Caedmon should be closed down
this is a very very bad idea because there will be to meany kids in the class's
I am not to sure weather it is a good idea or not. There are beneficial points and non-beneficial to the amalgamation. However, the way that the council are doing this is wrong. They dont explain to people what they are planning on doing and how they will do it.
I think this is a bad idea.why close the welcoming school Eskdale and not Caedmon collage Whitby.
I think that this is a bad idea because everything will end up bad. For example, all the people at Caedmon will be unwelcoming because they don't want this to go through either. And Caedmon could run out of money, or both schools could hate the transition.

<p>This is a bad idea. I think this because of lots of 3 reasons.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. everything is fine how it is. 2. Cademon would have to many pupils and and no one will be able to socialize as much 3.there is many other places to build houses
<p>I think this is a bad idea as Eskdale is a welcoming environment. Caedmon College Whitby isn't welcoming as they don't care about there students i know this because my sister went there.</p>
<p>i think this is a good thing for me because i would be happier with the friends i was with a primary school. but i would love eskdale to stay open because its a kind and caring school, i have been well looked after. i enjoy the lessons most because the teachers are lovely and i learn a lot in a day. this school depends on students future, i wouldn't recommend going to Caedmon collage whitby because iv'e heard bad things about it. my brother goes to the college and hes not doing so well that school has changed him and that has put me off wanting to go there. so please please try and keep this kind and caring school open. thank you.</p>
<p>I think this is a good and bad idea because I have some friends at Caedmon, but I don't want Eskdale to close because I love it here and feel cared for by all the teachers.</p>
<p>I think that your proposal is a bad idea because in a small school like Eskdale, teachers really have opportunities to make sure that you're doing your best so you can move forward easier with your life. If the amalgamation goes forward, we are looking at about 1600 pupils and the staff would never be able to talk to all of those students in person. I feel like teachers in Eskdale just know when you are struggling, and they can help you get through them. I think in Caedmon College, it just wouldn't work. If you think about it practically, students are already angry about this and if they are struggling already, they might do something drastic like skipping school every day.</p>
<p>They are shutting down a school. Right? No. They are shutting down a community. They are shutting down a place where children and teachers feel valued. They are shutting down a place where children and teachers work together to achieve excellence not only academically, but for the school and for the community. You have a choice. Right? No. What choice? We are not just being told what school to be taught to. We are being told who to be taught by, as a result what grades we will get, what university we will go to, what job we will get. We are being told our future. And we will not stand for it. I, as a student, WILL NOT be told what my future is. I have a voice. And I will use it.</p>
<p>I think this is a bad thing because Eskdale takes into consideration every child's ability's and with the schools joining up they may not know every child's capability's and them children will be put down. If its a bigger school, that means bigger classes, they will be more loud and trouble-some which means the learning for others would go down. I love Eskdale and its made me more confident!</p>
<p>I think this is a bad idea. Because i learn a lot from the teachers i have now and i might not get along with the teachers at Caedmon College. I used to struggle with some of the subjects in primary and now i get them . Moving everyone over won't help them , it will just ruin everyone's education.Ask yourself why you are putting the schools together,money?imagine if you or your child was in the same place as us now.How would you feel?In the end,the teachers will just get the money , Eskdale students will have to pay for new uniform , when their old uniform would of lasted.Its just not fair,the council just prefers Caedmon College.When Caedmon got a bad report you joined the 2 schools together.You wouldn't of done that for Eskdale. That video is quality,and in the meeting when the choir started singing , the Caedmon College people didn't stand up when everyone else did.When people where asking the headteacher questions, he didn't even look at them.lol.My year is the year that's going to get effected anyway.</p>
<p>I think this is a bad because, first of all, people with either mental or physical health problems probably chose Eskdale because it is a small school. If these people had to go to a school that had approximately 1600 students, they may not be able to adjust, leading to future problems, such as dropping out of school. Some people may be able to afford to move to another small school, but most in Whitby and its surroundings don't. Secondly, I already have to pay the £360 per year to travel from the Cleveland side of Staithes to Eskdale, as I am not in the catchment area. Lots more people will have to pay this, and some people may end up not being able to send their child to school. Thirdly, it is a proven fact that in larger schools, more people are bullied or turn into alcoholics or drug addicts, because the teachers can't give the students as much support. And finally, Caedmon College is just generally a bad school. A few of my friends go there, and desperately want to move. Lots of people move from Caedmon to Eskdale every year. Also, both my brothers went to Caedmon, and witnessed lots of bullying, drug and alcohol use and verbal and physical violence, by both students and teachers. They both moved in year eleven. This is the reason that the UK's education system is failing. So, to sum up, if you close Eskdale down, it will result in addicts and drop outs.</p>
<p>Personally I am not happy with the proposal. I believe that closing Eskdale is unfair as we should get a choice on where to go and where we want to learn. Three generations of my family have been to Eskdale and also agree that they should keep it open!</p>

<p>I think that if we do merge it would be a good thing because it has always happend eskdale just surplies students for collage and if Eskdale is going to stay open i think it would be a good idea to have different year groups at the site so for example only have year 7 and 8 carry on until there year 9 and then move on to collage.I think that is should be the same at the scorsby site so year 7 and 8 at that site and then once theve hit year 9 move to collage so we would be more like a university campus. this would prepare students for fearther education and show than what its like to be at university. I don't think that its a good idea that its proposed to change the school name to "Whitby School" I think it should be a more suitable name like Whitby academy (if they decide to go to academy) or Whitby collage this is because it will show that it is Whitby as one and not a separate schools spread across the town. what i dont like about it is that the local council has NOT gave eskdale a change to become a 11-16 or even an accedmy. Eskdale had all the surport they needed and if the council had given the school another ofsted report im sure that they would of imporved to good.</p>
<p>I think that a lot of year 9s have been left feeling confused about their GCSE option forms, more open evenings and information on options should have been supplied to people who were confused. However I think the amalgamation shloud go ahead as it will keep sixth form education in Whitby and we will all have a share of the resources and the best education on offer can be given to everyone, not seperated into "sides" and everyone can be friends together.</p>
<p>I think that this whole thing has been badly done. It has been unfair on us as the students to have to deal with all of these things so suddenly and without much assurance to begin with. It was very bad when the news came out on facebook instead of us hearing it from the teachers. This came out just after letters from the council had come out and these were confirming people's places at Eskdale School. I do not necessarily disagree with the amalgamation however I do believe that the council have arranged this all very badly. It was also released on social media on the night of the year nine options evening which had to be cancelled. I wish that the council had dismissed the idea of Eskdale becoming an 11-16 school before they decided to "spring upon us" the closing of Eskdale School.</p>
<p>I think this is a silly idea, im in yr 9 and yes all of this wouldn't of happened if it wasn't for Eskdale going to 11-16 but i was excited when we got told, but to be honest the year nine would of been moving up all ready. I'm just annoyed that some of the councilors arent listening to us pupils and some of the adult aswell. Also if Eskdale is getting shut down yes this is ages away but when i'm older maybe in 20 yrs time and have a child my child wont have a choice and i think this is stupid. Many people have moved over from Caedmon to Eskdale and now their choice has been taken away and they have to go back! Also this isn't just affecting us Eskdale people but the community of whitby but now also the Caedmon College people. But its just the fact that we wont have a CHOICE anymore! Eskdale is a really good school and i had a problem settling in because it seemed like a big school, but the pupils and the teachers were amazing and helped me. But what happened if this happens to another child and they might not feel comfortable. But all im saying is WHY?! Why cant we have a choice? Why has this been taken away from us? We are not statistics money or numbers we are children and we should have a say.</p>
<p>I disagree with the amalgamation of the two schools. I am in the year that would have been first to do their GCSEs at Eskdale and my sister wanted to follow in my path as I have a good education and I know I am making progress. I don't see why we can't have two schools in Whitby as it would be complicated to make everything work. There wouldn't be enough space or staff or money for this whole thing to go through. If this was a true consultation we would have a democratic vote to show the opinion of the public better.</p>
<p>I disagree with the idea. I think it is wrong how year 9's were mislead to believe that they would be able to stay on and were lead to believe this for so long. In fact i think its disgraceful. I also don't think that the schools should be combined as the system has worked for a long time and its a case of it ain't broke don't fix it the only thing the council is thinking about is money as they don't understand. They are only looking at this from a financial point of view they don't know what is like from a child's point of view. I think they need to listen to what the people in Whitby are saying and they will realize that their ideas are daft and unrealistic. Quite frankly i am glad i will be out of education before this plan fully goes ahead as i think 1 large school in Whitby will crash and burn.</p>
<p>Y9 student I disagree with the proposal of the amalgamation. I think the whole idea is a nightmare. From when we were told until now, when it is being decided. When the news was released ON FACEBOOK many people were completely distraught. Not only was the news awful but we weren't even told at school. This is not the fault of the teachers as they did not know either. It was also the night of the Options open evening for the Y9's of Eskdale. We had been told it had been cancelled but not why and found out when we got home that our school may be closed (this is what we were originally told). Since the beginning of Y9 we have been told that we can stay at Eskdale until we are 16 but that choice has now been completely taken away from us. At Eskdale we all know the teahcers well and the teachers know us. They know how we learn best and how to help us achieve our full potential. I think this would have helped massively while taking my GCSE's but now that is no longer an option. I would like to be able to stay at Eskdale but as that is unlikely to be an option for the Y9's I would like Eskdale to say open for the younger students (Y6's) who have chosen to come to Eskdale and not the amalgamated school.</p>
<p>I agree with the amalgamation of eskdale school and Caedemon College, although don't think eskdale pupils understand enough about the GCSE's option forms, which might cause them to chose the wrong ones for them... I also think that people who were given the green pathway should be able to change to the blue pathway if they want to.</p>

<p>I disagree with the proposal. I believe that children in Whitby should have a choice when it comes to education. What is the point of going to school if you don't want to be there! How do you expect children to learn at a school that they don't like? How are we supposed to get the qualifications we need in life when we don't want to BE AT OUR SCHOOL! Also how on earth do you expect people to get to school if they live too close for a bus, but too far to walk. Small children will have to walk over DANGEROUS MAIN ROADS up to the school that they are being FORCED to go at! How do you expect children to move schools half way through the secondary school process. They will be nervous, scared and worried! Not everyone will get settled in straight away their grades will go down, they will get lost and they won't know any of their teachers! All of these problems but they can be solved with just one solution. KEEP ESKDALE OPEN!</p>
<p>I think that the proposed amalgamation is preposterous. I'm a current Eskdale School Student and was just about to choose my GCSE options and go to a parents evening to discuss with teachers about my options. I later found out on social media that a proposed closure of the school was going through. When I moved here from abroad just before the start of year 7, I was very nervous, as I didn't know anyone, but as soon as I stepped in to the school, I felt at home. The teachers at Eskdale are very supportive and take some time out of their OWN FREE TIME to help you with your problems. I previously had been to an 11-16 school abroad and didn't feel the connection between staff and student. I just felt like a piece of data on the system. The next school year, my sister will be moving onto secondary education. She was very excited and had already sent off her form to choose Eskdale and now that everything is in the air, she's not sure if she has her place at Eskdale or not. At the recent meeting, parents found out that current year 7 and 8 from both Eskdale and Caedmon will be cramped into the Eskdale site, whilst the year 9s from both schools will be at the Caedmon secondary site. Also at the meeting when the students were singing "Somewhere Only We Know" with AG, the headmaster and some 6th form students rudely interrupted the performance and they didn't even apologise. How rude can you get?? Also, the meeting started with a presentation about the new name of the Amalgamated school, "Whitby School" Basically they were discussing about when it closes, but not why it should close, which was the main point of the whole meeting. Overall, I think that this proposal is disastrous to Whitby's Education because a lot of pupils are unsure where to go and don't know what's going on with this amalgamation.</p>
<p>I am a y9 pupil from Eskdale and am strongly against its closure. At Eskdale School I feel valued as a pupil- my teachers know how I learn best and act upon that to help me progress and achieve the best I can.</p>
<p>First of all can I express how astonished I am at how disgustingly un-organised this amalgamation proposal has been. Christmas last year we were given the amazing news that we, as year nines, would be allowed the CHOICE to stay on at Eskdale for GCSE's. I had spent all of the Christmas holidays excitedly planning my GCSE's, making sure I had made the right decision that would suit me. I had prepared to give my teachers my decision of subjects on the night of our choices evening but this was called off in the middle of the school day. It was later that evening that we received the news. I was distraught. I don't see how you could drop this on us just as we were choosing our GCSE's, planning our future at a school that was to be destroyed. If you have not gathered this already I am completely against this so-called amalgamation. I may no longer have a choice but I am amending that, in the years to come, the young children of Whitby will.</p>
<p>I think it's a really bad idea and it's for money. You should KEEP ESKDALE school open ! Think the children and teachers.</p>
<p>hi my name is X, I'm a pupil at Eskdale and I'm very concerned about the merger. Firstly by doing this you will be pushing kids out of their comfort zone and forcing them to mix with kids they might not like and in worst situations start fights increase bullying and the bad behavior. If this is going on the teachers will be telling kids off all the time and not letting them have the tension they need to do well. Also if you are in a class with more people the teacher will have less time with other students. it won't help the learning and being in the situation the year nines are in .</p>
<p>I think Eskdale should stay open because people of Whitby should be allowed a choice 2 schools = choice</p>
<p>I think Eskdale school should stay open because Eskdale has worked too hard for it to shut down. If the two schools do join together how can you keep track of all the kids and then if you can't keep track of all the kids this can lead to bullying. as well the traffic will be really busy. keep Eskdale running the way it is. Also if you keep Eskdale running it will be less hassle and work. keep it the right way not the wrong way! (the right way is keep Eskdale running)</p>
<p>When we first started Eskdale we were told that we had a choice of which school to go to but now you are taking that choice away from us. One secondary school in Whitby would mean that kids that want to go to different schools to a person because they are bullying them or they don't like them they would have to go to the same school as them. This would mean that there would be more unhappy kids because they would be unhappy or uncomfortable in school. School is meant to be a fun and happy place when you are a kid. It is meant to be a happy place when you are a child. But for some people to look back and feel like they have lost a large portion of their life in a school that they got bullied at or weren't happy at.</p>

<p>Before we started at Eskdale you said that we had a choice, a choice but now you are taking that choice away from us and I don't think that that is fair. I have just started at Eskdale School and the reason I chose Eskdale is that something clicked and said, "this is the place for me, this is where I belong!" also i have two younger sisters who were really looking forward to coming here but now that choice has completely disappeared now they have to go somewhere else and they were really upset by that and i have to admit i was really upset by this as well when I first heard about it.</p>
<p>I and many other people think that Eskdale School shouldn't close there are lots of reasons and lots of people who agree. All of the year sevens started Eskdale School in September we have all settled into a new school and now we're expected to settle into another school with lots of new people and teacher on a new school site and i know i am definitely not the only one who doesn't agree! Lots of people from Eskdale School have younger siblings expecting to come to Eskdale. how is there going to be room at Caedmon for all of us? If they plan to build extensions on Caedmon then that means the future pupils will also have to come to Eskdale and then leave to a new school within a few months and have to re-settle in to a new school. Do you really think that's fair? the Eskdale is such a great school with nice teachers and amazing peers! AG even came to make a music video with us. we were included in a music video, a march, a petition and if all of our letters can't help to change your mind then what will?</p>
<p>i strongly disagree with the Amalgamation.</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the Amalgamation.</p>
<p>I don't want Eskdale School to close because it will be to many people in one school. But i know they are extending Caedmon but they will take to much work. Also Eskdale is a good school.</p>
<p>I don't want the schools to amalgamate don't want this school to close because its great the teachers are kind and so are the students the teachers are very understanding and the let you explain your reasons.</p>
<p>Dear sir/miss, i strongly disagree with this amalgamation of Caedmon school and Eskdale school. the reason for this is all of our teachers know what levels/colors we are at throughout our work and if this gets the go ahead we are going to be in mixed ability as all teachers will not know our levels or how we are doing in our work. I hope you will take this on board and take time to discuss this with your colleges in the next meeting you have. written by a pupil of Eskdale school.</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale and Caedmon College because we wont get the same learning in a large school as we would in a small school.</p>
<p>I am not really concerned about the amalgamation.</p>
<p>Im not that concerned about the amalgamation i don't really mind which way it turns out</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the Amalgamation. This is because the idea is only what a small majority want. You say 4 or 5 years ago year 7 children wanted an amalgamation but we don't. A large majority of the public, pupils and staff don't want this at all that is why we protest. We would be fine with Eskdale becoming a 11-16 school and Caedmon College 11-19 school but as you refuse to listen to us we protest. I strongly disagree with Eskdale school amalgamating with Caedmon College as a pupil of Eskdale school as I really don't want to go to Caedmon I am comfortable here and if I did do you not think all 300 pupils of Eskdale would of chose it as our first choice school. WE WANT CHOICE OF SCHOOL!!</p>
<p>I very strongly object to the proposal for Amalgamation for Eskdale School and Caedmon Collage Whitby. . Recently I joined this lovely school in the summer and felt very welcomed as though I had always been here. I came from a very large school in York with over a 1000 pupils plus sixth form, that was still a very nice school but it didn't have the same affect on me as Eskdale did. There was so many children there that you may not get noticed that much and can't reach your full potential where as if you were in a smaller school like Eskdale you can. Here at Eskdale there are not many children therefore you get to spend more time one to one with your teacher. This is absolutely great as you can improve even more. If every child in Whitby has to go to Caedmon there will be big classes and people may not do as well as they could if they were in a small school. People may also be influenced if there are a lot of children to mess about and be naughty. Where as if they were at Eskdale there are fewer children and won't be influenced. I had only been at Eskdale for a couple of weeks and had grown in confidence so much that I decided to sing a solo in the Christmas concert. I would have never dreamed of doing this in my old school as you were judged a lot on what you did and how you acted. Whereas at this school everyone is so friendly and supports you in whatever you do. I would love to sing and dance when I am older and I think if I go to Caedmon then I may lose my confidence and not be able to achieve my dream. This is why I would do anything to stay at Eskdale. When I came to Whitby I was given a choice whether to go to Caedmon or Eskdale. I had my heart set on</p>

<p>Caedmon and wanted to go there so badly because that is where my mum and her siblings went and didn't really give Eskdale a chance but as I came to Eskdale to look around my choice soon changed. It was so different to Caedmon, as soon as you walked in even from reception everything was welcoming and joyful. You said we had a choice where to go, you said the year nines had a choice where to do there GCSE, you said I had choice where to go when i came here and now you are saying we don't have a choice and you are going to take that away from us! I'm sure everyone here agrees that is not fair and should be changed. So I say give us a choice and save our school!</p>
<p>im not really fussed on the decision, i dont really mind what school i go to. ive got a lot of friends other at Caedmon witch makes it quite easier for me. i just feel sorry for the year 7s that have just moved up here, my step brother is one of them. i hope it stays open for him, but im not fussed.</p>
<p>I strongly disagree to the amalgamation with Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby. Parents would like to choose which school they go to. The school is going to be very large and I don't think we shall get the right education that is possible for us.</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal of the amalgamation of Eskdale school and Caedmon Collage. This is because maybe one of the pupils firends all go to a differant school than what which they are going to in my opinion Caedmon College isn't better than Eskdale School my family is furious in what the council is doing my little sisters are upset because they really wanted to come to the same school as I. We citizens of North Yorkshire must have a choice in the matter we protest because we think it is right we protest because we want choice. Kids Not Cash! Think if the proposal goes forth imagine how much hate and anger will overflow the social life of parents and carers and even the elderly. What do you think will happen I'll leave that for you to figure out.</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College because at Eskdale all of the teachers know every pupils strengths and weaknesses. Also people who have gone to Caedmon and haven't liked it will move to Eskdale and find that it suites them also this happens the other way round. In 2013 all the Y8 pupils of Eskdale and Caedmon chose to go to the school that they thought was good for them. We had that choice and i don't see why the children of the next generations of children shouldn't have that choice. Furthermore you are saying you are saying you are trying to improve our education but as a y8 pupil i found out that in y9 i would have to move to Caedmon in September. My younger brothers also where looking forward to coming to Eskdale but now realy upset that they would have to go to Caedmon.</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the amalgamation between Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby. Everyone actually enjoys coming to school and wherever you go there is always a smile on everyone's face as you walk around the school there is happy children learning.</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the proposal for amalgamation between Eskdale and Caedmon Collage. In primary it is a big step moving into secondary and all who are at esdale have chosen this school for a reason and now you are trying to say that we cant have that chose. Most schools say that they are like one big family and few act apon it. Eskdale however defiantly act apon it. If you have a problem then you can go to a teacher or one of the older kids. please take what i have said into account.</p>
<p>Dear Sir/Mrs, I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Caedmon College and Eskdale School.I am a Year 8 student at Eskdale,and this information you may dismiss,because I am just a child.Nobody listens to children... could you change that? A lot of students at Eskdale School are strongly disagreeing with the proposal,as you may have seen in the march or in the video made by Alistair, and nobody is really taking this into the concept. I,personally,disagree because I have been here for nearly two years, and I am happy here. But now - this amalgamation - it is preventing me and many others to be happy here at Eskdale - it may not even be Eskdale very soon! And all the trouble this is causing is all because of money - what is the money going to be used for anyway?? KIDS NOT CASH ! Think about our problems for once-not just yours!</p>
<p>I disagree with the planned amalgamation. This is because I think (not just for my year but for the many years of students to come) that us children should be able to have a choice and because when the year sevens had to choose between Eskdale and Caedmon College, Whitby they chose Eskdale and not the other school, but now, we are being told that we can no longer come to our chosen school, the school we prefer. In other words, we don't get a choice. We are just like puppets and we can't hold the strings. We have had two years here and we have just got used to it and now we are being told that we have to get used t another school. Also, this will effect our learning. Do you think we would better in an overcrowded school? We are used to a small school, some of us might not be able to cope in a much bigger school. I know you probably won't have bothered to read this far through because nobody listens to us, just because we are kids, but you NEED to think between the lines before you make such a life changing decision, you can't just make the decision because of money or publicity, you HAVE TO make the decision for us and what we would like because it won't effect you, it will effect us.</p>

<p>i disagree with the amalgamation. This is because i really enjoy it here and it is where i personally chose to come. I really like the teachers here and the way the school works. when i am here i feel happy and i am always smiling everyone is very kind to everyone and if someone is getting bullied the teachers deal with it really well and make sure the student knows why it was mean. I really like this school because its small and nearly everyone knows each other and the teachers know students who aren't even in the classes. Some people might not feel like they fit in and all the teachers wont know there names or ability to learn. i am worried about the food will there be as much of a option as eskdale?? and i dont like the idea of sitting on the same floor everyone eats from. your argue to my worries about the food and sitting on the same floor will probably sound like this 'the cleaners will clean it all up' however i have heard that before in my primary school and they left squashed peas on the floor and bit of fish etc.... I have heard Caedmon it getting ready for there GCSE but we cant start them until you tell use what is happening, this also means we will be behind them and students will be more worried about starting again to make new friends and to see who you hang around with! in my opinion this causes to much drama and stress for the pupils of Caedmon and Eskdale and the teachers!!!!!!!!!!!!</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal of the amalgamation. I think this because the students and the teachers of Eskdale school have became quite close and all the teachers know everyone and what there ability are and im sure that at Caedmon all the teachers know all the students but they will have to learn all the other names as well. i enjoy being at a smaller school and in my other point is one of the reasons why because at a smaller school all the teachers know toy and you know everyone and everyone friends where if we do amalgamation then the friend groups will be bigger and there will be a lot more fights. and if theres mor people the classes could be bigger and less time to learn. if there is 6 lessons a day then that means less time in a class and if theres a class of 30 students then tha will give the teacher less time to talk to everyone and that will effect our education. And it is two secondry schools that you want to change and that is a bad idea because it is a important part of our education because we are learning and getting ready for our GCSE and if we move that will detract people because of the worry of fitting in, making friends and just doing well that people will get of track of what they are actually doing. Eskdale isnt just a school, people think of it as a part of whitby my nan went to this school so did my dad and know i do and i dont think that its right to take away apart of this town my Nan is now in her 70s and she was still rather upset when she found out about the proposal of the closure. the two schools actually splits up the town into two groups but that is a good thing. in my opinion i think that eskdale should stay open for everyones sake!!!!!!!!!!!!!!</p>
<p>i really do njoy agree with this, i think its stupid as we do not even get a choice in our own education but in stead of use getting our choice all the government want is moneyyyyyyyyy!!!!!!!!!!!!</p>
<p>I disagree because its stupid and i want my children to come to Eskdale.</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal for amalgamation. By closing Eskdale you are leaving children in Whitby and the surrounding area with no choice, no freedom, there will only be one school that you have to go to like it or not. Your ridiculous proposal shouldn't be call a proposal at all as it is just another way for you to make more money to put into your pockets, if you close the school then it just shows your true views on the opinions of the people of Whitby, you fashest, overly right winged selfish ignorant excuse for a council.</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the proposal amalgamation. Why change things, I am happy with my teachers and this school. I am absolutely disgusted in this decision as it brings me personally a high level of stress and anxiety and i am sure the rest of my classmates are just as stressed. I also do not understand how Caedmon College Whitby would lose money out of this?? To be honest I think that all XX sees when he looks at us is pound signs! My name is XX and I am a year 8 pupil at Eskdale School. At Eskdale I feel welcomed and safe and I know that I am not just another face in the crowd, I was going through some tough times in year 7 especially with confidence, and Eskdale School has helped me with that problem but how do I know that I can be promised that kind of recognition at Caedmon? And I hope that you know we will certainly not go down without a fight. And you can pry me from my desk because I am not moving</p>
<p>I disagree with these plans and I've enjoyed every second of my time at Eskdale and met many of great people here.</p>
<p>I strongly disagree, I chose Eskdale over Caedmon for a reason because I knew that it was an a amazing school and i agree, everyone knows each other and I feel like I can always tell a teacher if i am feeling upset and to be told that the council are trying to close OUR school upsets me, and to think that the future children of Whitby won't have a chose of secondary schools upsets me and to be perfectly honest all the council want is the money off an a amazing school by closing us down!!!!</p>
<p>i think its wrong for eskdale school to go why should we not have a chose in life a lot of people in eskdale school don't what this to happen because it's their school and their choose this should not be happening at all we all have good and bad memories mostly good eskdale school should not get all this . eskdale has been open 64 years and now u want to do that to it . all the teachers we all will miss .. I highly disagree . THE BIG REASON IS WHYYYY</p>

<p>I don't think this amalgamation is going to make this town thrive, people that have just gone into year 7 in Caedmon, will have to move to Eskdale then back again to Caedmon for year 9. Also teachers might have some trouble going to the two schools to teach. To be honest, I think that every person in this town should have their very own personal choice to which school they would like to go to and spend their future there. So by saying this, I highly disagree about this decision.</p>
<p>I don't really care what happens. I think it's got both many positive and negative outcomes from this. I disagree with it because children who have a hard time settling in and don't cope well around new people will find it difficult and it won't be fair on them to have to do it again, another reason I disagree is because it means parents have to buy new uniforms and children will transfer to 3 different schools from year 7-year 8. Also the school the children are at at the moment will be settled with friends and most will be comfortable in class with people they know and get on with, whereas at other schools teachers don't know who are friends are and may not put us in classes with them. However I agree with it because I think teachers will be more aware of the students progress and will be able to work with more people their age, another reason I agree with it is because I think it will make the time go faster because it's more split up. The last reason I think it's a good idea is because it's a fresh start for people who are struggling to make friends cause they'll be more people their age for them to talk to and will be able to find someone who they can build a friendship with. Also some people just like change and haven't a fresh start every now and then.</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal, it is unfair on the kids, teachers and parents.</p>
<p>I disagree with the closer of Eskdale School because I am from New Zealand and other people from England say that I talk funny. So when I first came to Eskdale School, everyone was making fun of me and talking me to say stuff I didn't want to say, I had a rough time starting out and some days I didn't even go to school. But that happens in most schools and after a while they realized that I wasn't going to say those things, so now they have stopped and I can live as if I'm just like them. So when we go to 'Whitby School', I'll have to go through all the bullying again but two times worse since Caedmon's twice the size of Eskdale.</p>
<p>I disagree with the amalgamation with Eskdale school and Caedmon collage, because I can't see myself and others not at Eskdale school for another year. I also think it will cause a lot of trouble around the 3 sites, chaos on the roads and a lot of education been lost because of waiting for teaching to come from the other sites and pupils not knowing where their class is. My strongest fear is that because all of this is happening while I'm in year 8 by the time I'm in year 9 it will still be going on, changing schools, walking between classes, I will not be getting the education I want and need for my GCSEs, because of the lack of teaching time, and may lead to failing or retaking for a lot of people. In my opinion I think Eskdale should stay open so people have a choice of schools, and different subjects.</p>
<p>XX I don't want to go to Caedmon, and what happens if I don't fit in, where else will I go? And what if people can't go outside Whitby? And one school does not always work for another and the people who went to Eskdale went to Eskdale because they thought that Eskdale was the best school for their education. Also why would you want to move happy learning place to a school they don't want to go to and might not fit in. And many clubs you the Eskdale facilities like the Christian Fellowship and the soccer school, where would these clubs be held and why take away Whitby's choice when thousands of us need Eskdale!</p>
<p>I think that Eskdale school should stay open because it is a really nice place to learn and make friends and all of the teachers are really kind. A other reason that I don't want to go to Caedmon is that I am worried that I will get bullied because I have been bullied in the past at Eskdale but it has now stopped and I feel if I start a new school that it will start again. I think that Eskdale deals with bullying really well. I don't see why you should close Eskdale because Caedmon collage is a lot bigger than Eskdale and we have to do our GCSEs and I don't think that I will do as well if I move to a bigger school because you are in a new environment and you wouldn't have got used to the school. On the other hand I would like to move to a different school because it is always good to try something new. I also think that it would be good to move because I know some people that go to Caedmon and it would be fun to spend more time with them. But I really like Eskdale. Thanks for reading.</p>
<p>I do not think that the amalgamation is a good idea because if we don't like that school, bullied, or just generally unhappy where else are we suppose to go? There is no choice for any of us unless we are willing to travel miles away to another school. Also I reckon this will disrupt our learning dramatically. We will all just be settling in and trying to get comfortable. I also chose this school because of reasons where I would not feel comfortable going to that school....</p>
<p>I do not think the amalgamation of the schools is a good idea because moving all of us around will make our work slip because we might not feel comfortable in a new school, also we chose our schools based on the people that go there.</p>
<p>I think this is bad because it will disrupt the learning of pupils at Eskdale and Caedmon. because a small group of council just don't get and I think it's complete and utter nonsense that they would close to build houses because Whitby doesn't need anymore houses because they haven't finished Phoenix Park yet and they are going to turn Caedmon into a six form you do release if Eskdale shuts no one will go there you're already planning to shut down tourist information in a town famous for tourism will your greed for land ever stop and I think and every one of those 5,000 people who signed the online form and the 100,000 people that Alistair video so do Whitby a favor and give us some choice and make Eskdale 11-16 so learning would be better and pupils GCSE will be better</p>

<p>i think the proposal is bad it will effect the learning to the pupils. And there are one or two councilors who just don't get it its also just complete utter nonsense that you would close it just to build houses. Because Whitby is already full of houses. Must of the school doesn't want the school close down So just give us the choice</p>
<p>I don't think the school should close down because it is an amazing school and as a teacher once said. "I just don't get it!" If the amalgamation does go ahead it will disrupt the education of many pupils at both schools especially the ones at Eskdale school. You are already planning to shut down the tourists information center and now you want more space for land! I think that you should let the two schools run beside each other and make Eskdale an 11 to 16 school.</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. I am a former pupil of Caedmon College and hated it. I was bullied all through year seven by people from my village. Without help from teachers they eventually stopped. However around July time one girl from my village started making people ignore me or just stop talking to me for no reason. This meant that nearly the whole school had stopped talking to me. I made the decision to come to Eskdale on my own and I have enjoyed coming to school everyday. I have made amazing friends that have stood by me through everything I have been through. When I heard about the plan to combine the two schools I was devastated I actually cried. I have loved Eskdale it is like a second home to me. Caedmon College was one of the worst places I had ever been and now I have to go back. What is the point of me going back to the place I felt miserable at? I used to drag my heels when going to the bus stop now I walk happily. I participated in the fight to save Eskdale school music video and sang at the consultation meeting on Tuesday and while we were singing XX came in with some sixth form girls , walked in front of everybody moved all of mine and my friends stuff out of the way and sat in our seats. Even then he played on his phone all the way through. He didn't even clap when we had finished. He did move my friend's mum told him to move. If this amalgamation goes ahead it will just end up in disaster and disturb a lot of pupils from their learning. It is the worst idea I have ever heard and am strongly against the proposal. My parents will not be sending me back to that school and many of my friends will not be attending therefore it is a pointless decision if not many people are going to attend. It is also splitting friends up such as me and my friend group. So let me ask a question. What is the point of amalgamating the schools if hundreds are against it? It will not be better for learning and will just be a terrible mistake. So what is the point of amalgamating the schools together?</p>
<p>no because Eskdale has a life of its own and you are killing it</p>
<p>I don't think this amalgamation should go through as most people are very happy keeping the schools the way it is and if it does happen I don't think people will be as happy as they are now. It would be a lot better if Eskdale became a 11-16.</p>
<p>not to close eskdale school down.</p>
<p>im a year 8 and i am gonna be a year 9 soon-when i found out what eskdale was turning into a 11-16 i was buzzing cause this means i would be able to see my cousin grow up in this school the way i did.but ;(when i found out that eskdale school was closing not only was i devastated but my cousin was as well.</p>
<p>If you are listening then you might consider about keeping Eskdale school open because IF YOU KNOCK ESKDALE SCHOOL DOWN and IF you build houses then people come to live in them and they have children where will they go because there will not be enough room for every one.I am very descusted about this action.</p>
<p>I disagree with the amalgamation idea because its not just affecting pupils of Eskdale but pupils of Caedmon because they were expecting to spend 3 years at the Caedmon site. Also I really want Eskdale to turn to a 11-16 because it is a caring and excellent school. Also I strongly believe that people of Whitby or wherever should have a choice.</p>
<p>I am a student here at Eskdale. I have just settled in, and I know that that it has taken my one whole year to settle in so that's why Eskdale school should NOT be merged with Caedmon College because everyone is being mixed together and it is only you who wants it to happen, why are you doing something that nobody wants to happen? As a student here at Eskdale I feel extremely pressured of what to do now. Everyone is having a very unsettles time because of the proposal of the amalgamation of the two schools.You should keep eskdale as just an 11-14 school and also keep Caedmon College as a six form. As a student i think that it is very important that i get my point across to you that the amalgamation should NOT go through! what your saying is " You've showed my an open door but you put an alarm system on it. You have giving a piece if paper with no pen and nothing to write.". This is my education not yours!</p>

<p>Just think about what you are doing, Eskdale is a good place not a bad place we may not have the most money but we have the people in this school who respect us and everyone in this school,we were hoping for an 11-16 school but now we have heard that we are getting kicked out of our favorite School is the the best thing to do ? Think about it please if you even care about us!</p>
<p>I DONT WANT TO GO TO CAEDMON AND I WANT TO GO TO ESKDALE WITH MY MATES SO ARTHUR PLEASE DONT SHUT THIS SCHOOL DOWN I JUST DONT GET IT..I AM TOTALLY IN RAGE ABOUT IT.</p>
<p>I think that Eskdale school should NOT close. Instead of merging the two schools we could have Eskdale as 11 to 16 and Caedmon College as 11 to 6 form. We could even have Eskdale students staying at Eskdale till year 9 then go to Caedmon College. Your only doing this for money! Eskdale is the best school I have ever been to and I work better in a smaller school and if you merge them it will disturb many children. You showed me a door that was open, now you have slammed it back in my face! Eskdale makes me feel welcome it is like a second home to me ! This is our education not yours! You showed me a door that was open, now you have slammed it back in my face! I disagree with the amalgamation!</p>
<p>Eskdale School is the most amazing school have been to. I work better in a smaller school where all the support i need is available and i don't need to put my hand up and wait ages/ full lesson for help. Caedmon Collage is going to be to big of a school for everybody to learn. We need choice and so do all the other students in Caedmon school. It's our education not YOURS!!!!!! If you need money then.... you should not of wasted it in the first place. This is also going to desterb many man students in there future education. XX if you need any reason to keep Eskdale School open you need to come here now!! Ask us all. At Eskdale there are over 300 reasons here to prove we need ESKDALE SCHOOL!!!!!!!! We want to keep Eskdale school as 11-16 and Caedmon as it is now 11-6th form. I disagree with the algmation</p>
<p>I disagree with this action because its a bad decision and I don't see why you would try do this</p>
<p>I don't agree with this and I never will! Many, many pupils are unhappy with this decision. Some people like me are so unhappy with this decision that we are moving to other schools how do you know you will have enough pupils left to go through with this. If enough pupils do move to Caedmon and you go through with this, pupils who are not happy will never work at their best and cause an an unhappy atmosphere. Are you sure this is the right decision.</p>
<p>When i first found out that our school might be closing me and my friends were really upset, we should all have a choice of what school we want to go to, my brother would of also come to this school and now i cant see him grow up the way i did at this school. Its a big thing moving to somewhere you do not know and i think Eskdale deserves a chance!</p>
<p>I chose to go to Eskdale. I just dont get it why you wish to close my school I just dont get it why you are doing this why are you doing this.</p>
<p>We need choice! Everyone I know agrees with me that this it totally wrong! We need to think about some people who have been expelled or have been bullied at one of the schools. Where will they go if this decision goes through? Yes, I know that there are other schools in the area (Lady Lumlies, Scalby or Fyling hall) but most family's won't be able to afford the school or transport to the school. I think you need to forget about money and actually think about our education and how it might affect us as kids!</p>
<p>The council are only init for the money and they didn't listen at the consultation evening .They said that it was going ahead whether we liked it or not (they implied it) . And if they did listen they try to work round the question .Why did you say so many lies about are school? Why have you done this just out of the blue . Also you improve are education but you are taking it away from us. Also we want are school to be there for future generation. Why can't we just have are 11 tow 16 school. You don't need to close are school you just want to for the fun of it .You aren't thinking about us or are feelings .You are just thinking about your self and your pockets . Because we all now that the money you get from it is not going into education it is going into your back pockets and you want us to be quiet about it . It is only the council that want are school to close but not us we are still trying to save it .</p>
<p>I'm a y8 at Eskdale and I love every minute of being at school. I totally disagree with this proposal from the center of my heart. Taking away Eskdale is taking away everyone's rightful choice of education. Taking away Eskdale is like taking a fast food restaurant away resulting in one less choice to eat. Most parents and students wouldn't want their children to move onto the Eskdale site September 2016 because of new piers and new members of staff for JUST 1 year. They will then be forced back onto a Caedmon Collage site when they're y9. This will cause confusion and WILL ruin their education as well as ours moving from site to site throughout our education from 11 (for new y7s)-19. If you're making the final decision at the end of this academic year, I'll have to move to the Caedmon Collage Normandy site not knowing all the new teachers and piers whilst trying to choose my GCSEs in a matter of months potentially resulting me in choosing the wrong GCSEs due to the pressure put on. I have nothing against Caedmon Collage, but both schools separately are good. Together they'll be awful. Students will not get the help and support the need from the staff because of classes over sized. How about 2 11-16 schools? Or how about Eskdale as an 11-16 school and an 11-19 school as Caedmon Collage?</p>

<p>I am one of the many pupils at Eskdale. Not just any pupil. One of the more shy pupils. I came to Eskdale scared- scared of teacher scared of people- scared to make friend. I had too many problems. I couldn't cope, but then a light came, a hope. A chance. Eskdale opened it heart to me and accepted me in a world of hypocrites. This meaning is being ripped away from the seams a thrown in the bin. Everyone deserves this, but by making me, us go to a different school, you're making us have a restart and have that dreadful journey once again. Don't do it. Don't let this amalgamation go ahead. Don't break me again, because one day the glue won't stick. You also said about how classes would get bigger and learning would be better. How? In my education i'm getting level 8's and so are may others. If you make classes bigger, teachers will have to focus on everyone falling behind, not everyone who needs pushing further forwards.What does this mean to me? Everything! I don't want to be held back. I don't, and won't every forget about my plans of going to places like Cambridge or Oxford University. Don't let this amalgamation go ahead. Don't give me a canvas and not let me paint. People who have come to Eskdale were bullied. Bullied at Caedmon. What your telling them they have to go back to the place where they are and weren't welcome. Don't stress them out anymore. Give them a little space to breathe. Let them stay, let them feel safe, in their home. Eskdale. Leave us alone. Let the academy stay as an academy,Let me stay happy. Let us stay happy. Let Eskdale stay!</p>
<p>the town of Whitby needs a good variation between eskdale and Caedmon giving different teaching styles</p>
<p>Do not close eskdale</p>
<p>i dont think it shoould amalgamate</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale school and Caedom college whitby</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School and Caedmon college Whitby.</p>
<p>noooooooooooooooooo no way i disagree to Eskdale School and Caedmon College, Whitby Consultation on a Proposal for Amalgamation because eskdale is the best place for me and i am going to have to find i new school this place has history</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale school and Caedmon college Whitby. Because it will stress full and there will be to many kids in college you will not be able to get around.</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale school and Caedmon college Whitby. Because it will be to stress full and there will be to many children in college you wont be able to get around the corridors so if eskdale stays the same it will be easier and Eskdale is a nice caring school and i have enjoyed every bit off it SO PLEASE KEEP ESKDALE OPEN.</p>
<p>Well first of all, I am concerned about if the year 7 and 8 from Caedmon came to Eskdale, a lot of bullying would occur. When I found out this very devastating news, I felt very scared and worried about what would come to me in my future and just to get my point across, I chose Eskdale for a reason. Not just because it's closer than Caedmon and because my friends were going it's because as soon as I stepped foot in the building I felt like I was MEANT to go to this school and I don't know what I'd do if ESKDALE SCHOOL didn't even exist anymore.</p>
<p>I disagree because firstly its not fair on the Caedmon students to come over to Eskdale for a year, children who wanted to go to Caedmon who are in primary will not be able to do that. We got given a CHOICE to go to what ever school we like but now this so called choice is being taken away from us and i completely disagree with this so i DO NOT think this should happen !!!!</p>
<p>i am a student at eskdale i look it i love getting up to go every day at school it my fave rate today is my new favorite day my grandad was the first person to come to this school i dont want to be the last sorry when i found this out i try to take my live i dont know eskdale help me with that but kids want die because of you are you proud you can not push us round like wooden dolls and at the meeting a cadmon kid mum and teacher lookat me like i was a pooo i dont want to feel like that at the murgh school sorry for the way i am speaking i was not brought up like this but my angry is hight if we dont have money think of this as cancer my auntie had canser for 9 and half year and died this year cariter helper eskdale say if it had cancer it would of 60 your we can made Charity to have eskdale and camon school with fun rasing go to pound land for school this thank and sorry for the anger sorry about spelling and have not read this thourw so dont know if makes sence sorry ...</p>

I disagree with the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon Collage because we as students of Eskdale School chose to come to this school rather than going to Caedmon Collage as i am sure many people did at Caedmon Collage rather than coming to Eskdale because of this reason i am against the amalgamation. By joining two schools together you are taking away the freedom of choice for many children in the Whitby and surrounding areas
I disagree with the Amalgamation because children (like myself) who are happy at the schools they are in and you gave us a choice of what school we wanted to go to and now your taking it away from us! Eskdale is a kind, caring school where every child matters. What is the problem with having two schools open? So in conclusion I think you should reconsider the Amalgamation and try to find a way to keep both schools open.
I disagree with the amalgamation of Eskdale school and Caedmon collage Whitby because it will ruin the kids education and their freedom of choose .
I wouldn't mind if the merge went ahead because I have a lot of friends at Caedmon and they've all said to me they would like to come to Eskdale for a year to see how it is and then I'd be able to be with them. It also gives children the chance to socialize with people from other parts of the area. However i do understand that this school has been here for many years and a lot of people love it . My grandma was the first year here and i could be the last . Also my little sister who's in year 6 has already bought the Eskdale uniform and now hows she going to use it ? I'd like to wear the new uniform that we might be going to use . It will bring us all together and I will feel a lot safer than been a small school . This is because I have mates in year 7 and 8 at Caedmon and i like them so it makes me feel more safe . I would suggest that all the year 7 , 8 and 9 go in the collage site and the years above at the Caedmon site . I am aware of some people here at Eskdale not getting along with Caedmon people this could cause arguments and fights . If it goes ahead how will we be able to tell site to site as its going to be called Whitby School ? I don't find it fair that some teachers may loose their job as many have been working here for years and years . The bond the teachers have with the pupils will be lost as they wont know the children name by name . What will happen for sporting events because we would possibly be a strong sporting team as there will be a lot of us . Consequently some children will get left out and may feel down and upset . Aside from all this i really want it to go ahead .
I disagree because firstly that eskdale students have to carry on like every thing is normal, when knowing that at some point they will have to be moved about. when we got given a CHOICE in year 6 i chose to go to eskdale not just because it is a GOOD school, because i got bullied in year 4 and 5. when it got sorted out in year 6 i still would always get called by the same little group, i would still get into fights, so i also CHOSE to go to eskdale because the girls that used to pick on me where going to cademon but now if we do get joined into one school i will once aging be getting called and getting into fights. also it is not fair that cademon puples have to come to eskdale in year 7 and 8 it was also there CHOICE to go to cademon. another point is what if a child gets bullied there is no other school for them to move to, yes there is schools in scarbough but it is not fair that only because they are getting bullied they have to travel. thanks for reading. by leah SAVE ESKDALE SCHOOL PLEASE WE NEED CHOICE !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
i disagree with you i think we are good as we are and Caedmon have all ready bean moved so they will have to seatel in to a new school and some people move from Eskdale becomes they did not like it and now they have to come back it is the same for Eskdale . and we will be 10 times better if we went to be a 11 to 16.
I disagree with the amalgamation and I have put my reasons below why. I think that if the schools merge together then wont all of the corridors be really crowded because there will be every one that are in the schools at the moment and then there will be everyone in the primary schools moving up. Also if the schools merge together then people in the primary schools will have to go to that school otherwise they will have to travel out of Whitby to a different school, when I needed to change school the council said I had choice and if they merge people will not have a choice like the council said when I came to this school. different people like different types of schools so some people might hate Eskdale but they really like Caedmon and people might really like Eskdale but hate Caedmon, if the school does close then there will only be one school in Whitby and people might not like it and will have to go to a different school far away from Whitby. If the school does stay open then I think that if you go to Eskdale you will be able to stay there until your sixteen and be able to enjoy the school that you go to.
Eskdale school is a caring atmosphere where everyone is valued
It would be so sad to see a lovely school go
I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon Collage. My main objection is that this is a major change to secondary education in Whitby, the time scale is being rushed without proper consideration being given to alternatives or consequences. I have really enjoyed my time at Eskdale and have made really good progress. I think the main reason why I have made such good progress is because of the caring and supportive staff as well as small class sizes. I have a younger sister who I think would benefit from an education at Eskdale. I chose Eskdale because I thought it was the right choice for me. Please allow future generations in Whitby the right to make their own choice by keeping Eskdale School open.

<p>My name is XX I am a year 7 pupil at Eskdale School. The teachers are incredible as they have taught me lost since September. I would not of had such amazing teachers if I wasn't there because I feel like the understand me in ways some couldn't. The consul gave me a chose wealthier I come here or not I feel like I would not fit in anywhere else.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College, I atteneted the consultations evening on the 14th of March. I felt that you are just turning Eskdale into Caedmon instead of a new school with new identity. You're suggesting that we have an uniform that is based on Caedmon, why can't we have a new uniform? You said you would keep Caedmon's current headteacher, why can't our teachers apply for the role of Headteacher? In conclusion I would like to feel like a valued part of an new school instead of being sucked up into a bigger school.</p>
<p>It's a bad idea because eskdale will close down and eskdale's pupils will have to go to Caedmon and if that happens caedmon will have to many pupils if the school and then Caedmon will have to shut down.</p>
<p>What will we do for sport events, we can't travel out of whitby every time we have an sport event. Also some of the students from Eskdale don't get on with students from Cademon Collage. I don't want Cademan's headteacher to be the headteacher when the schools collide. The uniforms will probly be blazers an shirts and i don't like them and other people don't eather.</p>
<p>I prefer to make a choice of education.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School with Caedmon College Whitby. I am a year 7 pupil at Eskdale School, I feel safe in School, the teachers at Eskdale know me and understand me. I do not always find School easy as I am profoundly dyslexic (my Mum is helping me type this), at Eskdale I feel like I matter, I am not made to feel stupid or annoying if I do not understand things straight away. I know this might not seem like a big deal to you but it really is to me, I get really good support and help from my teachers and this means that I have exceeded expectations in lots of my subjects. The teachers take time to keep in touch with my Parents to tell them how hard I am working and what they can do at home to help me, this helps my Mum and Dad to feel confident about my progress I don't think this would happen in a big school with 1600 pupils. I really do think that if you go ahead with your plans for Eskdale School this will have a very bad impact on my education because of the disruption, moving to different sites, new teachers and new children. School is very hard for children like me with Specific Learning Needs getting through each day is exhausting, I think that coping with all the changes you are planning will be too much for me. I have found it very hard to cope with the uncertainty of what is happening at Eskdale, our teachers try to protect us by being cheerful and happy when they are with us, but I can see they are worried like me. You don't realise what you have done, Eskdale is the most happy, cheerful and caring place but now even when we are happy we feel sad because it feels like you are going to take it away from us. My friends say you won't take any notice of what we say because you are only interested in the money but I think I need to try and get you to listen because what is more important when you talk about a school money or children? I hope you think it is the children, we are the ones who will be the most affected so surely you should listen to us. I think it is unfair that XX is saying a lot of negative things about our school but he has not been into our school to meet us and listen to our point of view he just wants to force us to go to a school that we have already chosen not to go to. That school has already had one merger and OFSTED have not inspected it since then, yet you expect our parents to just send us there without knowing if it is doing well or not. I am very scared about the thought of going to that school as children who have bullied me in my first primary school are there. My parents moved me from that primary school because I was so unhappy there, now I am expected to go back to a school and face these bullies again. I know from my friends that go to Caedmon College that there is a lot of bullying there and that is really worrying me. Since we found out that you want to close Eskdale I have had trouble sleeping and often have nightmares where I wake up panicking. My Mum and Dad are so concerned that I will go back to being unhappy at school that they are looking at options outside of Whitby for me but this means I will have to give up a lot of my out of school activities because I won't be home in time. This makes me sad as I really enjoy them and it makes me sad that I will be split up from a lot of the brilliant friends I have made since I went to Eskdale but I would still rather do that than go to Caedmon College as I do not think I will feel safe there and if I don't feel safe I can't learn properly.</p>
<p>I don't want to leave Eskdale I couldn't come going to caedmon with the bullys my mum suffered bad illness with my older brother been bullied please leave our school the way it is</p>

<p>I would not like Eskdale to go because I would be very upset. If this does happen you will increase the chance of road accidents. Also if I am sat in a class that is really big I will be out of my comfort zone. Because of you I am really worried about my future. You told us when we came to Eskdale we could have a choice on where we want to go with Cadmon pupils and then we all of a sudden became twice as happy because we found out we could stay till we were 16. But then you shattered our dreams by shutting Eskdale all together. I don't see why you want to shut down Eskdale because it already has choice on subjects happy and caring teachers and with an extra school you have even more choice. I chose Eskdale for a reason because it suited me and Cadmon pupils chose Cadmon because it suited them and you are taking choice away. If this does happen what will happen to the pupils who don't like it there but have to go there. You are making a bad decision so PLEASE PLEASE don't destroy our dreams.</p>
<p>I am a pupil in Year 7 at Eskdale school. I looked around both Caedmon College and Eskdale and chose Eskdale because it was the right school for me. I was at a village school and did not want to go to such a big school so Eskdale is perfect and I also felt very welcomed and valued which I didn't at Caedmon. Since I started Eskdale, I have made lots of new friends and enjoy my lessons and get on well with my teachers. When I found out about the proposed amalgamation, I was very upset and angry. I do not want to go to Caedmon because if I did I would have chosen there in the first place. I have asked my Mum and Dad to look at other schools if this goes ahead. I have epilepsy and the current situation is causing me lots of unsettled and sleepless nights and stress and my Mum and Dad are very worried about what this is doing to my health. I don't think NYCC have given any thought to what this is doing to the children at both schools. I went to a meeting of Whitby Town council with my parents as they thought it would help me to understand how people feel about what is happening and I also attended the march in February and couldn't believe how much support there is for Eskdale by people in Whitby and the wider area. I went to one of the consultation evenings with my Mum and was very shocked at how NYCC were avoiding answering people's questions and I am very worried about how they are handling the whole situation. I was told that from this September all year 7 and 8 pupils would be at Eskdale school and then the next year would be at Caedmon. This will mean that I will have had to change schools 3 times in 4 years and I don't think that this is right and all this upheaval is bound to have an effect on my education. It is not fair at all, some of my friends who chose to go to Caedmon will have to change schools 4 times in 4 years. NYCC keep saying they want to remove the transition but this is just going to make it far worse. The people at the consultation kept saying about the 6th form in Whitby, why should the money the school get for me and my friends education have to be used to fund this? There are so many other places that people chose to go to and I think that if the amalgamation happens, this will not stop people going out of Whitby in the future. My parents both left school in Whitby at 16 because they wanted to do something else. I don't see why I should have to travel out of town to school at 11 years old because there is only one school in Whitby, which is not the school I want to go to. I don't agree with closing Eskdale and having no choice in Whitby. Not all children will fit into one school that is why we need to have a choice because each person is different. All of my friends who went to primary school with me had a choice and most chose Eskdale and a few chose to go to Caedmon, this was for their own reasons. Please don't take this away from us and damage our education any more. Why can't one of the Caedmon sites be sold and all the pupils put onto one site and leave Eskdale open. Thank you for taking the time to read my response.</p>
<p>I am thoroughly against the thought of the technical closure of Eskdale and the amalgamation of Eskdale and CCW. I do not understand why the NYCC think it is okay to shut down a secondary school with such potential and determination towards success. It is also entirely irrelevant for both year 7 and 8 pupils from CCW to move to the Eskdale site for a year. You say this is for the best, but have you really thought about how the pupils from both schools feel? I chose to go to Eskdale for a reason. CCW pupils chose to go there for a reason. That reason is because they all knew that that school would be the best for their education. Now EVERYONE'S education is at stake because of the NYCC. I have also found out that X X had emailed XX 10 days after Whitby found out that Eskdale may get shut down. He wrote, "For about 3 years now the Council has considered that a single secondary school would be the best way of providing good or outstanding education in Whitby." So why allow the whole of Eskdale to become so delighted of the fact that Eskdale was soon going to become an 11-16 school when the NYCC knew all along that Eskdale possibly wouldn't exist? I have always been taught to think of school as a place for people to learn to become better people. A place to learn subjects and to interact with others. But most importantly, to feel safe and happy. How am I supposed to feel safe or happy when I am being forced to go somewhere just so NYCC can walk home with full pockets? Not to mention the fact that CCW have not even had an inspection to see if the first merge was successful! Also, the Councillors are mentioning that they are deeply taking in our opinions of the whole situation. Not one parent or pupil has had a reply. Even David Cameron put in the effort to reply to me. So where do all the vulnerable pupils stand in between all of this? Oh wait, we don't stand, we suffer. If someone was to ask me, "What do you like about Eskdale?" my instant reply would be, "What isn't there to like?" Eskdale is a tremendous school, no matter what Ofsted or the NYCC think. At the end of the day, it all comes down to money. Not the pupils.</p>
<p>I am against the Amalgamation. I have many reasons why I don't think Eskdale School should close. The school has the most amazing unique family orientated atmosphere. My daughter moved there from a primary school of less than 50. Starting at any new school is daunting enough, but it was made an extremely pleasant transition by the staff at Eskdale, also helped by the fact it isn't a huge intimidating school. There are currently 20 plus feeder primary schools in Whitby and the surrounding areas, and a lot of these are small with similar numbers to my daughter's old primary school. Considering all these children going through the same transition,</p>

the move to a secondary school of 1500, which would be the largest in the county, will be especially hard. I went to a school of 750 and that was large enough, any more than that and the children just become a walking statistic, no name, no personality. As long as they are behaving and getting work done their school life plods along. I am all for great results dont get me wrong but not at the expense of an enjoyable education and school life. I believe that a lot of parents would agree with me about this, our children's happiness is our priority and this is not just being sentimental over a school, this is truly believing that the school your child attends is the best choice for that child. Everything about it, the environment, teachers, peers etc. Regardless of the schools current Ofsted report parents have filled out the online survey to say how happy they are with the school and staff and teaching. Those are not the results of a "failing" school. Eskdale school is a perfect site for a school, easy walking access for the whole of the East side community. Easy access via road, being just on the outskirts of town it is away from the town centre traffic, unlike the CCW sites. The buses have a brilliant turning circle and the safety is paramount for Esk Valley and village children. The site that it is on is exceptional for the playing fields and land surrounding it and for any future expansion that might be needed, yes the town is under capacity at the moment but what will happen in the future? New housing developments are already being built at two sites in and around Whitby. The proposed mine will bring workers and their families to the area. Also not forgetting the predicted high numbers expected, especially in the current years two and four. Have all these factors been considered? What are the plans for these extra pupils? There will not be space at Caedmon College Whitby for everyone and prefabs or permanent schools will need to be built which surely defeats the object of trying to save money. What would happen to this land if the school closed? More houses? To fill with more families and children that will not fit into the one and only secondary school? Will they be subsidised to travel the 21 miles in either direction to our nearest schools? No you have advised this will not be so, more of our choice being taken away again. I am sure as a parent of younger children I would not be happy if by the time it came to moving into secondary school, the one and only local school is full and they are made to travel out of town. Or it is failing and in requires improvement or special measures, where is our choice then? It is a big gamble for us to take and you are asking us to take it. Our children are being treated like guinea pigs, it is so important for this decision to be taken seriously and so far I have not seen enough definite statistics to prove that has been thought about with the seriousness it deserves. Smaller towns than Whitby are able to have two secondary schools so why should we only have one? I have a legal obligation to send my children to an appropriate school and NYCC has a legal obligation to provide one suitable for me. The governments view is that class sizes remain as small as possible to give children the best education possible and also that they should have a choice. Is this not relevant to the children of Whitby? I would like to know is Caedmon College able to educate my daughter to the standard that you are proposing. What is the current Ofsted report on this school? Are they able to support all the children that currently attend and would be attending, physically and psychologically? From the information I have received and read, this is all about funding and saving money. NYCC have promised that if Eskdale amalgamate the money saved through funding and presumably sale of the land with be put back into the education in Whitby. Is this true? Every penny? I have my doubts and I know very well that the money will be absorbed into the County pot not just Whitby alone. I also found out that funding for each school is more than the funding received for one big school. Yes NYCC will save more money and the one huge school will be worse off. How does this guarantee better education for the children of Whitby? As stated by NYCC and XX in the past, one School is in the best interests of the children in Whitby. In what way is this so? Bigger schools attract and retain better teachers, says XX. How? By offering a larger salary because their classrooms will be fuller and therefore their workload larger? That may benefit the teachers bank accounts but I can see what little it has to do with better education. Are these salaries being paid from the ever decreasing funding pot? What will happen when the funding gets even tighter? We lose all the "better" teachers and replace them with mediocre ones? I am happy with the current standards of teaching at Eskdale and their current school and class sizes as are many other parents of the school. Perhaps you should take a look at the parent's comments on the Ofsted report for Eskdale school. I have seen reports that you feel the same way as NYCC/XX and agree that Whitby would benefit from just one Secondary school, so perhaps you could explain it to me? Of course my children's education is my top priority. I hope for the sake of all of you making this decision that you truly believe that it will work. I have my doubts, I can see many children opting to travel out of town if this amalgamation goes ahead, I do hope you have also put a lot of thought into what may happen with your plans if that does happen. The funding and pupil numbers you are relying on may be considerably less than anticipated and then what will happen? Surely two smaller schools would be better than no schools. One last thing, if this is as I believe all to recoup funding for the 6th form then I am afraid you are wasting your time. It has never been the best and will never be able to offer what all the children in Whitby want. It would be better federated with a college or tec out of town and kept separate altogether from the other schools. It should have never merged with CC but unfortunately because that wasnt well publicised that managed to go ahead without most people in the town even knowing it was happening. Two 11-16 schools is what we want and need and one 16-19 college in partnership with another college, offering a mix of courses and apprenticeships etc. The two 11-16 schools could collaborate and make sure they offer a range of GCSE's so that the town is well covered for choice. This I believe will solve all the choice problems and also keep the college. Failing that I would much prefer my child at 16 to travel out of town rather than my 11 year old.

I am against the proposed amalgamation and my reasons are below. I have attended all the meetings and my information has been collected along the way after listening to your arguments of why you believe it should go ahead. Throughout the consultation document I have seen numerous contradictions and errors. How are we to make an informed decision if we are not truthfully and fully informed. Your reasons given for this amalgamation: Better education I believe that happy children thrive at school and that makes their education better. CCW children are happy with their choice of school and Eskdale are happy with their choice of school. Failing that, if they aren't, they have the choice to transfer to the other. All schools to be "good" or "outstanding" Eskdale have received two requires improvements but have they really been given the support they need to rectify this? Also I notice that there are many other schools in the North Yorkshire County that have also been reported as requires improvement. Are these next on the list to be closed, or will they be given chance to improve? Financially sustainable (long term) What is the predicted deficit/profit from this amalgamation? I am assuming that since you know the definite "predicted" deficits if it does not go ahead, you will also be able to show us the financial benefits, with facts/figures if this does go ahead and I am interested to know what these are. Strong leadership and governance This can be achieved without an amalgamation. A partnership with another school in the area can solves this kind of issue and this should be looked into as an alternative. Also by becoming a multi academy trust, strong leadership and a support can be achieved. Has this also not been considered as an alternative? Given the news that the Prime Minister wishes every school to be an academy before 2020, is this why this consultation has been rushed through without any other options explored? XX posed the possibility of the new amalgamated school becoming a MAT in future so why is this not a viable alternative at present? Ability to recruit, support and retain the best teaching staff. Both schools are currently fully staffed as far as I am aware with great teachers I might add. What exactly do you mean by this statement? Are you not happy with the current staff and you want "better" teachers? Does this mean that another statement you made about retaining most if not all of the current staff is not truthful? Also the fact that a larger school attracts staff? Every teacher I have spoken to has told me that they would much prefer a smaller school where they can get to know their pupils individually and I am sure the pupils feel exactly the same way about their teachers. I have reservations over the split site as it currently is. Scoresby and Normanby. I have been told by teachers and pupils from CCW that there are issues. Teachers are late to lessons, leaving children unsupervised. Children are unable to find and speak to teachers during break or lunch times about school work or homework. Not to mention the trekking backwards and forwards in all weather over the busy main road. I have also been told about children playing truant from school while they are moving from one site to the other. If this isn't bad enough you are proposing to have the children and staff split over 3 sites for the first year at least. If it cannot be managed successfully over 2 sites at present I am certain that over 3 sites it is going to be a disaster. What are your plans to improve the current situation and make this work? Previous amalgamations have not worked in the North Yorkshire County. Graham/raincliffe being one of them. They became special measures after they amalgamated but fortunately for the children and parents of Scarborough they have alternative schools to choose from nearby, unlike Whitby. When asked about evidence of previous successful amalgamations we were given Settle College as the example by XX. After having a look on the Department of Education website I can see that yes it has recently received a "good" from Ofsted in November 2015. I also noted that previous to this it was in fact graded "Requires Improvement" in Sept 2013, the year after it went through its own amalgamation process. The worry is that as CCW has not had an Ofsted report since the amalgamation took place so we are unable to ascertain as to whether it is currently successful or not, we could also face the same situation and receive an RI or even be placed in special measures much like Graham/Raincliffe. This of course goes against what NYCC are striving for which is all schools in NYC to be good or outstanding. I also see that although NYCC are pushing for these bigger is better schools as we are frequently told to us throughout this consultation. The current children on roll at Settle College is just 614. Which is definitely not a "big" school and is not much bigger than Eskdale would have been as an 11-16. It is also notably smaller than the current CCW which has 1100 on roll. I think in comparison that unfortunately we cannot use Settle as our evidence that an amalgamation can work as the schools in question are undeniably different. While on this subject of student roll numbers I would also like to mention the fact that out of the 26 community schools in NYCC area, King James School comes out the highest with 1600 children on roll, which is roughly what Whitby area will end up with in future and possibly higher given future projection. So we could end up being the largest school in the whole of North Yorkshire. The smallest school (smaller than Eskdale) which may I add is an 11-16 school, is Upper Wharfedale and has 291 children on roll. The pupil funding for this school is £6946 and their expenditure is £7156. While Eskdale is £5795 and expenditure is £5740, not bad considering the focus on this consultation has been about how much our two wonderful schools are costing NYCC. May I suggest you also take a look at many others in your area, I found a common theme with incoming/outgoing of funding and to be honest our schools should be the least of your worries. All the "larger" schools have less pupil funding and more expenditure. So perhaps bigger is not always better. I also found that Eskdale's teaching and Education expenditure has actually declined over the years going from 72% in 2011/12 to just 63% in 2014/15. Where CCW has actually risen 61% - 68%. I also noticed that the difference of teachers in school was very high. Eskdale having just 26 teachers and CCW having 52. Of course CCW is larger so will need these extra staff but given that their pupil to teachers ratio is 23.3 (2nd highest out of the 26 community schools in NYC), where Eskdale is 14.5. I find this worrying if numbers are going to increase in this amalgamated school surely this ratio will rise too? The national average is 15.0. Also another factor that should possibly be considered is the fact that CCW staff are currently the highest paid out of all the 26 community schools in NYC receiving £39401 average salary. Where Eskdale staff are the lowest paid in the area at £33889. I would like to know why such similar schools in the same town are at different spectrums of the scale? I also

<p>would like to know how these salaries will continue if this amalgamation goes ahead? Will CCW take a pay cut or will the Eskdale staff get a nice increase? What consideration has been taken to this and the effect on funding? It was mentioned at the consultation that staff wages was the largest expenditure for a school, it seems that CCW is especially high. It also makes you question if your estimated loss of funding mentioned throughout this consultation could have been salvaged by making cuts in various other places before we were forced into this position.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby. This is because I go to Eskdale and I think it is an excellent school and should not be closed. It gives choice in our town and I do not want to go to CCW as I feel it will be too big for me. I have been at Eskdale for 5 months and I and the rest of my class feel that we have settled in well and quickly to Eskdale. I think that was because of the wonderful teaching staff and the kind pupils. Also, it is not too big so everyone gets to know you well. Eskdale is like one big happy family all learning together. Before I went to Eskdale I suffered from anxiety but Eskdale has really nurtured me to feel safe and happy at school. I enjoy going to school every day and no longer had any worries; until now because I don't want my school to close. Please do not let Eskdale shut as I don't want to worry about my future and I feel that pupils should be able to go to Eskdale as it is such a caring place. I do not understand why Eskdale would close. I know they got 'requires improvement' in the OFSTED but as far as I am concerned it has no problem areas and I don't think they need to improve on anything. The teachers work hard and always make us do our best to achieve excellent work. They explain my targets and I always know what I need to do to get better. I was really pleased when recently I was moved up in my English group because the teachers had seen how hard I had been working and improving. Schools should not just be about facts and numbers it is about learning to get on with others, how to share, be kind and care. As well as being happy and having fun times. So far at Eskdale I have had some good fun times doing science experiments with Mr Brewin, cooking with all my friends in the food tech lessons, doing a thinking maths run around where we had to combine our PE and maths skills. Even cross country is fun as the teachers and friends cheer you on and are with you every step of the way. That is what Eskdale is about. Please save this excellent school</p>
<p>No text supplied x19</p>
<p>I went to this school I now go to a boarding school after I left Eskdale had I have had the option to stay to do my GCSEs there I would have done and would have been much happier there.</p>
<p>I, as a year 8 pupil, am reaching high levels (like 8s and 7s) at Eskdale, and you're saying you want to put me into a bigger school with bigger class that are mixed. If you do this the focus points on pupils will be the ones falling behind not higher achiever like me. And what is this saying to me, that I as a student will be held back meaning my hope of going to Oxford and Cambridge gone. Another problem with this is that shy pupils, like me, will struggle transfer for a big school too an even bigger after many of us have already made a big transition from primary. Don't just think of our education, think of us and our social skill, our ability to fit in anywhere. We're not a clock of sheep. We are human too.</p>
<p>My name is XX and I am also a year 7 pupil at Eskdale. One of my favourite things about my school is that my teachers always have time for me, this is because it is a small school. I don't think this would happen if there were 1,500 pupils over two sites.</p>
<p>My name is X and I am a pupil of Eskdale school and a member of Whitby AJC 1L10 RAF squadron. If we merge in across there will be 50 in a class and so how are we supposed to get help and the 1 to 1 we need to learn. Also some people have learning difficulties how will they cope with large crowds and the environment. It isn't fair and when the woman said she bases this on what year 7 students said. We don't have the same opinion! So listen to us and don't put is in a book with 200 pages never to look at again. Thank you sir or madam</p>
<p>XX, I spoke 1st on Monday evening. You totally contradicted yourself when you said children shouldn't be moving from pillar to post if under achieving or don't fit in or are being bullied. Yet it is ok to move Year 7&8's to Eskdale, some of which will move from Caedmon. Once they've settle at Eskdale after a year you plan to move them to Normanby site. 'Passing them from pillar to post' making a huge contradiction on your behalf. Some of these kids will then have been educated across 3 schools. Very disruptive to them, and irresponsible on your behalfs. Also no one answered my question about if the panel have children at school, where are they educated? What are the numbers at their schools? Are they state educated of private educated.XX</p>

<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. I like Eskdale School because it is a small secondary school where I feel valued and treated as an individual not just a number. I feel that if the two schools merge that I would become just a number and that the teachers would not know me as well because there would be too many children and the teachers would be working across two sites. Eskdale feels like a family and gives me all the support that I need to learn best. I am making good progress, I get good feedback all the time and I push for purple which my teachers expect, encouraging me to challenge myself. There are clubs on at lunchtimes but if the two schools merge the clubs will either disappear or they may have too many people who want to go to them, or they may only be on at one site. I am doing Crest bronze award in a science club at dinnertime and I would like to be able to do silver and gold as well. I am worried about the main road between the two Caedmon College sites as it is very busy already and if the two schools merge it will only get worse. At Eskdale School I catch the bus in the turning area which is easy. At Caedmon College I would have to catch it on the road side which is a very busy road. Would I be safe? It would be harder for people to move up from a small primary school to a massive secondary school. It would take longer for them to find their way around if it was on two sites rather than just one. The help that I received when I moved from primary school was amazing, a teacher even travelled on the school train and bus to make sure we were all ok, I felt very safe. Lots of people come to Eskdale School from small schools and the school knows this and they work very hard to make sure that everyone is ok and settling in well. When it was time for me to choose a secondary school I looked at both schools. I chose to go to Eskdale School because they were all about who I was and about what I needed, it felt right. I have become very settled and happy at this school and would be upset if I had to leave it so soon. What would happen if I don't fit in at the new school? Where would I go? With only one secondary school I would have to travel further to go to a different school. I was very happy that I could stay at Eskdale School to do my GCSEs because we wouldn't be choosing our options at one school and doing the courses at another. I have got to know the teachers very well and they encourage me to work hard. I want to stay at Eskdale School and make them even prouder of me. I do my clarinet lessons in the music pods. These are partially soundproofed and quite spacious, it's a good place for my lessons to happen. I like that Eskdale School has a playground, it's somewhere that we can all play together rather than just in different classrooms. It makes us feel like a school community. The Vivo reward system is good, I can buy things because I've worked hard and been rewarded for my hard work. The whole of Year eight go to Bewerley Park and if the two schools merge they wont be able to go altogether, we would be split up or names would be picked at random. There is a year eight/nine geography trip to Iceland, which Eskdale School plan to do every other year where anyone who wanted and was able to go, could go, but if the two schools merge there may not be the same opportunities for everyone. I would like to go to Iceland, even though I've never been abroad before. I do not want to leave Eskdale School. #saveeskdale.</p>
<p>I disagree with the Proposal for Amalgamation with the two schools Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby. This is because Eskdale is an outstanding, small, caring school and all the staff their do the best for their students, Make sure they are happy and save in the environment! Eskdale is one big happy educational family and we all support each other here. I am currently in my third year at Eskdale, so I am a year 9 student. Last year as year 9 students we were told we could stay at Eskdale and do our GCSEs here but then in January this year we were told that our school is at the risk of closure and that year 9 students will have to leave at the end of the year and go to a new school. When I got told we would be able to stay, I was so happy and excited because I love this school loads and was so happy that we would be able to stay here for another 2 years! But then when we got told we couldn't stay that broke my heart. Eskdale is like a second home to me and I have got the spirit of Eskdale and you are trying to take that away from us? Well I will never lose my spirit of Eskdale where ever I am. This school doesn't deserve to close if it does they won't be a choice in Whitby. In about 10 years time they won't be enough room at caedmon college for every student so what's going to happen then? Why keep a failing 6th form open? When you could keep an successful school like Eskdale open?</p>
<p>We need a 6th form college. So if this helps achieve this then maybe amalgamation is necessary.</p>
<p>Please please don't shut my school down:(I can't face going to Caedmon or travelling lots of miles to go to another school:(I love my school:(</p>
<p>Bullying, children smoking, playing truent, terrible split site issues. As a current CCW pupil I KNOW THIS! Bringing the two schools together will be disastrous. I want to move to Eskdale if I can. I got bullied and the teachers ignoredit. It's ignored by our principle and he doesn't care. I really hate the split site arrangement because it takes like forever to gets across. The cinder track is disgusting and I'm always filthy and in the winter I'm soaked. Traffic is also really bad and teachers always turn up late. I don't want to be in a massive school. - [] I feel alone and unsafe at CCW. No one cares about me, I feel depressed. The morale is low and my mates at Eskdale always seem happy. They will be sad to if they have to move. I also don't want to go to the sixth form. There is a very poor choice of courses and my dream job is to be a engineer so I'm going to Middlesbrough. Many of my friends will also go to Scarbrough or Middlesbrough. Friends who I have in the sixth form say it's terrible and can not wait to drop out at the end of year 12 and go else where. CCW doesn't have the courses and facilities for me, or Whitby. Save Eskdale School!</p>

I love Eskdale. I'm not going to Ccw

Responses from Members of staff at Caedmon College, Whitby
<p>I think the merger should definitely GO AHEAD. The town is too small to sustain the running of 2 separate schools. Many other comparable sized North Yorkshire towns have just one school. The current heads and governing bodies are experienced and should be trusted to provide the best provision in terms of human and physical resources for ALL children in the locality..Eskdale school staff have not had experience in teaching children age 14+ (who are a different being from children age 11-14.....as a parent and teacher, I know this very well) nor has it a proven record of examination results and the rigour this demands. I have fond memories of Eskdale as a past pupil and the establishment that 3 of my children attended BUT to keep it open as a building for historic and sentimental reasons makes no sense especially if keeping in mind what is educationally most sound or the children in the area. All staff from both establishments should be able to WORK TOGETHER for the good of all children and try to remember that this proposal is a County Council backed one, and not one driven by the current Head of Caedmon. Whitby for many years has NOT HAD CHOICE for post 14 provision and since the arrival of the current head has NOT rested on its laurels or revelled lazily in its monopoly.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the amalgamation of Eskdale school with college. Simple reason is we need choice and travelling 40 odd miles a day is not a choice! Give Eskdale a new headteacher and let someone else lead them to success.</p>
<p>No text supplied x 3</p>
<p>I support the proposal for amalgamation of Eskdale School with Caedmon College. The town's people need to get behind one school. This has been an unsatisfactory situation for many decades. Rivalry and a divided set of parents are the result. If the town's people think the ethos of Eskdale School so good add this element to a new single school and get behind it for the sake of the whole community. Eskdale School and Caedmon school both singly were rated by Ofsted as needing improvement. Merging the schools opens up the opportunity to make one very good school. The exam results at GCSE at Caedmon College are some of the best on the East Coast. Specialist teachers teaching all years is a plus. Elimination of a transition at KS3 is a plus. Students able to choose their GCSE options with taster sessions in class in their own school. There are not enough children, resources and money to keep the current set up afloat. Whitby students educated in Whitby have gone to top universities and top jobs. We need to keep our sixth formers and not have them poached by nearby sixth form centres.</p>
<p>Unless it is financially realistic for Eskdale School to continue as an 11-14 separate school, the merger is the best option, in my opinion. I've taught in whitby for almost 20 years and a 1 school system has always seemed the best option for the continuity of pupils' education. The argument over 'choice' is not really relevant now - choice is a luxury and is sometimes unaffordable. 1 well equipped well run LA School (not an Academy!) would be better for most pupils and staff. 1 structure can contain the flexibility to cater for the wide range of needs in Whitby & District Education.</p>
<p>I firmly believe that this amalgamation can only be a good thing for this town. One consistent education system with excellent facilities and staff team will no doubt provide the best possible outcomes for the children of our community. The majority of parents whom have such a public aversion to the proposed amalgamation are of a generation who came through the "college" when it was a very different place to be. Perhaps some further education aimed towards these parents may enable them to see how much the education system in KS4+5 has evolved and what a pleasant place it is to be now both for staff and students alike! I love being part of this school and welcome the existing ventures proposed to us as a college community.</p>
<p>I think that it would be great to have one school in Whitby. It creates more opportunities for the students – more options for subjects etc. Also a teacher it will give us a clear goal as to what we are working towards with more staff to share resources, expertise and ideas in order to deliver the best lessons possible.</p>
<p>I fully support the local authority's proposal as I believe having a single, good 11-19 school in Whitby is best for all the young people in the area and for the appropriate allocation of Local Authority resources.</p>

<p>Contrary to XX comments in the Whitby Gazette and at the public consultation meeting Caedmon College 6th form is highly valued by the community for many reasons. The facts;- We are one of the largest 6th forms in N Yorkshire. Our results have continued to improve. We offer a wide range of subjects (including MFL Drama, Music + Art). Every year we have successful Oxbridge candidates. Many of our students cannot afford the £455pa travel fees to other local FE providers. We cater for a range of abilities from 5 A Level students to students with Special Educational Needs who access our Foundation Learning Programme. We have always been judged as a <u>GOOD</u> 6th form by Ofsted. Every year for the last 3 years 65-70% of our Y11 have chosen to stay here post 16. Every year we have students from other schools who choose to be educated here.</p>
<p>I believe it would bring more opportunities to the town and students in Whitby. I think it will provide financial security for the town and also mean students can be educated in Whitby rather than travelling to other towns such as Scarborough or Middlesbrough</p>
<p>The amalgamation should definitely go ahead as it is the best way forward for the future of education for the children of Whitby. It will provide financial security for great education by enabling the College to provide a much greater choice of subjects and quality teaching at all levels, especially GCSE and A 'levels. A wider choice at 6th form will mean that more students will be able to stay on at College instead of having to travel to do certain subjects. It is a very exciting opportunity and will greatly benefit Whitby as a community and as a whole for education in the future.</p>
<p>Amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby will be a very positive move for education in the area and for the local community. This will open up many options for education in the future especially with the possible development of a 6th form College/training hub.</p>
<p>It would be good to merge the schools. Better still if there was no jobs lost through it.</p>
<p>This is a positive move for education in the local area.</p>
<p>This would be a great opportunity for Whitby. The main priority has got to be the best interest of students. One concern is the traffic/bus issues in Mayfield Road. It is already very busy. Concerns around access to and from Scoresby site.</p>
<p>Should have been done years ago. This will allow pupils in Whitby to be educated in the same way as 99% of the rest of the UK. If this does not go ahead a lot of good teachers, including myself, will look to find employment elsewhere as 6th form will be diminished/lost company.</p>
<p>I think it would be a good idea for Eskdale school to merge with Caedmon College. I believe that it would enable more 'joined up' provision of education in the area. It must surely be more economical to run only two sites rather than 3. It would also protect the provision of post 16 education in the Whitby area. There is a valid concern that if Eskdale becomes an 11-16 school the loss of funding at the college as a result of smaller year groups would lead to reduction of provision in the sixth form or even lead to its closure. A larger successful college might make it easier to recruit and retain good quality staff, which would help to raise and maintain educational standards.</p>
<p>I agree with the merger because; There has never been a choice for KS4/5 in Whitby, so why should it matter at KS3. Better facilities & funds for one school. Less town rivalry.</p>
<p>I fully support the proposal for amalgamation!</p>

<p>Though new to the area, it seems only sensible that the two schools Caedmon and Eskdale, are merged. The need to upkeep buildings that are partially full is a nonsense, when all year groups including 6th form can be accommodated on the existing Caedmon sites. The alternative would be to keep both schools open, spread students across 3 sites, have them competing for yr10 &11 students and potentially losing 6th form learning at Caedmon. Bringing the best of both schools together as one Whitby school would not only make financial sense but educational sense too, offering more opportunities, resources and specialist staff to all students. However I should point out that the council NYCC have the responsibility for ensuring that any money raised be invested back into making suitable buildings for purpose & into the education of students in Whitby. Any funds raised should not be used for meeting council budget shortfalls. For me, that would be a betrayal <u>and if it were the case purely to achieve this</u>, I would be against the proposal.</p>
<p>Excellent – opportunity to merge the best of everything for the good of the young people and Whitby and District. Pulling together best staff, equipment and resources. NOT a weakening but <u>a strengthening of the education system in the town</u> via the synthesising of staff expertise – be they academic or pastoral. Also having a 6th form centre in the town with quality provision is imperative for students – this would be threatened if the schools were not to merge.</p>
<p>This merger should have occurred many years ago. Good education in Whitby will be achieved for all students by attending one, well-staffed and well-resourced school that has the financial stability to drive improvement. This merger is a lot what is best for the young people of Whitby and surrounding area and that is a secondary provision that ensures continuity and access to a school curriculum. Education is about outcomes and producing young people with the skills, qualities and qualifications to be successful in life, it is not about names, buildings, history(!) and should not be about competing which will not drive up standards.</p>
<p><u>Advantages:</u> A fully cohesive and collaborative curriculum for all students in Whitby from age 11 to 19. No transition at age 14 – this has been very damaging (I believe) for students over the years (not enough time to teach the GCSE courses as well as we would wish) A falling roll means that I believe there will not be enough students to fund effectively two schools in the town – the provision available for all students will suffer. GCSE helps to fund the 6th form – I cannot see how the 6th form will survive with vastly reduced financing. The ‘choice’ of 2 schools at GCSE will mean no choice of 6th form in the town – it will not be there. <u>Disadvantages:</u> Short term disruption to the educational provision for some students in Whitby.</p>
<p>In an ideal world, choice would seem to be beneficial. However, falling rolls and the particular size/locale of Whitby (and financial straits of UK) would indicate that the sensible and caring option for Whitby parents/students would be to ensure that a good provision of education (KS3, KS4 &KS5) can be given. Better facilities/resources/opportunities including wider options of courses are the aim – and would be better served by this merger. CCW has been at least a ‘good’ school/college in my five years here, whereas Eskdale has not. I understand it is friendly/pastoral but I think it lacks rigor of CCW.</p>
<p>It makes sense to have one school and avoid the disruption of changing schools. Therefore I am in favour of an amalgamation of the school and Caedmon College as I feel it would be in the students’ best interests.</p>
<p>I believe that the merger of the two schools is the best way to improve children’s learning in Whitby. It is right to have choices in education. We are of course all different with different needs and different priorities and nowhere is this more important than in our education of young people; our minds are forming and we are trying to discover what we like, what we’d like to be like and then as we move through our educational career where we fit into society and the world at large. These can only (effectively) come about through having choice. However we must be clear when determining which choices are important and which are not, however much they may feel. So it is always upsetting when a school is closed, an identity lost and students, ex-students and faculty feel it keenly but this cannot be the only consideration. By merging the two schools the increase in funding, expert knowledge of staff and the united vision of education in Whitby will provide greater choice, greater expertise, greater resources and a greater wellbeing for the young people in and around Whitby. Of course there will cease to be a choice of where to send ones’ child for their secondary school education but is the ‘where’ really the important factor? A factor so important that it would overrule any other consideration? I would argue not. Surely the most important factors would be in a greater choice of subjects for children to study; a broader and more inclusive curriculum that can meet the needs of all students rather than one that has to limit itself due to lack of funding/available staff and I believe that a unity in Whitby between the two schools would provide the educators with a most promising and exciting opportunity for delivering this.</p>
<p>Eskdale is still a school which requires improvement despite 2 years support from the LA and Scalby School. The last Ofsted says that the teaching and learning is declining at Eskdale – this is failing students’ progress Eskdale School is on older building – it is dark and looks in poor state of repair – it will cost money to change and maintain. Financially Whitby is unable to sustain 3 buildings when all the 11-16 students can fit into one. A dedicate 6th form centre would keep more 16-19 yr olds in Whitby which would enable a wider level 3 choice of subjects. KS3 teachers at Eskdale have few opportunities to teach GCSE, many have not taught at this level for many years. The ‘Save Eskdale’ campaign is built on emotional response not common sense.</p>

<p>I was born and raised in this area; attending Eskdale school, then Whitby Community College. I loved Eskdale + the transition to WCC was difficult – new teachers + peers. As an adult + as an educator of Whitby's young people, I passionately believe that this type of transition is hugely unhelpful. Both schools have fantastic elements + I believe, that like a marriage, we are stronger as a united team, each school bringing something special. The students of Whitby deserve a first class education not division + uncertainty. The ethos of each school can be joined together, creating a broad + inclusive education for all. Emotion is important but educational excellence is equally (or more) important than that. Eskdale is currently inadequate and as such fails its young people. I urge you to make a decision which secures an equal, excellent education for all our young people. – Yes!! Amalgamation is the right thing.</p>
<p>Eskdale school due to a combination of factors needs to amalgamate with Caedmon College, Whitby. Both academically and financially they cannot function effectively as in the best interests of any students.</p>
<p>I think the merger is a good idea for the town. Having one school for all students is the way forward. There would be no transition at year 9 for students which would benefit all students. Also students been able to start GCSE's in year 9 is another great point, this will enable all students to reach their potential and gain the grades they deserve. Bringing the staff from all sites can only enhance the students achieving their very best. Another factor is Eskdale school is now very dated and in need of money spending on it to bring it up to date. So if we merged together the money saved could go towards a sixth form college, which the town is needing. Students taking A 'levels would end up travelling away to study which is not good for them. There is enough pressure on these students trying to gain their grades for University without having to travel for their education.</p>
<p>I agree fully with the amalgamation of both schools. I feel it will better education in Whitby and provide new opportunities for all in the local area that are exciting and creating one school will allow all this to happen.</p>
<p>The merger is a good idea – hopefully if it does go ahead the transition will be smooth and there won't be many job losses. Hopefully it won't affect all the children's education either.</p>
<p>The amalgamation between Whitby Community College and Caedmon school has been well received with parents and staff, the students have adapted to the change.- Maybe the change with experienced staff in the college and staff of Eskdale could promote a better choice of education within the area.</p>
<p>I feel that the amalgamation should go ahead. The reason for my decision is based on the principles that I believe that Whitby needs one school in the town which will be able to offer the best education/resources and courses to the young people of Whitby. Students will have more choice in the courses that they would like to undertake and all departments will be better funded and equipped to provide the best possible delivery of courses to students. This will enable every child to extend their knowledge and learn in an environment that is structured and enables each child to develop from year 7 to post 16 without having to leave one educational establishment to attend another and start afresh with a new environment, teaches and way of learning at such a crucial time in a child's education.</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal for amalgamation. By closing Eskdale you are leaving children in Whitby and the surrounding area with no choice, no freedom, there will only be one school that you have to go to like it or not. Your ridiculous proposal shouldn't be call a proposal at all as it is just another way for you to make more money to put into your pockets, if you close the school then it just shows your true views on the opinions of the people of Whitby, you fashest, overly right winged selfish ignorant excuse for a council.</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Merging 2 schools will create choice for all. Students in secondary education in Whitby by creating economies of scale in ensuring teaching and learning resources are maximised. 2. Merging 2 schools will make it easier to attract the best teachers to come and work in the town. 3. The sixth form provision in the town will be secure by closing Eskdale. This will ensure resources are focused collectively on KS3, KS4 and KS5 provision. If Eskdale remains open the curriculm offer in the sixth form will be narrowed meaning students will have to travel to an alternative further education provider.

For all the reasons outlined in the consultation document, we fully support the proposal. Specifically, we see the advantages as: • Opportunity to remove all previous tensions between the schools and student transitions. • Opportunity to provide strong governance and leadership that provides great learning, support and provision. • To have a clear business plan that has 'Whitby School' on a secure and sustainable financial footing. • Eventually, having the whole community behind their school. • Creating an 11-16 school and a Post 16 centre is what most of the community want. • Larger school equals more opportunities for enriching experiences for students and higher levels of challenge and support for staff as they work in teams. • Gives 'Whitby School' a chance of attracting good staff, the structure to retain talent and create sound succession planning at all levels. The major suggestion we would like to make is that the LA fully implement the plan by providing the necessary funds to create provision that is 'fit for purpose'; i.e. an 11-16 site and a Post 16 site. Significant investment is required for this to be achieved. Good luck with the consultation and thank you.

Re: Proposed amalgamation of Caedmon College Whitby and Eskdale School. Following the intimidating nature of the public consultation meetings held at Whitby's Spa Pavilion, on the 14th and 15th of March, the teaching staff of Caedmon College Whitby would like to put forward their support for the proposed amalgamation. We believe that: • One united school which pools resources and staff is the best educational model for this area. Transition has historically caused a number of issues and, as educators, we believe that an 11-19 experience allows for: the development of a rich, varied and personalised curriculum, the development of a united school ethos, which draws on the special qualities of both schools; the fostering of excellent, long-term relationships between staff and students and the continued survival and expansion of healthy, vibrant, post-16 provision. • All students should be entitled to a good education; one which allows them to make good progress and achieve good examination results. Our most recent Ofsted and exam results support our belief that we are extremely well-positioned to support this aim. • The alternative, two 11-16 schools, would be to the detriment and potential demise of post-16 education in this area, resulting in students travelling 20+ miles and spending 2 hours per day, travelling to alternative provision. Some of our closest post-16 providers have gained unsatisfactory Ofsted reports in recent years, meaning we are disadvantaging our young people, 81% of whom chose to remain with us in September 2015. • Caedmon College Whitby offers a superb support system for SEN students and for 6th form foundation learners. Forcing these students to travel large distances for 6th form provision is unrealistic and would be traumatic for a number of the community's most vulnerable learners. • One 11-19 school would allow for breadth of study and it is this, rather than having different schools, which would allow for real educational choice. A limited curriculum without drama, music, health and social care or engineering, would vastly limit the options and opportunities available to our young people. • The forming of one school would ensure job security as the same numbers of front-line teachers would be needed. A number of departments, including core subjects such as maths and English have, at times, struggled to recruit high quality teaching staff. An 11-19 school which offers a broad, high-quality curriculum would help support the unique challenges facing rural, coastal schools. • A tiny minority (if any) of students choose to be educated elsewhere but the far greater issue is with year 6 Esk Valley students choosing to go to Stokesley and to other schools with more cohesive 11-19 structures. We believe that an amalgamation would make education in Whitby more attractive, as it would produce a more coherent system with clear structures in place. • Education is about more than buildings. Ethos is transferrable, as are great staff and students. Signed (on behalf of the Caedmon College teaching staff): XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX, XX

Exam results over the past 5+ years prove that staff at CCW are effective at delivering GCSE and A Level courses. But nonetheless there has been a devastating amount of slander aimed at CCW staff and the school itself. This is something that is perpetuated by emotion rather than fact. This is something that NYCC must take into account. CCW sixth form has faced much criticism, which once again is driven by high emotion. I find it very disturbing that members of the town would wish to see all students leave the area to access further education. Travelling daily on one of three very dangerous roads and potentially never to bring their skills back into the town!

Having a choice is a moral right, for both children and parents. Choice is based on lots of reasons, preferences in schools, logistics of school runs, where siblings or friends are. Also I appreciate there will always be issues no matter which school our children attend but some schools have known issues where we as parents would not be in our right minds to send our pride and joys into a school where there are known issues that seem to be constant and well known about the community. I appreciate schools have issues and I'm sure in many cases they get dressed but if a child attends only one school and safety becomes an issue and let's say for argument reasons the same issue persists we as parents have less avenues to explore to try and remove our children from known issues. We have our daughter to move to high school in September and our other daughter in a few more years. My wife also asked several questions around the decision getting completely different responses from the powers that be in making the decisions. Hence a simple question with different answers causes serious doubts from the start. Hardly a great start. I doubt for one minute all of these observations / suggestions will be read, so in my unprofessional but honest opinion I think and assume there is more to this than meets the eye. We are in touch with a lot of people that are in the teaching profession and by the sounds of things, things have been manipulated to suit the decision as there was no real reason to try or to close the school. All about the money, all about the politics, and not about the true feelings, wellbeing, education & choice for us as parents with children in this area. If we could afford private education we would do this in a heartbeat than send our children to another school rather than Caedmon. I'm sure and hope you (the powers that be) have done their homework, I'm not a professional on this issue and maybe speaking out of turn but I fear there are many areas that have not been really thought

<p>over ..I tell you now and quote me if I'm wrong (there will be serious issues causing many to loose faith if this decision goes ahead) many voices will be heard screaming " I told you so "...</p>
<p>As a teacher at CCW. I really hate the split site. I'm constantly late and rushing between the two. It's a nightmare. Other staff are to scared to talk about it because of repercussions from management. Students also complain to me about the split site arrangement. If it becomes three sites then it will just be mayhem. i think we will fail OFSTED aswell. Pupils behaviour has also dropped because of of this change and transision. I do not want to teacher over 1500 kids. I will pack up and leave if this goes ahead. NYCC hang your head in shame. I do. It want to be part of a sinking ship</p>
<p>Not Happy with the split site arrangement. Staff won't speak up for repercussions. I can sense a poor OFSTED rating coming and it's going to be embarrassing. I'm planning on taking up employment else where. It's all a mess</p>
<p>According to the minutes of the joint steering group/governors - a plan made for a separate sixth form 2 YEARS AGO on the Scorsbey site! So was this the real reason for WCC and Caedmon school merger? So XX could have the Scorsbey site for his sixth form then close Eskdale to pay for the building works? This is not about education but it's about money and vanity. Disgusting. Disgusting. Disgusting.</p>
<p>3 sites is going to be mayhem! This is going fail and I mean fail BADLY! It will fail my self, other members of staff and the students. I reckon we will get a poor OFSTED report because the split site thing isn't working. It's not best for pupils. Re think your options</p>
<p>The split site isn't working! Two sites is bad enough never mind three! I hate it and can not wait to retire</p>
<p>I don't agree with the proposal, why aren't NYCC looking at other options? This is not the only one yet no thought has been put into alternatives. Staff at both schools are not happy about the proposals. Even though it says jobs aren't at risk they will be in the future. Not many of the old Caedmon school staff are still at CCW. Do not go ahead with this option, the education of the children of Whitby will suffer for many years to come as will the health and well being of all pupils and staff involved</p>

Responses from Members of staff at Eskdale School

Children in Whitby need choice, different children have different needs and both school cater to very different needs and provide a very different environment. Quality of teaching will only improve with 2 secondary schools in the area. I do not see how one huge school will better provide for children's needs especially as the population continues to grow. It would be a huge loss to the area and statistics have proven that larger schools do not necessarily produce better results it is usually the smaller schools that fair much better.

I wish to register my disagreement with the proposals to merge the schools. I work at Eskdale and I see everyday what a difference this school makes to the students that attend there. I was so impressed by the ethos and drive of the school that I moved from Leeds to work there. Please, please listen to the people of Whitby. You are there to serve them and they simply do not want this. We are all here to serve the children, that's why I get out of bed on a morning so please put them first. Here are the reasons why it should remain open. Thank you. The following 'Why Save Eskdale?' was put together by parents on the 'Fight to Save Eskdale' group. It takes into account lots of reasons people have stated to us about why Eskdale should be kept open. Thanks for all the comments, support and letters from you all, which we have used to compile this. WHY SAVE ESKDALE?

1. CHOICE • Choice of school in the town is important • Due to our geographical location, Whitby is, fairly unique that it is, over 21 miles to the next nearest town for children to be educated. This is a long way when you are 11 years old, especially in winter time when the moor roads can be treacherous or even closed • One School having a monopoly is not desirable in terms of raising educational standards • Competition drives up standards and achieves excellent education • One size DOES NOT fit all • If a child has problems/issues in one school they can move to the other and have a 'fresh start'. With only one school, where else could they go? • Quite simply in our local community "There are more people that want to see Eskdale stay open than want to see it closed" (Over 5000 signatures on petition to keep Eskdale open)
2. UNIQUE ETHOS • Unique ethos – 'Every child matters' • Pupils, Parents and Staff are happy (See Ofsted parent view 83% children strongly agree they are happy, compared to National Average 53%, Caedmon College 46%) • Small school which enables teachers to know pupils well and vice versa. Especially useful for those pupils with special educational needs who benefit from a smaller nurturing environment. • Education for the whole person • Focus on practical skills and on art/music not just academic (excellent music pods) • Encourages pupils to take initiative and responsibility • Broad range of extracurricular activities (eg. Many varied clubs-gardening, art, drama, choir, gymnastics, trampolining, juggling, minecraft club to name a few) • Excellent pupil reward scheme in place using 'vivo'system
3. EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS • 'Personal development, behavior and welfare' rated 'Good' in 2015 Ofsted report • Extremely high positive feedback on Ofsted ParentView (91% would recommend the school to another parent) • Dedicated group of well qualified teachers • 'Curriculum at Eskdale prepares pupils well for life in modern Britain and provides for their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively' (OFSTED 2015) • Large Choice of competitive sports teams • Good range of subject choices (drama and 2 language choices, from year 7) • Eskdale received Requires Improvement in its inspection report but it continually states throughout the report that there has been too little time since the previous inspection to see the results of the implementations they have put in place. Many other schools in North Yorks have received Requires Improvement but they have not been deemed to close. Surely in this situation the LA should be doing all they can to help the school or are they just unwilling? • Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger. They have not had an Ofsted since 2013. Caedmon was deemed a Requires Improvement School before merge and hasn't been inspected since. Are they going to cope with an influx of another 300+ pupils from Eskdale and the amalgamation process, do they have provision to provide? How will this effect Caedmon College pupils? • 2014 GCSE results 5A*-C in English & Maths - Caedmon College overall 59%, ex-Eskdale pupils 62%. Proving Eskdale pupils achieve just as well (or better) as pupils from CCW. • Eskdale teachers have the desire and dedication to put their all into the 14-16 curriculum and achieve excellent results. Teachers have been working hard to prepare for the GCSE courses. Pupils too, desperate to prove Eskdale can produce fantastic GCSE results. They should be given the chance to do this. Much of Ofsted inspection and a school's 'worth' is based on data driven measurable results. There is no longer KS3 SATS in year 9 and Eskdale do not have GCSE results to be measured on. If they had the chance to do this, we'd see just how fantastic the school is. • Much research shows that many schools that have merged/amalgamated (especially in North Yorkshire) have had a decline in standards. Most recently and closest to home the Graham and Raincliffe Merge in Scarborough led to them going into special measures within 2 years! • In Filey there is only one secondary school, over recent years standards have dropped as no competition. They were in special measures and have now been taken out of the Local Authority control and converted into an academy.
4. COMMUNITY • Large open space (tennis courts/large playing fields and playground)for pupils (and locals) to enjoy benefits of fresh air and exercise. • Local and good links with community (eg. Sainsburys opposite work closely in projects with Eskdale) • Building strong relationships with each other and within the community • Has community woven into it. The following groups use the site at various times throughout the year, some every week, some on occasional basis): ABRSM Music Examinations, Fishburn Park football clubs 1st and 2nd teams, Fishburn Park kids football, Fylingdales, Lealholm and Whitby Rugby club football teams, Fylingdales netball,

methodist church group, motorhome rallies, ONOMY (young church group), Whitby Music Centre, Tennis Club, Ultimate Soccer, Whitby Christian Fellowship, Whitby Ladies football, Whitby Company of Archers, Whitby Rugby Club, Young Farmers basketball) • Eskdale is not just a school but a centre for East side community of Whitby • Good relationships with primary feeder schools (especially East Whitby, over the road and Hawsker who use facilities such as food tech room)

5. FUTURE PROVISION • Pupil Numbers set to increase • Windfarm – more jobs, more families, more pupils. • Potash - more jobs, more families, more pupils • More housing to be built in the town, the children from these will need schooling

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS • Secondary pupil numbers set to increase over next 10-15 years (predicted 25/26 1647) Eskdale is needed. • Plans to build more family housing in Whitby will mean more school places needed. Much of this will be close to Eskdale and in prime feeder territory • Sound business plan for 11-16 • There are plenty of towns of similar size and similar pupil numbers to Whitby that support 2 (or even 3) secondary schools, why can't our town?

7. SPECIAL NEEDS • Eskdale has always been highly regarded in terms of catering extremely well for SEN pupils. This is down to their caring ethos, small size and provisions they have put in place to deal with particular needs and accessibility.

8. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT • Strong parental involvement (Excellent PTA and regular termly events from bingo to Summer Fair)

9. SIZE • Small school ensures excellent pupil/teacher relationships • Helps pupils to feel safe. One small school is better for many pupils rather than a large school on split sites in terms of them 'feeling at home' and well prepared for learning. Especially important for SEN pupils. • A smooth transition for year 6 pupils, especially those from very small feeder schools in surrounding rural areas, for whom a small school feels safer and more secure •

10. INFRASTRUCTURE/PRACTICALITIES • One safe site (no time wasted travelling between sites for pupils or staff) • As all teachers are on one site at Eskdale, all of the time, it is easy for pupils to find them at break time, before and after school to tell them anything they need to, go over homework, seek support etc. • Accessible (Good safe access for buses dropping off and picking up) • What impact will there be on highways and roads around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? • What impact will there be on parking around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? • Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger, in terms of practicalities and organisation how will all the pupils be 'housed' if they amalgamate and are split over 3 sites for at least next year, then on to 2 the year after. This chaotic approach will surely have a detrimental effect on all pupils over the next few years. • Have they the space to accommodate everyone safely especially with numbers due to increase in coming years? • Is it short sighted of NYCC to even consider closing a school when numbers are set to increase. If Eskdale does go, in 10 years time much of the teaching could end up happening in cabins/temporary classrooms at Caedmon College sites? Surely it is a better way forward to build on the investment NYCC has made to Eskdale School site over last few years and let it carry out the wish to carry on as an 11-16 establishment? • If both schools were to continue to co-exist in such a manner they would still be average size for NorthYorkshire

Keeping eskdale open is providing a choice for all children and parents. An option not been mentioned is why can't both eskdale and cademon as it was stay open and be 11ti16school working together and close Whitby college and when children reach 16 let them choose from the colleges available ie Scarborough tex. At 16 they are old enough to travel to school without parents support. The college is also the worst school as in provision for the young children. No play ground no land to provide one, dropping off and collecting the children it's the only school you cannot go on site to pick up you have to do this on the very busy main road into Whitby, which will cause my traffic problems. Stop thinking about money and think of the children.

<p>I do not agree with the amalgamation of Eskdale School and CCW for the following reasons: Choice of school in Whitby is important as due to our geographical location, it is over 21 miles to the next nearest school. This is a long way when you are 11 years old, especially in winter when the moor roads can be treacherous or even closed. Competition drives up standards and achieves excellent education. One size DOES NOT fit all - If a child has problems/issues in one school they can move to the other and have a 'fresh start'. With only one school, where else could they go? Also, there are over 5000 signatures on petition to keep Eskdale open. Eskdale has a unique ethos – 'Every child matters'. The pupils, parents and staff are happy (See Ofsted parent view 83% children strongly agree they are happy, compared to National Average 53%, Caedmon College 46%). Eskdale is a small school which enables teachers to know pupils well and vice versa. 'Personal development, behavior and welfare' was rated 'Good' in 2015 Ofsted report and there is extremely high positive feedback on Ofsted ParentView (91% would recommend the school to another parent). Eskdale received Requires Improvement in its inspection report but it continually states throughout the report that there has been too little time since the previous inspection to see the results of the implementations they have put in place. Many other schools in North Yorks have received Requires Improvement but they have not been deemed to close. Surely in this situation the LA should be doing all they can to help the school or are they just unwilling? CCW is still adapting to the previous merger. They have not had an Ofsted since 2013. Caedmon was rated as Requires Improvement School before merge and hasn't been inspected since. Are they going to cope with an influx of another 300+ pupils from Eskdale and the amalgamation process, do they have provision to provide? How will this effect Caedmon College pupils? Eskdale has previously been rated outstanding for 7 years, at a time when Whitby school was in special measures. 2014 GCSE results 5A*-C in English & Maths - Caedmon College overall 59%, ex-Eskdale pupils 62%. Proving Eskdale pupils achieve just as well (or better) as pupils from CCW. All Eskdale teachers have the desire and dedication to put their all into the 14-16 curriculum and achieve excellent results. Teachers have been working hard to prepare for the GCSE courses. Pupils too, desperate to prove Eskdale can produce fantastic GCSE results. They should be given the chance to do this. Much of Ofsted inspection and a school's 'worth' is based on data driven measurable results. If they had the chance to do this, we'd see just how fantastic the school is. Much research shows that many schools that have merged/amalgamated, especially in North Yorkshire, have had a decline in standards. Most recently and closest to home the Graham and Raincliffe Merge in Scarborough led to them going into special measures within 2 years! Eskdale is a huge part of the local community. There is a large open space - tennis courts/large playing fields and playground for pupils and locals to exercise. There are good links with community eg. Sainsburys opposite work closely in projects with Eskdale. The following groups also use the site at various times throughout the year, some every week, some on occasional basis: ABRSM Music Examinations, Fishburn Park football clubs, Fylingdales, Lealholm and Whitby Rugby club football teams, Fylingdales netball, Methodist church group, Motorhome rallies, ONOMY (young church group), Whitby Music Centre, Tennis Club, Ultimate Soccer, Whitby Christian Fellowship, Whitby Ladies football, Whitby Company of Archers, Whitby Rugby Club, Young Farmers basketball. My main concern is that pupil numbers set to increase, not just in Whitby, but across the UK. Secondary pupil numbers set to increase over next 10-15 years (predicted 2025/2026 = 1647). Eskdale is needed. If there are plans to build more family housing in Whitby, this surely will mean more school places needed. Much of this will be close to Eskdale and in prime feeder territory. Eskdale wrote a sound business plan for an 11-16 school and there are plenty of towns of similar size and similar pupil numbers to Whitby that support 2 (or even 3) secondary schools, why can't our town? I don't agree with the assessment of one extra pupil per 20 new houses built, I believe it will be far higher. The Eskdale site is accessible and has safe access for buses dropping off and picking up. What impact will there be on highways and roads around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? Is it short sighted of NYCC to even consider closing a school when numbers are set to increase. If Eskdale does go, in 10 years time, much of the teaching could end up happening in cabins/temporary classrooms at CCW sites. Surely it is a better way forward to build on the investment NYCC has made to Eskdale School site over last few years and let it carry out the wish to carry on as an 11-16 establishment? If both schools were to continue to co-exist they would still be average size for NorthYorkshire at 900 and 500.</p>
<p>My daughter is in year 7 at Eskdale and has settled in well. We were hoping for her to be able and stay at Eskdale to do her GCSEs. We need to have a choice of school our children go to. I have worked at Eskdale for 5 years as a dinner lady and its just a great school. We were all looking forward to the school becoming a 11-16. Children are so happy at Eskdale and to make just one larger bigger super school is not the answer for Whitby. My child hopefully would fit in but what will happen if she does not. Then what. Alan Prise also runs his soccar school there plus Fishburn football team play on Eskdale school fields. I would hate to see such hard working lads have to stop.</p>
<p>dont agree with the amalganation of eskdale school and cademon college .what is needed is two schools of 11 to 16 giving children and parents choice</p>
<p>I DISAGREE with the proposal to amalgamate the schools, in my opinion bigger is not better. One size does not fit all and the two schools are very different, therefore catering for very different needs. Two smaller secondary schools would provide choice and a much better learning environment for the children of Whitby. Eskdale needs to be given the opportunity to expand to 11-16 and to put processes in place to improve their ofsted rating, closure would not be providing the best opportunities for local children. There is also more opportunity for teaching standards to improve in two competing schools rather than one big one.</p>

I do not believe that the proposed amalgamation will be in the best interests of pupils or will drive up educational standards.
I do not support the closure of Eskdale and the proposed amalgamation. Every stage of the amalgamation so far, and everything I have seen of CCW's treatment of Eskdale's current Year 9 students, have left me gravely concerned.
I totally disagree with proposal to amalgamate the schools in Whitby and to close down Eskdale School. The issues with the amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon College is not about arguing which school is better than another or the undoubted love students and parents have for Eskdale, but acknowledging the following: One size does not fit all and all children have different needs. The ethos of the two schools and their Headteachers has proved to be very different. Parents and students in the area will now have no choice over their education and no alternative options should there be any problems. Choice is exactly why Eskdale wanted to go 11-16 and give students the opportunity to study their GCSEs there. An option that had proved very popular – most students wanting to stay on into year 10 despite the unfavourable recent OFSTED. One of the best ways to raise standards is to create competition, something that will be sadly lacking if this amalgamation goes ahead. XX informs us that he has gone to consultation based on financial reasons – to amalgamate in order to fund the 6th form at CCW – there are alternative options which could sort this issue out but they have not been touched upon. There is the opportunity to move forward, to support Eskdale to become a good school and to continue to provide a very valuable asset in Whitby. Students need opportunity, they need choice and they need alternatives if they are to be able to flourish. Eskdale is more than a school it is a community hub.
I do not support the closure of Eskdale and the proposed amalgamation. Every stage of the amalgamation so far, and everything I have seen of CCW's treatment of Eskdale's current Year 9 students, have left me gravely concerned.
I totally disagree with proposal to amalgamate the schools in Whitby and to close down Eskdale School. The issues with the amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon College is not about arguing which school is better than another or the undoubted love students and parents have for Eskdale, but acknowledging the following: One size does not fit all and all children have different needs. The ethos of the two schools and their Headteachers has proved to be very different. Parents and students in the area will now have no choice over their education and no alternative options should there be any problems. Choice is exactly why Eskdale wanted to go 11-16 and give students the opportunity to study their GCSEs there. An option that had proved very popular – most students wanting to stay on into year 10 despite the unfavourable recent OFSTED. One of the best ways to raise standards is to create competition, something that will be sadly lacking if this amalgamation goes ahead. XX informs us that he has gone to consultation based on financial reasons – to amalgamate in order to fund the 6th form at CCW – there are alternative options which could sort this issue out but they have not been touched upon. There is the opportunity to move forward, to support Eskdale to become a good school and to continue to provide a very valuable asset in Whitby. Students need opportunity, they need choice and they need alternatives if they are to be able to flourish. Eskdale is more than a school it is a community hub.
I disagree wholeheartedly with the short sighted decision to close Eskdale School site and amalgamate with Caedmon College Whitby. We are a very special school. As a member of staff it is a joy to go to work every day. I have worked in a few schools and I can honestly say that I have never worked in a school which values the students as much as Eskdale, one which cares and sets up the students to be worthwhile and active members of the community. The amalgamation simply does not make sense and below are the reasons why I think this is. WHY SAVE ESKDALE SCHOOL? 1. CHOICE • Choice of school in the town is important • Due to our geographical location, Whitby is, fairly unique that it is, over 21 miles to the next nearest town for children to be educated. This is a long way when you are 11 years old, especially in winter time when the moor roads can be treacherous or even closed • One School having a monopoly is not desirable in terms of raising educational standards • Competition drives up standards and achieves excellent education • One size DOES NOT fit all • If a child has problems/issues in one school they can move to the other and have a 'fresh start'. With only one school, where else could they go? • Quite simply in our local community "There are more people that want to see Eskdale stay open than want to see it closed" (Over 5000 signatures on petition to keep Eskdale open) 2. UNIQUE ETHOS • Unique ethos – 'Every child matters' • Pupils, Parents and Staff are happy (See Ofsted parent view 83% children strongly agree they are happy, compared to National Average 53%, Caedmon College 46%) • Small school which enables teachers to know pupils well and vice versa. Especially useful for those pupils with special educational needs who benefit from a smaller nurturing environment. • Education for the whole person • Focus on practical skills and on art/music not just academic (excellent music pods) • Encourages pupils to take initiative and responsibility • Broad range of extracurricular activities (eg. Many varied clubs-gardening, film, art, drama, choir, gymnastics, gardening, craft, rock music, trampolining, juggling, minecraft club to name a few) • Excellent pupil reward scheme in place using 'vivo' system 3. EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS • 'Personal development, behaviour and welfare' rated 'Good' in 2015 Ofsted report • Extremely high positive feedback on Ofsted ParentView (91% would recommend the school to another parent) • Dedicated group of well qualified teachers • Curriculum at Eskdale prepares pupils well for life in

modern Britain and provides for their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively' (OFSTED 2015) • Large Choice of competitive sports teams • Good range of subject choices (drama and 2 language choices, from year 7) • Eskdale received Requires Improvement in its inspection report but it continually states throughout the report that there has been too little time since the previous inspection to see the results of the implementations they have put in place. Many other schools in North Yorks have received Requires Improvement but they have not been deemed to close. Surely in this situation the LA should be doing all they can to help the school or are they just unwilling? • Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger. They have not had an Ofsted since 2013. Caedmon was deemed a Requires Improvement School before merge and hasn't been inspected since. Are they going to cope with an influx of another 300+ pupils from Eskdale and the amalgamation process, do they have provision to provide? How will this effect Caedmon College pupils? • 2014 GCSE results 5A*-C in English & Maths - Caedmon College overall 59%, ex-Eskdale pupils 62%. Proving Eskdale pupils achieve just as well (or better) as pupils from CCW. • Eskdale teachers have the desire and dedication to put their all into the 14-16 curriculum and achieve excellent results. Teachers have been working hard to prepare for the GCSE courses. Pupils too, desperate to prove Eskdale can produce fantastic GCSE results. They should be given the chance to do this. Much of Ofsted inspection and a school's 'worth' is based on data driven measurable results. There is no longer KS3 SATS in year 9 and Eskdale do not have GCSE results to be measured on. If they had the chance to do this, we'd see just how fantastic the school is. • Much research shows that many schools that have merged/amalgamated (especially in North Yorkshire) have had a decline in standards. Most recently and closest to home the Graham and Raincliffe merge in Scarborough led to them going into special measures within 2 years! • In Filey there is only one secondary school, over recent years standards have dropped as no competition. They were in special measures and have now been taken out of the Local Authority control and converted into an academy.

4. COMMUNITY • Large open space (tennis courts/large playing fields and playground)for pupils (and locals) to enjoy benefits of fresh air and exercise. • Local and good links with community (eg. Sainsburys opposite work closely in projects with Eskdale) • Building strong relationships with each other and within the community • Has community woven into it. The following groups use the site at various times throughout the year, some every week, some on occasional basis): ABRSM Music Examinations, Fishburn Park football clubs 1st and 2nd teams, Fishburn Park kids football, Fylingdales, Lealholm and Whitby Rugby club football teams, Fylingdales netball, methodist church group, motorhome rallies, ONOMY(young church group), Whitby Music Centre, Tennis Club, Ultimate Soccer, Whitby Christian Fellowship, Whitby Ladies football, Whitby Company of Archers, Whitby Rugby Club, Young Farmers basketball) • Eskdale is not just a school but a centre for East side community of Whitby • Good relationships with primary feeder schools (especially East Whitby, over the road and Hawsker who use facilities such as food tech room)

5. FUTURE PROVISION • Pupil Numbers set to increase • Windfarm – more jobs, more families, more pupils. • Potash - more jobs, more families, more pupils • More housing to be built in the town, the children from these will need schooling

6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS • Secondary pupil numbers set to increase over next 10-15 years (predicted 25/26 1647) Eskdale is needed. • Plans to build more family housing in Whitby will mean more school places needed. Much of this will be close to Eskdale and in prime feeder territory • Sound business plan for 11-16 • There are plenty of towns of similar size and similar pupil numbers to Whitby that support 2 (or even 3) secondary schools, why can't our town?

7. SPECIAL NEEDS • Eskdale has always been highly regarded in terms of catering extremely well for SEN pupils. This is down to their caring ethos, small size and provisions they have put in place to deal with particular needs and accessibility. 8. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT • Strong parental involvement (Excellent PTA and regular termly events from bingo to Summer Fair) 9. SIZE • Small school ensures excellent pupil/teacher relationships • Helps pupils to feel safe. One small school is better for many pupils rather than a large school on split sites in terms of them 'feeling at home' and well prepared for learning. Especially important for SEN pupils. • A smooth transition for year 6 pupils, especially those from very small feeder schools in surrounding rural areas, for whom a small school feels safer and more secure • 10. INFRASTRUCTURE/PRACTICALITIES • One safe site (no time wasted travelling between sites for pupils or staff) • As all teachers are on one site at Eskdale, all of the time, it is easy for pupils to find them at break time, before and after school to tell them anything they need to, go over homework, seek support etc. • Accessible (Good safe access for buses dropping off and picking up) • What impact will there be on highways and roads around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? • What impact will there be on parking around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? • Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger, in terms of practicalities and organisation how will all the pupils be 'housed' if they amalgamate and are split over 3 sites for at least next year, then on to 2 the year after. This chaotic approach will surely have a detrimental effect on all pupils over the next few years. • Have they the space to accommodate everyone safely especially with numbers due to increase in coming years? • Is it short sited of NYCC to even consider closing a school when numbers are set to increase. If Eskdale does go, in 10 years time much of the teaching could end up happening in cabins/temporary classrooms at Caedmon College sites? Surely it is a better way forward to build on the investment NYCC has made to Eskdale School site over last few years and let it carry out the wish to carry on as an 11-16 establishment? • If both schools were to continue to co-exist in such a manner they would still be average size for North Yorkshire.

<p>Children should have choice of which school they should go to in Whitby. Job losses at Eskdale Teachers, catering staff, cleaners, teaching assistants. Children walking to and from school with so much traffic about. Eskdale School need not be replaced by housing just be left as 11 -16 year olds. Choice is what they need. Not cash to build houses.</p>
<p>I don't wish to see the closure of Eskdale School as the education in Whitby will be severley compromised.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the amalgamation on Eskdale and Caedmon school. It is my opinion that XX's argument that an amalgamated school would drive up teaching standards is wrong. Teachers can often feel disillusioned with larger schools. I have worked in four schools of other 1400 students and 3 schools of 300 - 500 students and I can assure you that in my experience students from smaller schools are better adjusted and active members of the community, which is of course one of the government's latest ideas. I consider XX's recommendations to be very shortsighted.</p>
<p>No text supplied x 11</p>
<p>I object on the grounds that it will reduce choice in Whitby and create a less caring environment. Rural children can get lost in a bigger school. The argument that Eskdale takes money from the Sixth form is like saying any school takes money from any other school. For example "Those big inner city schools with all their money take away money from 'us'."</p>
<p>Having taught at Eskdale School for 14 years and having also taught a 2 differnet 11-16 schools, one in Redcar Cleveland one in Greater Manchester I can safely say that both staff and children thrive and benefit a lot from being taught in a smaller school. I also question the assumption that a larger school would attract a higher quality of teacher. I can honestly state that I have witnessed the most innovative inspirational and dedicated teachers I have ever worked with in my teaching career at Eskdale. Both of my children went at Caedmon College when it was still 11-14. They had a brilliant there. Joined music and sports activities and got on well with all their teachers. Both of them felt anonymous at W.C.C. They both stopped doing sport due to lack of encouragement or 'not being good enough' to make the teams. They said that their # Head of Year never got to know them and felt they were a 'number' in an Exam factory. Staff feel they are being listened to and their opinions are valued in a smaller school. In both of the large schools I taught in I also felt anonymous and unappreciated. At Eskdale School every child is valued equally and any pastoral concerns are picked up immediately by staff. Our pupils feel safe and valued. I know from experience as a parent, a teacher and a pupil (I went to a big school) that working in a big school is not an advantage.</p>
<p>I do not agree with the merger in its current state. I believe it is being rushed and is not in the best interests of the pupils, parents, or staff of Eskdale School. As a current member of staff at Eskdale, the thought of a split site, even if temporary, fills me with dread. I will always strive to do my job to the beat of my ability, however the travel time between sites and impact it will have on my teaching is a huge issue. I honestly think Whitby would benefit from two 11-16 schools providing a variety of not just subjects but topics. The GCSE I was planning to do at Eskdale is totally different from the one they offer at CCW. I think that choice is vital. Unfortunately I think the decision to close Eskdale is already made and, if so, I will still work my socks off to make the new school the best it can be. However, if this is to be done properly, why push for the changes to be rushed through for September 2016? I think this will only benefit CCW from having to face an Ofsted inspection. Give the two schools the necessary time to plan for these changes properly. Allow the staff to talk, swap ideas, plan, get used to each other, before making the change. What's wrong with keeping everything as is until Sept 2017?</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposed amalgamation. I disagree as the parent of a child due to be educated in Whitby as she leaves her small village school. I disagree as a teacher with a vast amount of experience [20 years] and currently recognise the strengths of both schools and their differences and I think it would be foolish and disruptive to push this move through. I disagree because so far we have had presentations and there is no opportunity for parents teachers pupils etc to state alternatives to the proposal. I believe the disruption to the current pupils of both schools will be not just unsettling but will damage their chances of success at GCSE. Children do not cope with so much change and I believe the movement of all these children between sites is a safeguarding issue. I believe that the Governors at Eskdake have been bullied into initially agreeing to these plans. Whitby needs two 11-16 schools that cater for quite different groups of pupils. If any site should be expanded it should be Eskdale as it has more land and room for expansion. I am not against one Super Head overseeing two sites but believe the ethos of each site should be allowed to be unique. I think Eskdale has the capacity to become an Arts and Sports College I do not know what the strengths are at The College. I am confident that with some investment into resources Eskdale will achieve above national average results at GCSE. My own year 9 cohort of musicians are on line for very high grades as their end of year levels are way above the average as they were last year. Ofsted was clearly impressed with the Arts in the November inspection and we were told they would not be interested in inspecting them again as they were outstanding. Other areas also received excellent verbal praise from the lead inspector but these were only touched upon briefly in their feedback.</p>

<p>Leadership requires improvement so change it. Bring in new management and see the school thrive again. These children are happy and keen to learn...their behaviour is classed as good by ofsted as they have forged excellent relations with their teachers. Parental view on happiness with the school is way above the national average. Take that away from those parents and they will never forgive these life changing decisions that are being rushed through by NYCC and leadership at the College. As parents, staff, pupils have quite clearly demonstrated in their thousands we do not want these changes to be rushed through without purposeful, fair, independent consultation. If my opportunity to be consulted has been the two meetings at the Spa then I have not been consulted as I sat there with my hand up for an hour. When are the staff at both schools going to get the chance to voice their opinions and concerns or new ideas without being intimidated by senior management watching their every move! I am outraged by this whole shambolic process as are all the staff at my school. Stop this in its tracks before the untold damage is inflicted on so many young learners. Invest in your sixth form ..add it onto Eskdale where there is plenty land. Draw on the expertise from both schools to staff the new sixth form because the expertise is there. Be brave enough to let Eskdale prove it can steer children towards success at keystone 4. As a teacher that has received many outstanding reports from various inspection teams I do know that Eskdale has a unique ethos and it is a safe nurturing environment. It needs resources poured into it not the demolition men coming in to sell it off.</p>
<p>i think its a bad idea because its a school of many memories so deal with it fam</p>
<p>I disagree with the proposal for amalgamation. By closing Eskdale you are leaving children in Whitby and the surrounding area with no choice, no freedom, there will only be one school that you have to go to like it or not. Your ridiculous proposal shouldn't be call a proposal at all as it is just another way for you to make more money to put into your pockets, if you close the school then it just shows your true views on the opinions of the people of Whitby, you fastest, overly right winged selfish ignorant excuse for a council.</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. I am a former pupil of Caedmon College and hated it. I was bullied all through year seven by people from my village. Without help from teachers they eventually stopped. However around July time one girl from my village started making people ignore me or just stop talking to me for no reason. This meant that nearly the whole school had stopped talking to me. I made the decision to come to Eskdale on my own and I have enjoyed coming to school everyday. I have made amazing friends that have stood by me through everything I have been through. When I heard about the plan to combine the two schools I was devastated I actually cried. I have loved Eskdale it is like a second home to me. Caedmon College was one of the worst places I had ever been and now I have to go back. What is the point of me going back to the place I felt miserable at? I used to drag my heels when going to the bus stop now I walk happily. I participated in the fight to save Eskdale school music video and sang at the consultation meeting on Tuesday and while we were singing XX came in with some sixth form girls , walked in front of everybody moved all of mine and my friends stuff out of the way and sat in our seats. Even then he played on his phone all the way through. He didn't even clap when we had finished. He did move my friend's mum told him to move. If this amalgamation goes ahead it will just end up in disaster and disturb a lot of pupils from their learning. It is the worst idea I have ever heard and am strongly against the proposal. My parents will not be sending me back to that school and many of my friends will not be attending therefore it is a pointless decision if not many people are going to attend. It is also splitting friends up such as me and my friend group. So let me ask a question. What is the point of amalgamating the schools if hundreds are against it? It will not be better for learning and will just be a terrible mistake. So what is the point of amalgamating the schools together?</p>
<p>I wholeheartedly disagree with the amalgamation between Eskdale and Caedmon. Eskdale should be allowed to become an 11-16 as it has always wanted and within 2 years will have a surplus budget. If one of the Caedmon sites is closed they too should have a surplus budget along with enough money to fund the 6th form which seems to be their main agenda. As stated in the Whitby Gazette, Norton and Malton have smaller 6th forms than Whitby. Perhaps it's the management at Caedmon who cannot direct funding to the correct areas. Parents would be happier knowing that KS4 monies are not funding 6th form courses as is happening at Caedmon. This of course would not happen at Eskdale. Parents choose Eskdale for many reasons. Don't let that choice be lost.</p>
<p>I do not agree with this proposal to amalgamate the schools. I have taught at various schools across the country and I have never found such a love of teaching and learning as there is at Eskdale. This HAS to be at the heart of any school which is driving forwards to secure the future of our young people. My teaching has always been judged highly internally and consistently so by externally inspectors and I take my career very seriously. That said, my priority is giving pupils the best opportunities as I am able to in order to facilitate progress at all levels. The small community of Eskdale thrives on these opportunities, which, from my wide experience, just is not possible on the same personalised level in a larger school. I think that some of the consultation has been misleading in that it has been said and written in the public domain that teaching staff at Eskdale are not equipped to teach at a higher level than KS3. Eskdale is the first school I have taught in which does not teach higher than KS3. Secondary teachers are trained to teach to A2. I have had high success rates teaching GCSE and AS/A2 in more than one subject, in recent years too. All staff have prepared themselves for the new GCSEs, which is something every school needs to do, not just Eskdale. I know from personal experience that the two schools are completely different and should be allowed to remain as separate establishments thus offering choice for pupils, parents and staff. I am concerned that other alternatives have not been explored in this</p>

consultation. Many staff from the schools do share practice. I personally have shared much of my work with my colleagues with CCW and am happy to continue to do so as a committed professional. If this process were to be slowed down, we could surely look to making this practice more formalised and ensure that Eskdale is a feeder school for the 6th form at CCW. The animosity in the community, which I also happen to live in, has been caused by this proposal. Members of NYCC who fronted the consultation meetings did not appear to listen objectively to the questions asked but rather refocussed their answers back to their preferred option. This has fuelled unpleasant debate and argument in the community which is incredibly unsettling for the children who get one opportunity to go through school seamlessly. If Eskdale was given the opportunity to deliver GCSEs then OfSTED would have a realistic measure with which to measure pupil progress. With KS3 data only this is not concrete enough and therefore the school is not being measured with equality and parity. I believe that the children who have chosen to go to Eskdale, and the staff who have chosen to teach there, deserve the chance to prove their success, as has been evident when some GCSEs have been taken early in previous years.

To amalgamate a school with one, which a year ago went through an amalgamation, is irresponsible of the council because it does not have the evidence that the first amalgamation was successful. There is significant evidence from other schools in the county where amalgamations have resulted in the loss of staff expertise and insufficient learning outcomes for pupils. The site that is proposed to accommodate the 11-16 provision is very small when compared to the other two sites available and gives no room for further development with little room for the current development proposed which would result in a poor learning environment for the majority of the children attending CCW with little areas for play. It will also provide a poor work environment for staff with limited parking and staff room facilities which is currently an issue now so the result after the amalgamation will be significant. The council also need to take in to consideration the impact the extra traffic will have on the CCW sites and around them, putting the safety of the children attending the school at risk. With the up and coming development of the potash industry in the Whitby area this pressure on the roads running straight outside the CCW sites will increase considerably and most likely result in an accident involving young people's lives. The ethos of a small school is also at risk and with Ofsted framework stating that confident pupils who are in a safe environment are successful, it is something you would be losing completely in Whitby if you were to make a giant school. The ethos at Eskdale School is a credit to the education system and results in well-rounded and ambitious young people and to put this at risk unnecessarily is irresponsible of the council and gives the impression that all they care about is saving money not young people's wellbeing and success. Small schools like Eskdale are viable and prove to work such as places like Malton. The catchment area for Whitby is large and reaches further than the North Yorkshire border in to Cleveland where many parents (myself included) opt to send their children to Eskdale because of its ethos and holistic approach to teaching. The catchment area is also large enough to warrant choice and can easily support two secondary schools just like Malton and Norton do. These two examples also maintain small sixth forms which are smaller than that of Whitby and which all pupils in Whitby would attend regardless of the amalgamation. If the reason to amalgamate is to maintain a sixth form this is extremely misleading because the problems facing the sixth form provision will not change and need to be addressed under a different agenda. Finally in my opinion with the announcement that all schools will be Academies by 2022 I don't understand why the council are pushing/rushing through the amalgamation that is causing such great upset in Whitby and the surrounding areas. Would it not be in the council's best interest to allow Eskdale to form its own alliances and become an Academy when the time comes in the very near future rather than forcing a change and upheaval in Whitby education for the next two years for there to be little establishment of success before the giant and only secondary school establishment becomes an Academy involving more unrest and upheaval in the Whitby Secondary education system. Anyone with an understanding of this will know that standards will drop dramatically over the next few years before they start to pick up again and that is only if amalgamation and conversion to Academy status runs smoothly. With that in mind if you proceed with this amalgamation I feel and so do many other educational professionals that the success of all young adults in Whitby and the surrounding areas is being put at jeopardy.

I am against the merger for the following reasons: (1) CHOICE is hugely important for children at age 11. Many have come from tiny primary schools, some need a fresh start away from a particular cohort, others require a school structure and ethos which suits their needs, and some seek the exemplary inclusivity which Eskdale provides for those with complex needs. One larger school cannot provide adequately for all this. On choosing to go elsewhere, children in Whitby - at 11 years old - are faced with a long, dangerous journey twice a day and their parents are faced with the transport costs. This is not true choice. What happens when children are excluded from this one larger school? Will NYCC pay to transport them to the 'next nearest' school, or will they all end up in the same 'sink' Outreach Centre - out of sight, out of mind? Or will staff see this situation for what it is and end up avoiding exclusion at all costs (ie the cost of the 'great education' XX says he wants for all children in Whitby). XX stated that a single, larger school would increase choice for all children as it would be able to offer a broader curriculum. Currently the favouring of the EBacc qualification by CCW is squeezing out the Arts subjects....how is this increasing choice for those creative students who have traditionally excelled in Whitby schools? (2) COMMUNITY is a much overlooked issue today and yet Eskdale School's role in the community of the East Side of Whitby is historic, intrinsic and vital for this community's wellbeing. The quality of relationships built up over decades between staff, parents and students is extremely rare. Coupled with this, the partnership which exists between Eskdale and East Whitby CP School - across the road - has enabled the extremely successful transfer into secondary education of many children who could easily fail at this transition due to their home background, behavioural difficulties or SEND profile. The wider community of Whitby also benefit hugely from the plethora of groups who use the Eskdale site for

football/tennis coaching, archery, church activities etc and who would struggle to find alternate premises which fulfil their need. A great concern connected with the proposed use of Normanby and Scoresby sites for ALL Whitby's children is the disruption this would cause - to the town's traffic, as well as educational disruption due to operating on a split site. With impending expansion of the town - new housing and new industry planned - this will both increase disruption further AND increase the need for school places. (3) Eskdale is NOT A FAILING SCHOOL! Ofsted in 2015 stated that the school was making progress in the areas it needed to, and just needed more time for consolidation of these improvements. There was no mention in the report of any concerns over staff delivering GCSE courses effectively. To suggest - as it has been - that staff would not be able to teach to GCSE is patronising in the extreme! They are indeed ALL qualified to do so, many have previously taught to this level and some of these very recently. Some staff have moderated or marked for exam boards. ALL schools are undergoing retraining for the complete overhaul of GCSE subjects from September 2016. (4) ESKDALE IS A GROWING SCHOOL WHICH IS FINANCIALLY VIABLE and which had made plans to remain so on conversion to 11-16 status. The 'excess places' argument appears to be based on fictitious numbers which don't necessarily relate to anything 'on the ground'. A recent governor-requested PAN of 110 over 5 year groups puts the future Eskdale total at 550. This reflects the approximate numbers currently choosing Eskdale each year, and was projected in the business plan to show financial viability. This was not questioned at the point when Eskdale's plans for 11-16 status were going ahead. Eskdale has consistently increased its roll over the last few years, with a significant number of students choosing to come from outside the traditional catchment area - often choosing Eskdale over CCW. Indeed the school uses its own minibus to transport some of these children where they are not eligible for free transport. It has also continued to attract new students since the news of its threatened closure has been known! Fully informed parents and students have still chosen Eskdale - coming both from outside the area, and from CCW! (5) THE SIXTH FORM ISSUE SHOULD BE DEALT WITH SEPARATELY. When it is suggested that Eskdale be closed, in order it seems to 'prop up' CCW's failing sixth form....this just doesn't stack up. If a comparison is made between the numbers choosing Eskdale versus the numbers choosing CCW's sixth form for example....? When the merger between Caedmon and WCC was planned, did a business plan address the issue of the sixth form? How was it planned to maintain it? This is an internal issue for CCW, which cannot be allowed to be solved by disrupting 11-16 education for the town. If fewer students are choosing to remain in Whitby for post-16 education then the root causes should be investigated. I would suggest that a consistent, basic offer at post-16 would cater for some of these students who wish to remain in Whitby. I would also suggest that seeking to go elsewhere at 16+ is acceptable as a search for specialisms, a bid for more independence and an exploration of life outside Whitby. It is not acceptable to expect 11 year olds to have to do the same. With one 11-16 school and one 11-19 in Whitby there would be the possibility of offering breadth of curriculum with each school specialising in different areas for GCSE. The sixth form could continue as a basic offer and if in the future it was found that the demand for this just wasn't there, then at least we wouldn't have sacrificed Eskdale School in the process! These two schools could still operate on two sites, with the third being sold off. Keep Eskdale on the east side and sell off one of the other sites instead. (6) I have CONCERNS OVER PROCEDURE and the way NYCC have treated the people of Whitby during the announcement of their proposal and throughout this consultation period. When the proposal was initially announced to Eskdale staff, this was done by their governors with no NYCC presence to explain the thinking behind it. There was then no NYCC response/explanation/presence in the town to make their intentions clear until the public meetings in March. This allowed much confusion for staff, parents and students of both schools, as well as Y6 students and their parents. This attitude showed a huge disregard for the people that these plans were going to affect. This is not an example of NYCC 'working with' the town, or being in 'listening mode' - despite what XX claims.... Despite discouraging teaching staff from attending the two public meetings because they would be given their own 'staff only' version, this has not happened and Eskdale staff have not been given the chance to properly engage with NYCC in the consultation. This, on top of being warned by HR not to take part in the campaign group debate about the school's future for fear of what may happen to their jobs if the merger goes ahead. The staff of Eskdale have been allowed NO VOICE whatsoever in this process - a gross denial of the right to free speech and contrary to the nature of a 'consultation' - and these are the same people who will be expected to carry out and make work the council's ill-conceived plans Again, NYCC showing huge disregard to the people involved! The shadow governing body (which appears to have been set up very secretly and with little or no reference to the people, ie staff, who will have to make plans work) was promised an independent chair. There is however, NO independent chair of this committee! Apparently one could not be found. This would surely call into question any decisions made by them? The 'final decision' date in June falls after the resignation date for teaching staff. This means that if the merger were to go ahead and staff did not wish to work at the new enlarged school in Whitby, they have been denied the opportunity to go elsewhere and are essentially being forced to work in a school they have not chosen to work in. This will have a great negative effect on morale in a newly merged school. Finally, XX claimed that he wanted an "open and constructive" dialogue during the consultation period and that NYCC are in "listening mode". If this is truly the case, he surely cannot ignore the sensible views, arguments and alternative suggestions which are being sent his way. He and his council indeed need more convincing arguments FOR their proposal as every one they have attempted to use has been countered effectively. XX maintains his "only agenda is a great education". In that case, I ask that he take time to properly consider all possible solutions and not just railroad Whitby into a scenario which won't provide this, and which the people of Whitby don't want.

Eskdale is a very special, caring and unique school that is highly valued by the members of the community that it serves. As Assistant Headteacher at the school, with responsibility for the personal, social and emotional development of the pupils in our care, I am very proud of the safe and nurturing environment we provide for our pupils and even more proud of the wonderful young people with whom it has been my privilege to work over the last fifteen years. The support that the school enjoys from the community, the pupils and their parents cannot be underestimated and has been made clear very eloquently; not least in the short film that pupils produced and presented to XX, XX and other members of the panel at the public consultation in Whitby. There are many arguments for opposing the proposed closure of Eskdale School its amalgamation with Caedmon College Whitby and these have, I am sure, been made repeatedly and clearly by the many stakeholders of the school throughout the consultation period. To my mind, however, all of the arguments can be encapsulated in a simple question: "Is Eskdale School worth saving?" The answer to this question from the community that we serve is a very clear and resounding "Yes". It is therefore surely the responsibility of NYCC to work with the governors of Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby to explore innovative ways forward that will simultaneously lead to improved outcomes for young people in the Whitby area, whilst at the same time preserving the unique ethos and nature of Eskdale School. The proposed amalgamation of the two schools in Whitby can guarantee neither of these outcomes and as such the proposal needs to be abandoned and alternative proposals need to be made that respect the views of all stakeholders. Both of Eskdale's most recent OFSTED reports highlight areas in which the school needs to improve. As Assistant Headteacher I am fully aware of the work we need to do and am confident that we are well on our way to addressing these issues. Both reports also accentuate the many positives about the nature of the school community: "The school has a very caring ethos. Staff, pupils and parents value this. As a result, excellent relationships and good behaviour are the norm and pupils feel safe. " "The curriculum prepares pupils well for life in modern Britain and provides for their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively." "The school's work to promote pupils' personal development and welfare is good. Pupils are well looked after in this very caring school. Many parents made comments in response to Parent View about how happy, contented and settled their child was at the school. There was particular praise for the transition from primary school into Year 7 and the pastoral care provided for pupils. As a result, pupils feel safe and exhibit self-confidence at school." This is surely a community worth preserving, investing in and supporting on its journey back to becoming an "outstanding" school. The number of families choosing Eskdale as a school for their children has increased not fallen over the period covered by the last two OFSTED inspections. Parents have faith in the school to deliver the best possible outcome for their children in a small school where they are known and cared for. This is not a failing school and parents know this. As such it deserves better than to be simply merged out of existence. An amalgamation would in effect mean that Eskdale and all it stands for would cease to exist. It is precisely because Eskdale is a small school that it can deliver the outcomes that parents and pupils value so much. This ethos could not possibly be successfully transferred to a school that would be five times the size of the current school. This has become abundantly clear in the plans already being made should the merger go ahead. If Eskdale is worth saving, there are clearly a number of difficult issues that need to be addressed to enable this to happen. Underpinning NYCC's proposal to amalgamate the two schools are some very real and understandable financial concerns. There is an issue of surplus places as well as the issue of post 16 education. Any alternative proposal for the future of education in Whitby has to tackle these issues and there has to be much closer collaboration between the schools. However, the solution cannot be simply to close Eskdale and thereby lose what is not just a highly valued part of the Whitby area community, but hopefully also an institution which NYCC would not wish to see disappear. I think I speak for many in summarising my response to the current proposal to amalgamate Eskdale and Caedmon College as follows: • Eskdale School is worth saving • The current proposal should be rejected and new proposals brought forward that guarantee Eskdale's future as part of a more collaborative approach to secondary education in Whitby. • Please do not ignore the wishes of a whole community

test

As a parent of one daughter currently in the 6th form at CCW and two other daughters who attend CCW I can honestly say that I have been more than happy with the education & care all my daughters received at CCW. All three attended Eskdale & transferred to CCW at the end of year 9 with no problems at all. However as a staff member at Eskdale for nearly 10 years I have experienced first hand the friendly, caring atmosphere at Eskdale that pupils at the end of year 6/beginning of year 7 need & deserve. I understand that finances must play a part but I passionately believe that children in Whitby and the surrounding villages, at the end of year 6, deserve and need a choice. I don't think travelling 20 miles over the moors is an option I am not in favour of the proposed amalgamation.

I am both a staff member and Parent of Eskdale School and I am 100% opposed to the amalgamation proposal. I have worked at Eskdale School for 6 years and also worked at previously named "Whitby Community College" therefore I am able to make an informed decision about my child's education and what is best for the students of the Whitby area. I can assure you I had no intention to send my child to CCW! Eskdale has a very special and unique ethos which "you" claim would be maintained by the amalgamation, I don't believe this is at all possible from my previous experience of WCC and therefore Eskdale as we know and love it would be lost forever. Your proposal talks about surplus places and quality education, Eskdale was well on its way to becoming an 11-16 school "which it still is on paper!" and would therefore significantly

reduce the surplus places and with GCSE results could prove pupil progress which would be one more step to a good/outstanding school. If financially viable schools is your concern then why cant Eskdale be left open to achieve its potential as an "improving school" and reduce CCW to one site, therefore reducing costs and still having a plot to sell and recoup the costs of extending one of CCW's bases? Pupils have and will always choose for one reason or another to switch from either one school to the other, therefore enabling pupils and parents to make necessary changes to their education. Whitby is Geographically unique and therefore if the proposal goes ahead the closest school in any one direction is over 20 miles away! I am also deeply concerned about safeguarding issues at CCW. There seems to be a lot of speculation in the media at present time that supports a lot evidence to the fact, I hope that NYCC are going to investigate these as a matter of urgency as this is a massive safeguarding issue! I regularly visit both CCW sites to share ideas and good practice with others within a similar department/job role, this allows good practice of the schools but also has allowed me to see the difference between student/staff behaviour and I can honestly say that I am not impressed by this at CCW. I would not be happy for my child to attend CCW or "Whitby School" as your proposal states due to the issues that I have heard and personally seen. Therefore this means that my child will have to travel in excessive of 20 miles across the North Yorkshire Moors and all weathers which will have other detrimental affects on an every school day. If this proposal goes ahead their will be many other students/families that may have no option but to send their children to the new proposed school. I believe that this will have an enormous impact on student well being and lead to depression, anxiety and absences which would have a dramatic affect on education in Whitby. As a staff member we were invited to attend a staff consultation hosted by a representative from NYCC's HR dept. With all due respect to her she was sent to be the public front of NYCC to bring guidance to us as staff members. She was not in a position to answer 80% of the questions that she was asked by staff and simply said that she would find out and respond to us. No such response has been made to me and I am therefore having to fill in this response without all the the facts and details that I should be privy too! This HR consultation was a complete waste of my time and left me with more questions than answers. One such question that has been constantly ignored by all concerned is why it seems this amalgamation is being rushed through. The timings of the proposed amalgamation are beyond ridiculous and at a time of year when year 6 are making their decisions of secondary education. If the final decision is not to be made until June then how do you expect there to be enough time to organise your proposed plan by September 2016! This entire proposal has so many unanswered questions/problems that have not been fully addressed that The whole plan needs to be scrapped and an independent review of Whitby's education system needs to implemented. **SAVE ESKDALE SCHOOL!!!!!!!!!!!!**

I do not agree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School with Caedmon College. Eskdale School is a thriving, caring school with a great future if it is given the chance. In its latest OFSTED report there were clear areas for improvement, these have been robustly tackled, we are now seeing progress in areas identified and we are awaiting an HMI visit to confirm that we are moving in the right direction. As the head teacher of Eskdale School, I have always believed that moving the school to 11-16 was a crucial part of our school improvement journey. It would allow us to have externally validated GCSE results, and a larger workforce with heads of department to provide extra challenge. We would be judged at OFSTED in the same way as almost every other secondary school in England. The essential nature of the school would not be changed; Eskdale would still be small enough to provide the care that is so valued by students, parents and staff but large enough to be viable – our business case showed that we were sound financially once the differences over lagged funding was factored in. The Local Authority has never seen beyond facts and figures, it is wedded to the idea of one large secondary school in Whitby. The options appraisal did not look in detail at the position of Eskdale as 11-16 and Caedmon College as 11-19. In the consultation meeting much was made of an amalgamated school being able to offer a broad and balanced curriculum, at Eskdale we offer all the traditional subjects and were planning to offer similar GCSEs as most other secondary schools. Indeed the Government drive on EBacc subjects and Progress 8 measures is already restricting choice for young people. Our extra curricular offer for a small school is remarkable -please click on the links below to take you to two of our school magazines that show many of the activities that demonstrate our commitment to developing the whole child. <http://eskdale-school.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/NEWSLETTER-3.pdf> <http://eskdale-school.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/NEWSLETTER-2.pdf> Eskdale is a popular school, it has always had more students than would be expected from the feeder school numbers and nearly all of the primary schools have sent some Year 6 students to us. Our surveys of parents have been overwhelmingly positive and many write that their child had settled better than expected into Year 7. Our parents value the quick response to problems and will often call into school and be able to speak with an appropriate member of staff straightaway. This would not be possible in a larger school or one with a different ethos of dealing with students and parents. Our students see themselves clearly as a part of the school, valuing the personal touch and as shown by the recent video, are very committed to preserving the school. There is tremendous support for Eskdale School to be an 11-16 school and Caedmon College to remain an 11-19 school. This is not just from Eskdale parents. The surplus places could be reduced by alterations to the current Normanby site and sale of the old Caedmon site with grounds retained for use of Caedmon College students. Eskdale would require some upgrading of the current facilities, but this would amount to less than the improvements that would be required to bring about the necessary changes if all 11-16 students were to be housed on the current Normanby site and the Caedmon site is to be upgraded to make a 6th form centre. The Eskdale site provides a valuable community amenity with many groups using the venue. This would be a loss to the eastern side of town. Over the last two years the school has conducted surveys to assess support for initially becoming an academy with the intention of changing the age range to 11-16, and secondly for changing to 11-16 within the Local

Authority. Both of these consultations had large responses - hundreds more than the Local Authority one for the merger of Caedmon School with Whitby Community College. The responses were overwhelmingly positive, and a parental survey to gauge support for Eskdale moving to 11-16 reached almost two thousand signatures in a few weeks. These surveys reinforce the tremendous public support for Eskdale. Questions need to be asked as to why parents are talking about sending their children at least 20 miles to a different school and not to the proposed new school, and also why many are seeking to home school their children. If this goes forward the education and extra experiences that the new school could offer is at risk due to decreased funding. One large school removes choice for parents, the next nearest school is over twenty miles away. For those not attending secondary education in Whitby, it would mean that taking part in activities after school whether at school or in the local community becomes much harder, the school day is extended for young children by up to 2 hours and their school friends are not their local friends. There will also be a knock on effect if these young people re-enter the education system in Whitby once the academic year is up and running, achieving the required progress measures will be harder if some young people are not in education for a significant time. For officials to dismiss these concerns saying that this is down to parental choice glosses over the fact that the local authority are proposing to remove choice at a local level. There is a lot of evidence from America that small schools provide a better educational experience. We have a lot of feeder schools, some only have one or two students in year 6 and they find joining a school of three hundred daunting, this will be a much harder task in a school of over one thousand students. At Eskdale, I know all the students names and have talked to many of their parents. The pastoral team are responsible for ensuring that students are making progress and we really understand that happy children make the best learners. We may not always get it right but we always try our best to ensure that we talk to each young person who has a problem. We try to understand what we can do together to make it better for them in school. We are flexible and understand that one size does not fit all. We encourage our young people to learn to self regulate, make positive choices, learn from mistakes, show respect and take responsibility for themselves. It has been said that if Eskdale moves to 11-16 then the sixth form will have to close. This is not the desire of Eskdale School, and many of our students would go there increasing numbers in a way that other schools would not benefit from. All sixth forms are under threat from funding issues, and Caedmon College has one of the larger school sixth forms in North Yorkshire. The second OFSTED judgement has been used against Eskdale and it is right and proper that this is challenged. The OFSTED report recognised the improvements since the previous inspection and if Eskdale remains open and moves through to 11-16 it will be able to use this as continued school improvement, XX said that it was a big ask, the amalgamation is an even bigger ask in my view. Caedmon College has been amalgamated two years and to take on another influx of students is challenging especially in the short time frame set out by the Local Authority. The state of flux over the next few years will potentially disrupt the education of a large proportion of the students in Whitby. I have spoken to several OFSTED inspectors over the last two years and not one of them has suggested to me that moving to 11-16 was wrong. If this amalgamation goes ahead, we face losing something that is valued and is improving; I fear that the ethos of Eskdale will be lost, students will be lost to Whitby and valuable staff will move elsewhere. If this amalgamation does not go ahead there will be testing times for Caedmon College as it adjusts to a smaller budget and for Eskdale School as we continue the relentless drive for school improvement. However I know that as the headteacher of Eskdale school I will have committed staff, students and parents, not resentful ones, and that will make all the difference.

I am against the planned amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon college. As a staff member of Eskdale school I am outraged at the way the staff and student have been informed of the plans for amalgamation. As staff we were told we would be given all the relevant information and given a chance to ask questions as how it would effect us. Our meeting was after the public meeting with no questions been answered as the people from HR didn't know the answers? Complete waste of time. We were originally told our jobs were safe until at least 2017(sept) but at the latest meeting were told restructuring could be as early as Jan 17 (after a 3month consultation)why have Eskdale continually been used as the scape route for the LEA? Of stead improvements had been made and you only have to look at the parent comments and % to see how much Eskdale is needed in our community. It's not just a school were a family the children feel safe and enjoy the surrounding they are in. choice is needed so that every child can feel safe be it Eskdale or Caedmon. There is no better or worse school both have worked endlessly to provide the needs for their students one size does not fit all! What transport will be provided the the poor year 7 some just turned 11 years old to travel to the opposite side of town to attend school,the roads are already jammed up with parents dropping and picking kids up from school at CcWhitby (both sites) just recently a freind of my daughters has a collision with a car while using the crossing controls at new bridge (resulting in a broken arm) . I also worry about where the children will play? There are no playgrounds at the Caedmon sites. If you come to Eskdale the students are always playing basket ball and football at break and lunch. Eskdale also provide lots of port unities for children to develope going on school visits recently Iceland, London,bewerley park, Wimbledon, Germany naming just a few. Pleas think long and hard when you make your final decision surely 2 school 11-16 that's have happy content learning opportunities would be better than one large school .

Having a choice is a moral right ,for both children and parents . Choice is based on lots of reasons , preferences in schools, logistics of school runs , where siblings or friends are . Also I appreciate there will always be issues no matter which school our children attend but some schools have known issues where we as parents would not be in our right minds to send our pride and joys into a school where there are known issues that seem to be constant and well known about the community .i appreciate schools have issues and I'm sure in many cases they get dressed but if a child attends only one school and safety becomes an issue and let's say for argument reasons the same issue persist we as parents have less avenues to explore to try and remove our children from known issues . We have our daughter to move to high school in September and our other daughter in a few more years . My wife also asked several questions around the decision getting completely different responses from the powers that be in making the decisions . Hence a simple question with different answers causes serious doubts from the start .hardly a great start . I doubt for one minute all of these observations / suggestions will be read , so in my unprofessional but honest appinion I think and assume there is more to this than meats the eye . We are in touch with a lot of people that are in the teaching profession and by the sounds of things , things have been manipulated to suit the decision as there was No true reason to try or to close the school . All about the money , all about the politics , and not about the true feelings , wellbeing , education & choice for us as parents with children in this area . If we could afford private education we would do this in a heart beat than send our children to another school rather than Caedmon. I'm sure and hope you (the powers that be) have done their homework , I'm not a professional on this issue and maybe speaking out of term but I fear there are many areas that have Not been really thought over ..I tell you now and quote me if I'm wrong (there will be serious issues causing many to loose faith if this decision goes ahead) many voices will be heard screaming " I told you so "...

Responses made by other interested parties	Response from
FROM CONVERSATIONS with youngsters who attend Eskdale, or who are about to go up to secondary school, I gather they are very upset about having to leave a small school and go to such a huge school. If the school land is sold off for housing there will be more children moving to Whitby, and before we know it we will need to build another secondary school. It is important to think of the children's needs , and not just money. I have grandchildren attending a village primary school and I know that their parents' preferred choice would be Eskdale. Please don't close it - listen to the arguments.	Church member
This could have a hugely detrimental effect on the standard of education and quality of life of people in the Whitby area, particularly youngsters.	Committee member of community group
Dear sirs i am writing to you as a committee member of Fishburn Park Football Club to express my concerns regarding the proposed closure of Eskdale School , as our club use the schools changing facilities . We are a club formed in 1947 who run two senior sides a ladies team and six junior teams all of whom use Eskdale school , we have a twenty five year lease on land adjacent to Eskdale school which we lease from Yorkshire Water , this land was turned into a football pitch by a lot of hard work from the people of this club . The closure of Eskdale would not only threaten the future of our club but numerous other organisations to which Eskdale provides a base .I look forward to hear from you to clarify of our predicament .	Committee member of community group
This seems an inappropriate decision that will reduce choice in Whitby. Closing Eskdale disrupts a school that was doing well. Too small schools competing encourages high standards. There are many reasons a student might benefit from a choice of school, without Eskdale students would have travel a long way to access a different school.	Concerned member of community
The whole idea of this amalgamation is totally detrimental to the education and well being of the pupils. Increased class sizes are bound to occur! Children in this town will have no choice whatsoever, basically being forced to attend Caedmon.	Concerned member of community
Children should have choice Caedmon College is not an outstanding school!	Concerned member of community
Without a full and comprehensive review of the Education Process in Whitby and District, it is impossible to reach a competent decision as to the future for young people at secondary level in our town. The current proposal is another makeshift measure predicated largely on finance. I am aware of a long standing request from W.T.C for such a review to be undertaken. I hope that the executive member responsible, XX is aware that the current proposal takes away any choice at 11, and forces pupils into a one for all system already displaying real cause for concern, as well as understanding that a comprehensive review is essential before any decision is taken which will determine the education future for generations. I do not agree that an amalgamation of Eskdale School with Caedmon College should go ahead.	Concerned member of community
Keep Eskdale School Open	Concerned member of community
This is an awful suggestion, and my opinion is that Eskdale school should remains open let it fulfil its ambition to become an 11-16 school.	Concerned member of community
We need to keep Eskdale School, parent have a choice of school in the Whitby area. Need to maintain a varied approach to education in the Whitby area. Eskdale site is used for various sporting activities for local people, who would have to travel a great distance to carry on these activities if the site was closed. Eskdale has a great record on working with children with special needs & providing a safe/happy school. So please keep this very special school open.	Concerned member of community
I disagree with the closure of Eskdale School as I believe small community schools are absolutely essential to providing a base and centre to the community. Amalgamation is one step closer to breaking communities and making education more corporate and faceless.	Concerned member of community
I disagree with this consultation for the following reasons. Firstly, Whitby pupils deserve a choice in their education and where issues exclude a pupil from one school, they deserve to be able to attend another without a 90minute journey each way. Parents also deserve to have a choice of education for their children and a one school offering in a town the size of Whitby is not enough. I believe that this consultation is being carried out financial reasons and dies not fully consider the needs of Whitby area children.	Concerned member of community

My main concern is that there will be no choice for the parents of secondary age students in Whitby, to have one school for a growing population seems madness. Not all children will thrive in a 'mega' school, in fact. I would agree that many children need a smaller more 'family feel' school. This is especially # of this area where many of the primary schools are very small and students have been used to split year groups etc. I oppose this amalgamation on many grounds but these concerns are paramount for me. I was a governor of a secondary school in Cheshire for 10 years & a classroom assistant for children with learning disabilities. I also have a son with Dyslexia.	Concerned member of community
Eskdale School needs to remain open in order to ensure that both parents and pupils in the Whitby are have a choice regarding secondary education.	Concerned member of community
I totally disagree with the proposed amalgamation of the two schools. The main reason being it will leave the children of Whitby no choice of school without travelling for over 20 miles. I firmly believe that a lot more children than anticipated will be educated out of town. Surely it would be better to have two 11 to 16 schools even if this means not having a sixth form in town, at least the children will be 16 years old not 11 and will be old enough to choose a sixth form which suits them and offers the subjects they want to learn to continue their education.	Concerned member of community
Do we need a 6th form. It is not good, no courses. Keep 2 11-16 schools. XX think again.	Concerned member of community
I do not agree with the proposal to merge Eskdale School with Caedmon. Both are good schools but very different from each other. That difference is needed to give children a choice of where they wish to learn. The proposals seem I'll thought out, perhaps in the rush to close Eskdale. They are seriously flawed. A few people seem intent on ripping the community apart as many of our young children will, if finances allow, be sent elsewhere to learn. Where there is no money to pay for travel our young people will be forced into the new school and will have to stay there whatever problems arise, they will have no choice to do anything else. The safety issues are a nightmare. Teachers late arrival to lessons a disgrace. I have friends with children at Eskdale, a partner who works at Eskdale and I know some of the pupils. I also know parents with younger children who will move heaven and earth not to send their children to the 'new' school should it be allowed to go ahead. I urge you to throw these proposals out and allow two 11-16 schools to exist in Whitby. The sixth form is unnecessary if something has to go let it be that. Much better that 16-18 year olds travel further afield than 11-16. Please reconsider. DO NOT CLOSE ESKDALE.	Concerned member of community
Please keep it open. 2 11-16 schools.	Concerned member of community
I do not agree with this proposal. The town does not want or need one big school. We need our smaller secondary schools. The headteachers run both schools differently and this helps with pupil/parent choice. One size does not fit all.	Concerned member of community
Class sizes will be too big where at Eskdale the children get more one to one help throughout their time here. Do not agree to closure.	Concerned member of community
I feel there will be no green land left and im concerned re hospital & fire cover is already inadequate. Do not agree to the closure.	Concerned member of community
In my opinion Eskdale School is one of the best school's in Whitby and therefore should stay as it is, and let the children of the future have the privilage of being educated there, as I did in the 70s. Do ot agree with Eskdale Closure.	Concerned member of community

<p>I would like to express my utter horror and dismay that you decided to go ahead and consult on the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby, and urge you to reconsider the plan for secondary education in Whitby. Eskdale School is a vital part of the community on the east side of Whitby and proposing to close this fantastic school and sell off the land for redevelopment is an absolute travesty. NYCC have stated that amalgamation would raise the standards of teaching in Whitby, have you considered the exact opposite happening? Due to the way this whole process has been handled by NYCC and an appalling lack of concern for staff welfare, quality teachers from either school justifiably may decide that they no longer wish to work under such stressful, uncertain conditions and move certainly out of town but perhaps out of county or even out of the profession. Staff that do stay will almost certainly be faced with restructuring which can only result in low staff morale. Recruitment in bigger schools may well be easier in some areas but Whitby is unique, there is very limited employment for spouses/partners and accommodation costs are extremely high, therefore NYCC should be looking to retain and support the excellent teachers they already have in the locality. XX has stated, 'the best interests of the young people of Whitby is our primary focus'. If NYCC truly have the young peoples' interests at heart, then why are they taking away their choice? Why are they intending to disrupt the secondary education of ALL secondary age pupils in our town by moving them from site to site after a year? XX also stated in August 2015, 'I hope that your child will be happy and successful at school. My staff and the county's schools are here to support and help you.' I beg to differ. Why would NYCC take a gamble on so many childrens' education, happiness and emotional well-being? How can NYCC be confident that this amalgamation will not mirror the Graham and Raincliffe School's merger, thereby leaving Whitby with one failing secondary school in the town? Healthy competition drives up standards, not taking away choice. How can you expect children to be happy and thrive in a school they have been forced to attend because their families cannot afford the transport to schools further afield? Are you actually aware of the number of pupils that will not be attending Caedmon College Whitby should these plans go ahead? As lack of funding for the 6th form has featured heavily in this consultation surely retaining pupils locally should be a priority. We are all well aware of the funding issues for sixth form colleges nationally but as the amalgamation between Caedmon School and Whitby Community College presumably resulted in Caedmon College Whitby gaining funding for 400+ pupils this does not seem to have improved the choice at post 16, what evidence is there that amalgamating with Eskdale will improve this either? Eskdale School has a very different ethos to Caedmon College, please allow and support it to continue providing an all round excellent, in Executive Committee you were elected by the people to serve the people and I implore that you listen to them and reject the proposal before it is too late and this wonderful establishment is lost to future generations. clusive education where, in the words of the Corporate Director, the best interests of the young people of Whitby are the primary focus and where children are happy and successful at school.</p>	<p>Concerned member of community</p>
<p>Pupils will be at risk crossing the A171 to prop up Caedmon. Bad idea.</p>	<p>Concerned member of community</p>
<p>If both sided are willing then ok but Eskdale has already rejected this and tried to go by themselves. If there are too many places at the schools, this needs to be addressed, and as a complete bystander with no affiliation to any of the Whitby Schools, if as indicated we have 1/3 extra places not filled in Whitby then 1 school should perhaps close. Then one site closed as long as the money that is made from a sale must be spent on the schools that are left.</p>	<p>Concerned tax payer</p>
<p>Your proposals are well laid out and logical and I fully support them. My own children were brought up in the West Midlands. I wish to note that as education professionals, while we would have loved to live and work inthe Whitby area, we would have felt unable to relocate our children to an area where the schools on offer were so small and lacking in evidence of choice, breadth of subjects or full age range. This is a difficult time for the families affected but must be the right thing for the future of education and for the management of public resources under thir current onslaught .</p>	<p>Concerned tax payer</p>
<p>The proposal does not take into account the vital community role played by Eskdale School</p>	<p>Councillor ward representative</p>

<p>Q Do the Governors want to see the amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon schools? A. No. We still believe that the best outcome for Eskdale would be as an 11-16 school. We spent a great deal of time and took into consideration the views of the children, parents, staff and the community before making this decision. Our staff are not only capable of delivering key stage 4, they are passionate about it. Our business plan demonstrates that this is a viable alternative. Q Why are the Governors working with Caedmon College to plan for the amalgamation? A The decision on whether to amalgamate is now down to NYCC. Our first responsibility is to the pupils and, however difficult, it is only sensible that we plan for the possibility that NYCC proceeds with the amalgamation. However, there has been no involvement from NYCC. Q Are the Governors happy with the way the consultation has proceeded? A No. We agreed to the consultation on the basis that NYCC would lead the process. We feel that they have not shown leadership. Q Are the Governors happy with the speed that this has progressed? A When we agreed to the consultation it was on the understanding that the amalgamation would happen in September 2017 - this was then changed to September 2016 without reference to us. We understand that there is an argument that it is better that a change like this is done quickly rather than being dragged out, however we are concerned that amalgamation in September 2016 leaves little time for proper reflection and planning for an integrated school. This is a big concern, especially for our staff. Q Why did the Governors agree that NYCC should put forward the amalgamation proposal? A In late December 2015 NYCC conducted a review of education in Whitby and we were given the choice of federation, amalgamation or being replaced by an Interim Executive Board. It was clearly stated that doing nothing was not an option. Federation would have meant that Caedmon College and Eskdale become one school. This would create one school operating across three sites. This would have real logistical and educational challenges as well as the financial burden of maintaining three sites. The College Governors have made it clear that in the event of a federation they would seek to close the Eskdale site. Given all these factors we felt that Federation would inevitably lead to the closure of Eskdale site. Amalgamation also leads to the closure of the Eskdale site but we felt that it had some advantages over federation. The Eskdale site is owned by NYCC and the proceeds of the sale of the site go to NYCC. We felt that if it was NYCC who have to make and justify the decision to close Eskdale then it would be much more likely that they would give a commitment to reinvest the proceeds of the sale in education in Whitby. We also felt that as a single secondary school in Whitby is NYCC's vision for the town then they, as the democratically accountable body, were best placed to sell this vision to the town. If we refused to either federate or amalgamate then it was made very clear that NYCC would use their powers to remove us and replace the Governors with an Interim Executive Board. This would be a Board appointed by NYCC who would then make the decision over whether to amalgamate or federate. We felt that amalgamation was the least worst option. Q Why don't you just convert to an Academy? A We have tried. We applied to convert in 2014 and were turned down on the grounds that there were too many school places in Whitby and that this needed to be addressed by NYCC in a review of education in the town. We approached the Department for Education again in 2015 after we voted to convert to 11-16 and were told that they would still not consider an application to convert until the issue of surplus places had been addressed by NYCC. Q What is the Governors vision for education in Whitby? A We want to see an outstanding 11-16 and an outstanding 11-19 school in the town. We would like to see the two schools collaborating and sharing best practice but with each school having a separate identity so that parents have a choice and there is a friendly rivalry that spurs on both schools.</p>	<p>Eskdale Governing Body.</p>
<p>We do not believe that the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College is in the best interests of parents and children. We believe that parents and children should have choice in their education for the future and that there should remain two schools providing two diverse settings. It is government policy that parents should have choice and this proposal does not provide for this. We have concerns about safeguarding with such large numbers of children and the split site arrangements, close proximity of major roads and increased traffic due to other local developments. Traffic management is already a problem in the area of Caedmon College (Normanby). We are also concerned that the size of school will lead to loss of ethos and pastoral care of the standard that we have come to expect and experienced from Eskdale School. As a small school with small cohorts we are concerned about the transition arrangements from our small family ethos to such a large potentially impersonal setting particularly for children with SEND. There does not appear to be any documentation on how population growth and demand for school places may grow in the future with such a significant local development increasing employment opportunities in the area with Sirius Mining and major house building schemes. We believe an increase in families moving into the area would underline the need for two schools in the future. As a school we are concerned that the college has no recent proven inspection track record and we believe will not have a proven inspection track record for a further two years. This makes it difficult to recommend the College as a good school to our parents. We are concerned for the future education of our pupils as it is apparent from feedback from a number of our parents that their children will not be continuing their education in Whitby if this change goes ahead.</p>	<p>Feeder School</p>

<p>I profoundly disagree with the proposed amalgamation of Caedmon College and Eskdale School. But even if I did agree with the proposal, I strongly believe that the impact of the proposed timetable of this amalgamation is damaging to everyone involved. Obviously, the impact will be felt by all students and staff but my particular concern is for the current Year 6 children who are now left in limbo while the Council is deciding which school they can go to in September. Isn't it enough for them to have to worry about their SATs? Isn't the transition to secondary school difficult enough for many children? There will simply not be enough time for careful transition work to take place. The children affected will feel railroaded which will in turn generate a large group of potential school-refusers if they are forced to attend a school they decided they did not want to attend. To come to a final decision in June and to expect to have fully functioning new school is simply ludicrous. It can only result in a "this will do" attitude which will surely have a detrimental effect on all the pupils' education, due to all the disruption (building work, teachers arriving late and leaving early due to transit time) and it will obviously also have a negative impact on staff who will have to teach across three sites. I therefore urge the Council to ensure that, even if the proposal is accepted, no changes are implemented before September 2017 to ensure adequate planning and implementation time.</p>	<p>Feeder School</p>
<p>I feel that this is an infringement on the rights as parents in this area inc Esk Valley where I am ward Councillor for SBC and also member of NYMNP Authority.. As a former pupil myself and also having my son now 16 attend Eskdale, we should have the choice to choose where and which school in our locality..</p>	<p>Former pupil and Borough Councillor for the Esk Valley... Member of NYMNP Authority</p>
<p>WHY SAVE ESKDALE? 1. CHOICE • Choice of school in the town is important • Due to our geographical location, Whitby is, fairly unique that it is, over 21 miles to the next nearest town for children to be educated. This is a long way when you are 11 years old, especially in winter time when the moor roads can be treacherous or even closed • One School having a monopoly is not desirable in terms of raising educational standards • Competition drives up standards and achieves excellent education • One size DOES NOT fit all • If a child has problems/issues in one school they can move to the other and have a 'fresh start'. With only one school, where else could they go? • Quite simply in our local community "There are more people that want to see Eskdale stay open than want to see it closed" (Over 5000 signatures on petition to keep Eskdale open) 2. UNIQUE ETHOS • Unique ethos – 'Every child matters' • Pupils, Parents and Staff are happy (See Ofsted parent view 83% children strongly agree they are happy, compared to National Average 53%, Caedmon College 46%) • Small school which enables teachers to know pupils well and vice versa. Especially useful for those pupils with special educational needs who benefit from a smaller nurturing environment. • Education for the whole person • Focus on practical skills and on art/music not just academic (excellent music pods) • Encourages pupils to take initiative and responsibility • Broad range of extracurricular activities (eg. Many varied clubs-gardening, art, drama, choir, gymnastics, trampolining, juggling, minecraft club to name a few) • Excellent pupil reward scheme in place using 'vivo'system 3. EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS • 'Personal development, behavior and welfare' rated 'Good' in 2015 Ofsted report • Extremely high positive feedback on Ofsted ParentView (91% would recommend the school to another parent) • Dedicated group of well qualified teachers • 'Curriculum at Eskdale prepares pupils well for life in modern Britain and provides for their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively' (OFSTED 2015) • Large Choice of competitive sports teams • Good range of subject choices (drama and 2 language choices, from year 7) • Eskdale received Requires Improvement in its inspection report but it continually states throughout the report that there has been too little time since the previous inspection to see the results of the implementations they have put in place. Many other schools in North Yorks have received Requires Improvement but they have not been deemed to close. Surely in this situation the LA should be doing all they can to help the school or are they just unwilling? • Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger. They have not had an Ofsted since 2013. Caedmon was deemed a Requires Improvement School before merge and hasn't been inspected since. Are they going to cope with an influx of another 300+ pupils from Eskdale and the amalgamation process, do they have provision to provide? How will this effect Caedmon College pupils? • 2014 GCSE results 5A*-C in English & Maths - Caedmon College overall 59%, ex-Eskdale pupils 62%. Proving Eskdale pupils achieve just as well (or better) as pupils from CCW. • Eskdale teachers have the desire and dedication to put their all into the 14-16 curriculum and achieve excellent results. Teachers have been working hard to prepare for the GCSE courses. Pupils too, desperate to prove Eskdale can produce fantastic GCSE results. They should be given the chance to do this. Much of Ofsted inspection and a school's 'worth' is based on data driven measurable results. There is no longer KS3 SATS in year 9 and Eskdale do not have GCSE results to be measured on. If they had the chance to do this, we'd see just how fantastic the school is. • Much research shows that many schools that have merged/amalgamated (especially in North Yorkshire) have had a decline in standards. Most recently and closest to home the Graham and Raincliffe Merge in Scarborough led to them going into special measures within 2 years! • In Filey there is only one secondary school, over recent years standards have dropped as no competition. They were in special measures and have now been taken out of the Local Authority control and</p>	<p>Friend</p>

<p>converted into an academy. 4. COMMUNITY • Large open space (tennis courts/large playing fields and playground)for pupils (and locals) to enjoy benefits of fresh air and exercise. • Local and good links with community (eg. Sainsburys opposite work closely in projects with Eskdale) • Building strong relationships with each other and within the community • Has community woven into it. The following groups use the site at various times throughout the year, some every week, some on occasional basis): ABRSM Music Examinations, Fishburn Park football clubs 1st and 2nd teams, Fishburn Park kids football, Fylingdales, Lealholm and Whitby Rugby club football teams, Fylingdales netball, methodist church group, motorhome rallies, ONOMY(young church group), Whitby Music Centre, Tennis Club, Ultimate Soccer, Whitby Christian Fellowship, Whitby Ladies football, Whitby Company of Archers, Whitby Rugby Club, Young Farmers basketball) • Eskdale is not just a school but a centre for East side community of Whitby • Good relationships with primary feeder schools (especially East Whitby, over the road and Hawsker who use facilities such as food tech room) 5. FUTURE PROVISION • Pupil Numbers set to increase • Windfarm – more jobs, more families, more pupils. • Potash - more jobs, more families, more pupils • More housing to be built in the town, the children from these will need schooling 6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS • Secondary pupil numbers set to increase over next 10-15 years (predicted 25/26 1647) Eskdale is needed. • Plans to build more family housing in Whitby will mean more school places needed. Much of this will be close to Eskdale and in prime feeder territory • Sound business plan for 11-16 • There are plenty of towns of similar size and similar pupil numbers to Whitby that support 2 (or even 3) secondary schools, why can't our town? 7. SPECIAL NEEDS • Eskdale has always been highly regarded in terms of catering extremely well for SEN pupils. This is down to their caring ethos, small size and provisions they have put in place to deal with particular needs and accessibility. 8. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT • Strong parental involvement (Excellent PTA and regular termly events from bingo to Summer Fair) 9. SIZE • Small school ensures excellent pupil/teacher relationships • Helps pupils to feel safe. One small school is better for many pupils rather than a large school on split sites in terms of them 'feeling at home' and well prepared for learning. Especially important for SEN pupils. • A smooth transition for year 6 pupils, especially those from very small feeder schools in surrounding rural areas, for whom a small school feels safer and more secure • 10. INFRASTRUCTURE/PRACTICALITIES • One safe site (no time wasted travelling between sites for pupils or staff) • As all teachers are on one site at Eskdale, all of the time, it is easy for pupils to find them at break time, before and after school to tell them anything they need to, go over homework, seek support etc. • Accessible (Good safe access for buses dropping off and picking up) • What impact will there be on highways and roads around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? • What impact will there be on parking around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? • Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger, in terms of practicalities and organisation how will all the pupils be 'housed' if they amalgamate and are split over 3 sites for at least next year, then on to 2 the year after. This chaotic approach will surely have a detrimental effect on all pupils over the next few years. • Have they the space to accommodate everyone safely especially with numbers due to increase in coming years? • Is it short sighted of NYCC to even consider closing a school when numbers are set to increase. If Eskdale does go, in 10 years time much of the teaching could end up happening in cabins/temporary classrooms at Caedmon College sites? Surely it is a better way forward to build on the investment NYCC has made to Eskdale School site over last few years and let it carry out the wish to carry on as an 11-16 establishment? • If both schools were to continue to co-exist in such a manner they would still be average size for NorthYorkshire</p>	
There should be choice, local provision and consideration for future provision.	Friend
I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation, Eskdale School is a small school with a pupil-centred ethos, providing choice for the families in Whitby. It has a great site that should continue to be used for the education of the children of Whitby.	Friend
I strongly oppose the merger. A true shame.	Friend
I strongly oppose the merger. A true shame.	Friend
I do not agree to the closure of Eskdale School. The town is getting bigger and two schools are essential.	Friend
We would like to keep Eskdale School open it's a excellent School and parents & children should be given a choice of school and not forced into amalgamation.	Friend
I disagree with the proposed amalgamation because I think that the traffic will be so badly affected on prospect hill and the new bridge that not only will it be horrible for residents to travel around their town, it may also put tourists off coming which are our bread and butter. Please also consider that you are proposing to increase traffic at a junction which is used for emergency ambulances to get out of. If you are increasing the students in the area then it will be an accident waiting to happen. Please re consider.	Friend
I know about the situation and do not agree with closing the school.	Friend

<p>I feel it is important for children to thrive during their education. This will of course mean different things for each child. However, having a choice of where a child can go is high on the agenda. A choice of just one school in the proposed amalgamation doesn't make sense. The element of curriculum choice as a counter argument to this given at the consultation meetings isn't a strong one. The disruption caused to years 6,7, and 8 operating on multiple sites also doesn't make sense and won;t help ease the process of transition for these children. I struggle to understand a process whereby only solution is presented to consult upon, which is vehemently defended as if it is the only viable option. And what weight of consideration is given to public opposition to this single proposed solution? What is plan B? If enough parents and others feel that the amalgamation is not in their children or the community's best interest and propose an alternative solution, will the council present this back to consult upon? From what I saw at the public consultations and what I have read, the process has been "managed" in the favour of NYCC so as to leave little time for parents and opposition groups to understand it, and how they oppose it. The consideration given to the intelligence of those people who might be opposed to the proposal does not reflect an open, unbiased and democratic approach. In fact the opposite. The new academy proposals from the government would also have an impact here, as the new school would only have been up and running 1 full year as a one site school when academy status would have to be reached. How much emphasis is placed on how children feel at school as well as how well and what they are taught? Happy children learn well. Eskdale is a unique environment creating well balanced and happy children. If even 1 child finds the move to a much bigger and more daunting environment suffocating and difficult to manage, that is 1 child too many. And it is simple to argue that all children are cared for and their welfare is at the heart of even a big school. But is it a risk? The financial argument doesn't seem to stack up and can be argued equally well both ways. Additional housing will bring additional children, which brings an over subscription to the new school. What is the solution proposed for this? If you do nothing else, please consider the arguments presented as valid and relevant. Be brave and don;t hide behind pressure from above or governmental guidelines. These are children's futures in your hands and you have the opportunity to shape them in a way that would be meaningful and tangible, not just "getting them through" their education. This isn't a sentimental opposition, it is one that just doesn't make sense and I would ask that you reconsider with real insight to what people have presented to you.</p>	<p>Friend</p>
<p>I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale. Large open space, playingfields, tennis court archery etc all used by people of this town. Eskdale as always catered extremely well for pupils with special needs, due to their caring ethos. Small schools help pupils to feel safe rather than a large school on split sites. Teachers are all ready late for lessons at caedmon school as it is. At least all teachers are under one roof at Eskdale.</p>	<p>Friend</p>
<p>Pupils and parents are content with Eskdale as it is, so why disrupt a benefit that is applauded around Whitby? Amalgamation would destroy the unique grace of Eskdale. Leave it be. Small is beautiful.</p>	<p>Grandparent</p>
<p>I am against the amalgamation. My grandchildren all attend Glaisdale school, and along with the vast majority of children of Esk valley schools, they would normally progress to Eskdale School. As a smaller school, Eskdale replicates the small close knit environment of their rural primary schools, and is therefore far more suitable than the larger and more impersonal Caedmon School. Eskdale has an excellent educational reputation both with parents, children and within the teaching community. One of our grandchildren suffers from tourette's and Eskdale provides excellent facilities for children with special educational needs. Caedmon does not. One school gives no choice. It is not viable for our children to attend other schools such as Stokesley, Guisborough, or Redcar, as travel to those locations is unsupported.</p>	<p>Grandparent</p>
<p>I think the children of Whitby deserve choice for their education, not to be forced to go to a larger school with bigger classes, which would happen if was merged with Caedmon school, I have nothing against Caedmon school, but at an important time in a child's education there should be choice, and the next secondary school is 21 miles away, which is a trek in winter when the weather is bad, probably lead to a lot of days off. A choice of school in whitby for a child could mean the difference between a good education or bad education, if a child doesn't settle at the larger/smaller school then at least they have another choice to continue their education in town.</p>	<p>Grandparent</p>
<p>My granddaughter attends Eskdale school and her sister is due to go up to that school in September. The eldest one was bullied at her primary school and chose to go to Eskdale to get away from those people. When she went there she very shy and introverted. She was also behind in certain areas. After 18 months at Eskdale, with the help and guidance of her teachers she has almost caught up and is more confident and self assured. She was confident enough to stand up in front of the Town council and say why she did not want the school to close. Eighteen months ago that would have been unthinkable. Her sister chose Eskdale to be her next step in her education because she has seen how happy her sister is there. The eldest one does not want to go to Caedmon College and I would not like her education to suffer and for her to lose the confidence that she has gained. Whitby is a unique place. Most places have other schools within a few miles. Whitby is 20 miles in any direction from the next nearest school.</p>	<p>Grandparent</p>

<p>My Grandson is at the Normanby a Site & currently there is insufficient room for PE classes & changing facilities without adding more students. The road outside the College at the start & end of the school day is chaotic & dangerous without adding yet more students to the mix & this equally applies to the Caedmon Site. If there has to be one school it needs to be purpose built on the Eskdale Site where much of the danger can be engineered out & a thermally efficient building constructed not a cobbled together make do affair. There needs to be an advanced plan not this short term fix to satisfy the ego of one or two people. If it does go ahead then ALL of the post need to be advertised not a shoe in for the pliable incumbent who is hardly an academic having taught PE, being a good organiser is not the only pre requisite needed to run an Academy of 1100. Academic excellence must come from the top & I would suggest this is not the case with the current head. In a democracy the electorate have a mandate & it s not in the gift of a few to take a decision that the majority oppose & it really is time to listen & not bulldoze this through. As a retired College Lecturer who worked across a split site I know from experience that it is hardly conducive to creating a productive working or learning environment which is what if I am to believe the propaganda this move is all about. I would suggest that I am probably better able to comment on such a proposal than those making a decision on the education that the children of this area deserve.</p>	Grandparent
<p>Whitby is expanding. We need more than one school, the amalgamation is an economic exercise, nothing to do with the quality of education. This year there is a 45 million pound development in Scarborough for Education, is there a link between this and the cost cutting exercise in whitby? Eskdale School is a valuable asset we cannot afford to loose, it should be secured for future generations to meet increasing educational needs. Caedmon college was once a grammar school and is now a collection of different buildings crammed on the site, yet the road access is single file, just 1 lane. There is hardly anywhere to park as it is for staff or visitors, no turning area and this problem will be exacerbated if Eskdale is to be added to the site. Also, Whitby is practically gridlocked as it is at 9.00 when taking children to Caedmon college and Mayfield road will become even worse, especially because there is no roundabout at the major junction near the school. Whatever direction parents come from, children are dropped in the road (no pull-in places) and the driver is committed to continue driving in that direction until finding somewhere convenient to turn around. I think adding several hundred more pupils to the same school will cause major traffic issues. My main concern though, is the loss of a fabulous school. I don't believe that one school can serve the needs of every child and it is wrong not to be offered a choice.</p>	Grandparent
<p>the decision to try and shut this school is unjust for all children who will pass through education in this town. Freedom of choice is essential</p>	Grandparent
<p>I do not agree with the proposed merger of Caedmon college and Eskdale school. I believe if this goes ahead the children of Whitby and surrounding g areas will suffer greatly from lack if reasonable choice in secondary education.</p>	Grandparent
<p>I have visited Eskdale school on a number of occasions, seldom do you see such a happier group of pupils and staff. I have a Grandson at the school and he has never been happier and more willing to learn. My Granddaughter is due to start at the school in September. Both my Grandchildren are devastated by the idea of closing this wonderful school. In my early years I was moved around schools and consequently my education suffered. This will happen to many children if the school closes. Please do not risk the future of these pupils. Please keep Eskdale school open.</p>	Grandparent
<p>We believe Whitby would benefit from having two 11 - 16 schools with sixth form out of town. Whitby is an isolated community no other secondary schools within a reasonable distance therefore - 'one school' no choice. Why should local children be disadvantaged? 'one size' does not fit all. Ideally why not run two 11-16 schools & have 6th form provision out of town. Many 17 year olds enjoy the freedom of driving, buses could be subsidised for those who do not. Larger sixth form colleges eg Scarborough offer a greater diversity of curriculum.</p>	Grandparent
<p>I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate the schools. Children in Whitby and the surrounding area need a choice. We are geographically isolated in Whitby and with only one choice of school it would mean children having to travel at least 20 miles to another. My grandson attends secondary school in Whitby and he chose which school best suited his needs. To put all the children together will only cause disruption to their education. A recent merger between the graham & raincliffe schools in Scarborough resulted in the school going into special measures. Do not let this happen to the children in Whitby. More houses are being built in the area, where will theses children go to school in the future when the current peak in yr 2 requires secondary education? I am extremely concerned over the safety of children now never mind in the future if this goes ahead. Both Caedmon sites are located off the busy A171 which are always congested with traffic during school drop off and pick up times. The speed limit is 40 mph over the new bridge - if Eskdale closed there would be more children having to walk to school - it's an accident waiting to happen on the busy stretch of road. I think that NYCC should listen to the children & people in the wider community of Whitby before putting money of the future if the towns secondary education. This decision of pursued with have s devastating effect for years to come. Why should the money for KS3 & KS4 be used to fund a failing 6th form at Caedmon? A 6th form that is failing because there is so much more 'choice' elsewhere. Wouldn't the best option for secondary education in Whitby be to have 2 11-16 schools that can offer the best for its pupils? I am</p>	Grandparent

appalled at the way this has been handled and feel that NYCC should apologise to every pupil at the schools for all the upset they are putting them through. As the people of Whitby say 2 schools = choice. Do something right for our Whitby children before it's too late	
Children have the right to choice just as adults do one school in a rural area like Whitby is totally mad. Don't NYCC read the news there is a major increase in children starting school and places will be hard to find so who in there right mind would close a excellent school come on NYCC stop thinking money and do your job and put the children of Whitby first. Two schools not one	Grandparent
Don't agree in amalgamation fo schools, should have choice of schools. I have 3 grandchildren at the schools.	Grandparent
I would like Eskdale to stay open as my grandson will have to walk to Caedmon witch if further away across a dangerous busy road. I fell he is getting an excellent education at Eskdale. When the wind farm starts operating out of Whitby and the Potash Mine opens there will be more families moving to Whitby. The school will be much needed. He should have a choice of schools.	Grandparent
I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE.	Grandparent
It is a big step forward for country school children to start secondary school education. Eskdale School is geared up for the intake. Fair share is more children in all the Village School.	Grandparent
What ever happens lets get it sorted. Both good schools and it is nice to have choice, but the uncertainty is not good for children just starting senior school in September.	Grandparent
The school is too good to loose. If it is for housing lets hope people from Whitby can afford them. I do not agree with the school closing.	Grandparent
Children should have a choice. DO NOT AGREE WITH CLOSURE OF ESKDALE SCHOOL	Grandparent
I was totally devastated when I heard of the proposal to close Eskdale School. My two children were pupils there in the 1990's/2000's and were happy, well cared for and nutured in a wonderful educational setting. They had so many advantages provided that can only be supplied by a school of that manageable size, they were known by all staff and treated as individuals which provided a perfect springboard to higher education - the time spent at Whitby School hardly deserves a mention in this instance, special measures and transient staff left a great deal to be desired. My children graduated and now work in the area in professional capacities. So it is now our Grandchildren whose future we are trying to safeguard. My daughter bought a house in Eskdale Road thinking it would be an ideal location for East Whitby then Eskdale School. WE NEED TO KEEP ESKDALE SCHOOL OPEN AND ALL IT STANDS FOR UPHELD.	Grandparent
My grand children were pupils at the school they have since gone on to do very well for themselves and have put it down to the start they had at Eskdale. I will be a sad day if they pull it down. Disagree to school closure.	Grandparent
i think the plan to join Eskdale school with Caedmon is absolutely wrong, our 4 children attended Eskdale, and all excelled in various subjects, it's not the best thing for Whitby, it's the best for the people selling the land, no good will come of this, leave our school alone, we don't need change, how can a school of 1.400 (where some children will get lost amongst the crowds) be better than a smaller caring school like Eskdale.	Grandparent
Have grandson joping to attend in September this year.	Grandparent
I have had 3 children in education at Eskdale School and Whitby School and some where along the way Whitby School let them down they were predicted good targets on leaving Eskdale School and then let down at Whitby School. I was sent a prospectus when they were to start Whitby School and I did write all this down in the somments box. Personally I think the town would benefit at leaving the two feeder schools and closing Whitby School because when my children reached sixteen they were ready to spread their wings and explore other options lets face it Whitby is only a small town but growing in the sense that closing a feeder school would be false economy the council will probably have to end up building another school because putting children of a young age will be dangerous the vulnerable and shy will get lost in the race.	Grandparent

<p>There is obviously a lot of opposition to the proposal to close Eskdale School, and rightly so. Why? Because it is on school caring for its pupils, encouraging its pupils both in their education and their social skills. It says a lot for a school when its pupils are so vocal in its praise. My granddaughter attended Caedmon School initially. she was bullied constantly and dreaded going to school and travelling to school on the school bus. She has blossomed since going to Eskdale School. It would be a very bad scenarion if she had to return to Caedmon. You are taking away the right to choose where a child is educated. That can't be right. Unfortunately I think this all comes down to MONEY. Shame on you.</p>	Grandparent
<p>I am fully in support of the proposal to amalgamate caedmon and eskdale schools. With falling rolls and the acute financial pressure on education it is sensible and practical for a small town like whitby to have one centre of education for its 11-18year old children. There has been a lack of informed debate about the advantages of this proposal in part fuelled by misinformed popstars and actors who are no longer connected with the town. In my view it is cynical manipulation to involve the kids in singing songs and making videos to support the agendas of self serving staff and governors whilst ignoring the harsh realities of public finances and the economies of scale of creating a single educational establishment which hopefully will be allowed to focus on the task of providing first class learning for the future generation. I am a grandparent of two young children who will be educated in this town in the coming decade and I have their interests solely at heart in supporting the council in its merger proposals</p>	Grandparent
<p>As an OAP and Grandmother to 2 girls, one at Eskdale and one soon to attend Eskdael, I am very concerned about the proposed closure of this school. Over the years I have always believed that small classes in smaller schools, was the best way for education. What has gone wrong? As I understand, this situatio all boils down to finance. This <u>cannot</u> be good for the children!!</p>	Grandparent
<p>Closing Eskdale would be a mistake, yes we do need more housing in Whitby (which is what the land will be used for) but how much of these houses would be social housing? Once again SBC is putting money before Whitby people and there needs. We need Eskdale School. Our children need Eskdale School.</p>	Grandparent
<p>Stay open</p>	Grandparent
<p>Why? why? why? The amalgamation between Eskdale and Caedmon makes no sense at all, please listen to the parents because they are the ones who know what is best for their children. We understand the financial concerns, which is why, when told that Whitby couldn't support 3 schools, Caedmon and Whitby community college were amalгамated without a fuss. It's too early to judge the sucess of this merger yet we are now told whitby cannot support 2 schools and Eskdale must close. ESKDALE ! By now you will have become aware of the communities sense of outrage at the proposed amalgamation and this Eskdale sense of family, loyalty, pride and belonging cannot be transferred to a school you are forced to attend. Eskdale may not suit every child but from personal experience I have found their caring attitude brings out the best in children, who feel valued in whatever direction their skills lie. Caedmon college may not suit every child either.... Not only is Eskdale a much loved school, it is also home to Fishburn Park, the local childrens football team. The archery club practice here, the tennis courts are used. Shouldn't healthy outdoor sports be encouraged...not disbanded. Socially....not a good idea Emotionally. ...there will be a lot of unhappy children which is not a recipe for academic success. Logistically....Pages could be, and probably have been, written about this nightmare situation, so to keep it short...no Educationally....really not a good idea to have one massive school with no choice or competition. Greater choice at sixth form is a totally different issue and seems to be the only argument put forward for ' better education'. Economically. ..yes, it might be cheaper but GIVEN THE CHOICE this is not the primary concideration for the best we can do for our children</p>	Grandparent
<p>The ethos of Eskdale School is appreciated and well loved by pupils and ex pupils a like proved by the many multi talented ex pupils and present pupils. Eskdale is also used by many outside associations. Football & badminton, music groups, ourselves Whitby Christian Fellowship and our Youth Group Unity, also probably others which I don't know about. Notice needs to be taken and peoples voices heard. Please heed what the majority of the people in Whitby are saying and listen. Thanking you.</p>	Grandparent
<p>We use Eskdale School for so many activities, past & present & the staff have been so accommodating we cannot thank or praise them enough. The thought of Eskdale School closing fills me with dread & I truly cannot see the point of it other than a money saving scheme. How this can be of benefit to the children is beyond me. We know of a child who left Eskdale for Caedmon College & the upset that it caused the child was awful to see, not all children are suited to a big school infact a lot of children from a smaller school. I truly hope & pray that you will listen to the hundreds of worried people of Whitby who do not want this to happen. I beg that you will see sense.</p>	Grandparent

<p>My grandson has attended Eskdale since September & the difference in him is remarkable he does not socialise well but has now made a group of friends whom are very important to him if Eskdale School closes none of these children will stay together as Caedmon is not an option they will split and travel are you providing transport for these children as they were all bullied by the Caedmon kids so they will not be attending that school this is the biggest mistake the council will ever make you cannot possibly put all these kids in one school and more may I add its ridiculous, I do hope that if you do make the wrong decision that dangerous road will get sorted, speed limit changed, proper access in & out and traffic will be a joke a accident waiting to happen! Lets hope no one gets hurt.</p>	<p>Grandparent</p>
<p>The consultation meeting on Monday 14th & Tuesday the 15th March said it all to me & all the others from the smug look on the X of X X to the secret looks between him and the panel, its quite obvious that no other option is going to be considered & that your minds have been made up, utter disgrace you don't care about the children you couldn't even listen intently when they sang their little desperate hearts out its not just a song you know those words mean something. I hope you no that this super school is no use with out children in it I for one no my daughter - & her friends will cover every avenue possible before putting my grandchildren into that hell hole!!! X X X needs to go!!!</p>	<p>Grandparent</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Caedmon College and Eskdale. I myself was part of the current system coming together many years ago and can say with some authority that it messes up your education. I do not want this for my granddaughter, she was at a primary school that was not traditional part of Eskdale's catchment but chose Eskdale because it suited her the best. Eskdale is very much a unique school, it really is a very friendly community school which does a fantastic job of serving our community. The quality of care is second to none. I fail to understand the connection between keeping Eskdale open and Caedmon College's 6th form. The money that is educationally attached to my granddaughter should stay with my granddaughter, not to be used to prop up a 6th form. The government want students to stay at school longer so should be supporting that with the necessary funding. I am told there are lots of other equally as small at Caedmon College that offer a 6th form, they seem to be doing ok. Why aren't they? I noted at the consultation evenings that XX thought it a risk to let Eskdale continue with its 11-16 status, we'll all I can say to that is Eskdale's admissions are up around 40% so clearly people think it's a risk worth taking. I also read about the possible shifting of money from Eskdale to Caedmon if Eskdale is allowed to continue, well that is called healthy competition. Forcing people to send their children to a school and doing away with the competition would not be allowed in the world of commerce. Competition drives up standards. I believe our MP offered a solution, 2 schools on 2 sites, one, Eskdale 11-16. Caedmon 11-18. It is a solution that would meet the needs of our community, probably halt the flow of those students who are leaving education in Whitby at either 11, 14 or 16, which can only be a good thing. For me, I think you should be focusing on giving our students the best at 11-16, equipping them with the right tools to them make a decision on where they want to continue their A level education or other. Eskdale teaching staff are I believe, well able to deliver a GCSE education and I believe it is your duty to ensure that both schools get the necessary support to make both schools outstanding. Part of Eskdale's difficulties I believe have been because they have not had their own GCSE results for OFSTED to judge them on a level playing field. I am told that students who attend Eskdale come out with on average 62% maths / English A* -C, and that involves the transition. Just imagine what they could achieve if they were able to stay at Eskdale. I have read that it is NYCC, XX and X X, long standing view that this amalgamation is the way forward for our town, however I feel this is now outdated, our population is growing. We have 2 major employment developments in our area, more school places will be needed. If Eskdale is allowed to continue, it would not have any empty places within 2 years. What I suggest is that the money that would be used to amalgamate these schools is split between them giving both a chance to develop. We all know the old WCC site is no longer fit for purpose, the site entrance is terrible, students have to get onto transport on the main road, there is little parking for all, the new staff, anymore building would take up even more green space, and the site is too cramped. On top of that there is all the added traffic with lorries that would be passing the school entrance. A recent report stated that even in market towns at key times of the day, fuel emissions from stationary traffic can cause serious issues. Our students standing on the main road at key times is not something we should be allowing. This is my granddaughters time to be secondary educated, I do not want it messed up, and speaking to people whose children have gone through this experience already then it without doubt will be. For those students whose parents cannot afford transport out of the town, there will be no choice. So I urge our public servants to think, this is not what we want for our children, look at the other options again. Could I also add that I am aware that the governors at Eskdale did not want this but were given no choice.</p>	<p>Grandparent</p>

<p>Dear Sir of Madam I am writing in support of 'Keeping Eskdale School Open' for the following reasons. 1. More houses are being constructed on the East side of the Rive Esk thus bringing more families to the area. 2. I feel it important for families to have a choice of school where possible. 3. Improving on already functioning school would surely make more sense than starting from scratch on a different site. 4. My interest in this school came about when my daughters attended it, (and subsequently my grandchildren) many years ago. At this time I was instrumental in raising funds for the swimming pool, as a Whitby child had recently drowned in the sea. It was felt that every child who attended that school would have a chance to learn to swim as part of the school curriculum. Yours faithfully</p>	<p>Grandparent</p>
<p>I would like to make it clear that I totally disagree with the proposed amalgamation between Eskdale School and Caedmon College. My grandchild chose Eskdale after looking at both schools and decided that the smaller, friendly caring ethos of Eskdale suited her perfectly . All of this consultation has done has cause children to become anxious and worried about what lies ahead.she also chose Eskdale because she wanted to do her GCSE's there and her parents felt confident that the teaching staff there are more than capable of delivering the necessary corriculum which I believe is changing for all this September. So all schools are in the same boat. At Eskdale my grandchild feels she is not a number but is an individual and her needs are catered for. Every child really does matter at this school. No one that I know can understand why you would even consider this proposal, the governors were at first blamed for this but it is know clear that was not the case. It also appears very shortsighted to continue further with this plan, Whitby is an ever expanding town, houses are belong built in every available space and new industries are being built on our door step. We will need all these school spaces. The idea of Eskdale 11-16 and Caedmon11-18, seems the obvious way forward, selling off the old WCC site as it's crowded, lacking enough green space and has a terrible entrance but would make a terrific housing estate. This is my grandchild so time to be educated, she cannot wait for several years whilst all of this settles down. Her time will be gone. I have looked and cannot find any other merger/ amalgamation that has been a out right success. So I urge you to let Eskdale get on with the business of teaching our children their GCSE's, Ofsted says they are making good progress but needed more time. 23 months between reports was aliterate bit too quick not just for Eskdale but for any school in a similar position.Caedmon College is a present an unknown quantity,. Why not use the money you would be putting in to smooth an amalgamation into both schools, then we would have 2 outstanding schools in Whitby. Choose 2 schools XX, Whitby has a population of around 13,500 and rising and a catchment area of over 26,000. Other places can have two schools, why not Whitby!</p>	<p>Grandparent</p>

<p>I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE ESKDALE SCHOOL WITH CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY. I am a grandparent of a Y9 pupil at Eskdale School and a Y9 pupil at CCW. Both are happy and doing well in the school they chose to attend. I have another grandchild in Y6 wanting to attend Eskdale School. I was a local primary headteacher for 22 years. The middle school system that has been the structure of secondary education in Whitby for many years was far from perfect, in fact with a transition at Y6/7 and again at Y9/10 it was detrimental for many pupils but at least there was a choice of school to go to for years 7 to 9. This current proposal will remove that choice. If a child does not settle (socially, behaviourally, educationally - particularly special needs) in either of the schools at the moment they can transfer to the other and be given a "second chance". With just one school in the town their only option is to travel 20+ miles twice a day to Pickering, Scarborough or Guisborough/Stockton. All involve journeys on moorland roads that are badly affected by weather in the winter. That is IF there are places in the schools and IF parents can afford the transport costs. One large school of 1500+ pupils on split sites? What about the pupil that needs to feel secure, needs to build strong relationships with key adults and cannot cope with moving from one site to another? Children coming from the small, rural village schools with only 30 or so pupils in the whole school tend to go to Eskdale as it is smaller with a "family" style ethos. How will the proposal meet their needs? NYCC has a duty of care to all pupils in Whitby and having them cross main roads to get safely from one site to another needs considerable thought. School transport coaches cannot even get on to the Normanby site meaning even more pupils crowding out onto Mayfield Road at home time to get to parked coaches that have brought all other traffic to a standstill. Many weave in and out of stationary cars to cross the road to catch busses going to the Esk Valley villages. Add to this the cars of pupils who have been picked up by parents and staff leaving. It is dangerous chaos! On the Scoresby site the coaches, cars and pedestrians all come out on to the busy New Bridge together - another main arterial road of the town. Once the summer holiday season starts (June/July) the tail backs are long and frustrated drivers take dangerous risks. These scenarios will only get worse, especially once the potash mine lorries start thundering through! It is chaotic and carnage waiting to happen. To construct safe, easy flow entrances/exits will be costly - money that could be better spent on the curriculum - and will further reduce the playing field at the Normanby site. There may be surplus places in the two schools now but with more housing development sites already proposed and going ahead, with the potash mine and the wind farm projects bringing more jobs there will be demand for more places in a few years time. Where will those pupils go if the single school is full? Build a new school? Where? The people of Whitby will not only lose out educationally through this proposal but culturally and as a community too. Eskdale School is very much a community school - a large number of clubs and associations use the building and fields outside the formal school days. Football, tennis, church, basketball, volleyball, archery, play schemes (supporting vulnerable and deprived children) and many more will be under threat. There are not enough venues or enough times in the evening and weekends to accommodate them all elsewhere in the town. XX stated at the Consultation Evenings that if the amalgamation did not take place then the 6th form at Whitby could be under threat. This is not just a Whitby issue - it is a national issue. Whitby 6th form currently has more students than those in the smaller market towns in the area. There is separate funding for 6th form education - it should not be robbing KS3/4 funds to survive. Maybe the way the 6th form money is being spent now should be looked at? It has been argued that Eskdale may struggle in catering for KS4 and the GCSE curriculum. Why? All secondary school teachers are trained to teach up to 16 as a matter of course. Most of the staff at Eskdale have taught across the full age range in previous employment. They have been preparing for extending the curriculum through CPD and joint planning since the school decided to become an 11-16 provider. A primary teacher can be asked to teach across the age range from Y1 to Y6 - they take it in their stride, it's not unusual. Why should it be more difficult or, as some would have us believe, almost impossible to ask this of secondary teachers? It's not! This is scaremongering. Eskdale School already offers some GCSE courses on an extra curricular basis very successfully. This means that many pupils already have qualifications before leaving KS3 - two years early!! How is this "not coping"?? There are several alternative options to the current narrow proposal put forward by NYCC including - secondary education in Whitby could be two strong, viable 11-16 schools each becoming specialists in particular areas eg. the creative arts and science/technology with close collaboration between both staff and pupils. This would offer a real choice for pupils with particular strengths. The post 16 group could be based in Whitby and form strong links with another school-based 6th form or a 6th form college and/or with Yorkshire Coast College. Better for 16-18 year olds to travel than 11 year olds. This would be a way to expand the academic curriculum and to offer much needed practical training for the world of work. To reiterate - I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE PROPOSAL TO AMALGAMATE ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY</p>	Grandparent
<p>My grandson attends Eskdale school would like to say he is very happy there.I have attended all the meetings in Whitby and Scarborough.marched for the school.I just cannot believe you are even thinking of closing this fantastic school down.I get the feeling NYCC is just going through motions. Each time I look at the panel I know they are only there because they have to.when questions are asked they have not been answered.Surely we need a choice in Whitby.If you want to sell a school what about selling the old Caedmon site and keeping the other two schools.one school does not fit all.</p>	Grandparent

<p>I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE AND CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY I am the grandparent of a pupil in Y9 at Eskdale School and another in Y9 at Caedmon School. Both are happy and doing well in the school of their CHOICE. I also have another grandchild in Y6 of Hawsker school who has CHOSEN to attend Eskdale School in September 2016. I was also a local primary headteacher for 10 years and a school bursar for 5. The current Conservative Government's education agenda states CHOICE as a priority. The proposed amalgamation is taking away CHOICE! The two secondary schools in Whitby are very different - in ethos and in size (following the recent amalgamation of Caedmon School and Whitby Community College). In education one size does not fit all. In Y5 and Y6 children visit both schools before making a decision about which one to attend. There are no longer the traditional "catchment areas" dictating where they should go so they really do have CHOICE. They decide to go to the school that feels right for them. Some need the smaller, family-type ethos of Eskdale School - particularly if they have attended one of the village schools. Others are happier with the larger, less personal organisation of CCW. importantly, they have the CHOICE. If the CHOICE they make turns out to be the wrong one (educationally, behaviourally etc) they can transfer to the other school and have a fresh start. This would not be possible if there was only one secondary school in the town. They would be forced to attend a school in Scarborough, Guisborough or Pickering involving a 40 mile journey daily across moorland roads. Will this amalgamation work? How do you know? A 1500+ urban style school in a small town? Since Caedmon School and WWC amalgamated there has been no OFSTED Inspection. At the time of the two schools joining Caedmon School had an RI judgement that is currently hiding under WCC's Good (2013). There has been an LA assessment which, surprisingly, came out as Good! But that is not OFSTED and could be considered as biased?? Another 300+ pupils joining the school will add further pressure to maintain standards. Another recent and nearby amalgamation between Raincliffe School and Graham School in Scarborough resulted in them going into Special Measures within 2 years. There is no guarantee this amalgamation will work. In fact research shows that there is often a decline in standards following a merger. It is a gamble with the education of the current pupils and those moving into secondary education over the next few years. Once the CHOICE is removed it cannot easily (if at all) be given back. Even if it did work secondary pupil numbers are set to increase over the next 10-15 years, there are several proposed new housing developments in Whitby and there are employment prospects with the wind farm and potash mine attracting workers to the town. All these mean an increased school population. The one school would then be trying to meet the educational needs of 1600/1700+ pupils. Is this really feasible? Or desirable? The proposed logistics of the "new" school organisation are very worrying. Eventually (2017? 2018?) there are to be two sites for the school - separated by one of the busiest arterial roads of the town. Initially, from September 2016 it is proposed to be run on 3 sites!! Who travels? When? How? Transitions are often points in education when pupils may see a drop in their achievements - a reason for Eskdale School deciding to offer 11 - 16 education. However, the proposal will mean that current Y7s in CCW (who moved from primary school in September 2015) will transfer to the Eskdale site for Y8, then to the Normanby site for Y9 and 10 then onto the Scoresby if they choose to go to 6th form. New buildings, new staff, new courses. This is a lot of change. For change sake?? There are serious issues to be thought through regarding traffic, both between the sites and before and after school. Both CCW sites spill out onto already extremely busy main roads - made worse by holiday traffic in the summer and in the future compounded by heavy trucks from the potash mine. NYCC has a duty of care for pupils and ensuring their safety in these areas will not be cheap as physical changes to entrances and exits will have to be made. At the Normanby site it will probably mean further erosion of already dwindling playing fields. The LA has only given one option for restructuring secondary education in Whitby but there are several. The least disruptive would be two 11-16 schools and a 6th form college. To become more economically viable and to offer a wider curriculum the 6th form could be linked to another 6th form (school or college) and/or to Yorkshire Coast College in Scarborough. This current proposal has the feel of being rushed through? Why? That is a question that was asked at both Consultation Meetings but was never answered. A more measured debate and a closer look at the options available is necessary. I DO NOT AGREE WITH THE PROPOSED AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY.</p>	Grandparent
<p>Give the kids a choice! The parents want it, the staff want it and most importantly the kids want it!!</p>	Grandparent
<p>Do not want the amalgamation to go ahead between Eskdale and cademom</p>	Grandparent
<p>The proposed amalgamation in Whitby is a blinkered proposal. The consequences of loosing Eskdale school might fill a gap in the budget in the short term but we would loose such a valuable asset for future generations, which can never be got back. The amalgamation between Raincliff and Graham school in Scarborough has been very unsuccessful! My neice attended this school which was put into special measures after the amalgamation, forcing children to travel great distances in order to go to a decent school. She now attends Lady Lumleys college in Pickering, where she is happy now. Before the amalgamation one small bus took the children from Scarborough to the school in Pickering, now 2 double deckers go in convoy, at parent's own expense. Should we not learn from our mistakes?</p>	Grandparent

I would like to object to the proposal of amalgamation due to the expense and no choice for the children. I don't agree that a bigger school would make for a better education, in fact I'm sure it would be worse. 'BIGGER IS NOT BEST'! Children of these age groups need as much help in these last years getting them ready for uni or jobs. I'm sure smaller numbers will benefit them with more 1-1 help.	Grandparent
When the tory party was elected, they had a manifesto pledge to offer real choice for all with schools and education. Is this just another example of choice for the tory rich, and the rest can lump it. Why dont they listen to the people for once. The campaign has been excellent, now Show it the respect it deserves.	Interested in local Education.
I believe that Eskdale is a good school where pupils are happy. I know many ex-pupils of Eskdale and apart from the above I believe a town the size of Whitby should give students and parents a choice. Therefore Eskdale should remain open.	Interested resident
One for your roads or transport department. Check out the traffic situation outside the College on Mayfield Road at school start/finish times. Have you got a solution?	Local business
I disagree with the closure of Eskdale School, my daughter attends this school and is very happy there, and I feel this is going to be very disruptive to her education. Effecting her confidence and well being. If we had and herself had wanted to go to Caedmon we would of sent her there, But ESKDALE IS THE SCHOOL FOR HER!	Local Business
I disagree with the closure of Eskdale School, It is a wonderful school with a fantastic ethos and I hope one day my children will attend this friendly, thriving family of a school.	Local business
There is one major thing I don't think you have taken into account you are assuming that all the Eskdale kids and teachers will just skip over to the new Whitby school and I think that's a very big assumption this will not happen Eskdale pupils picked Eskdale to escape Caedmon there is no way the children will just skip over Lady Lumley's, Scarborough schools, Gisborough schools are all been contacted and for those who can't afford out of town will be at home. Schooling oh and Fylinghall has been contacted also. This is a massive blow for Whitby and the children I think it's a terrible time for the children of Whitby when you close Eskdale cos you will as they say it's a done deal !!	Local business
Do not agree with closing the school.	Local business
This is a difficult time for all involved but in the long run I feel it is the best solution having one school from 11-19. Unfortunately there is not a great deal of time for pupils to get used to the proposal. I do hope that the transition period runs smoothly as for many pupils there is no other choice for secondary provision in the area.	local Headteacher
I was in agreement with previous plans to amalgamate the three schools into two as this would make possible the best use of resources for the benefit of young people. I am still of that opinion and believe that in the current climate collaboration is a central key in both making the most of resources and improving the quality of education. As such I am strongly in favour of the proposal for the reasons given.	Local Headteacher
As a primary school teacher in the local area, I do not agree with this proposed amalgamation as the way forward for secondary education in the Whitby area. Whitby is a unique town and is geographically isolated by 21 miles to the nearest alternatives over roads which during the winter months are often cut off due to bad weather. Eskdale and Caedmon have very different ethos' and for that reason each school fits particular children well. Some children can not cope with a large school, in particular those from some of the schools up the Esk Valley. Just because Eskdale got 2 X RIs in their last Ofsted inspections does not mean the school should technically have to close and amalgamate with Caedmon. If there are so many places to fill why on earth doesn't the pupils from the Scores site move across to the Normanby site? Leave Eskdale as the 11-16 school it was to become in September and then have Caedmon as 11-19 on one site. The proposals to operate a school on three separate sites are ridiculous - how on earth can that be a school? I am also extremely concerned about the health and safety of the children of Whitby if this proposal goes ahead. NYCC I ask that you rethink this whole plan, look at alternative options because there is not just only this one. If this goes ahead, the future of education in Whitby will be bleak for many years to come. If this is not a 'done deal' as I keep hearing and I really hope it is not, consider all options because this is not the way to go	Local primary school teacher
It would make much more sense to keep both Eskdale and Caedmon school sites open. Make both 11-16 years so Whitby children sit their GCSE's at the same school school they start Year 7 in-then if you must close a school (which is exactly what you ARE doing-it doesn't matter how you say it!) then close the Whitby College site down and Whitby children can travel to complete their 6th form education, which a lot of our children already do. Therefore you will keep 2 schools and competition open! None of this should even have been spoken about until an OFSTED inspection has been held at 'Caedmon College Whitby' thus is a school that has yet to prove itself-if you CLOSE Eskdale down ALL of our children in Whitby could be forced to attend a FAILING school!!!	Local resident

Choice of school in any town is important • Due to geographical location, Whitby is, fairly unique that it is, over 21 miles to the next nearest town for children to be educated. This is a long way when you are 11 years old, especially in winter time when the moor roads can be treacherous or even closed • One School having a monopoly is not desirable in terms of raising educational standards • Competition drives up standards and achieves excellent education • One size DOES NOT fit all • If a child has problems/issues in one school they can move to the other and have a 'fresh start'. With only one school, where else could they go? • In the local community "There are more people that want to see Eskdale stay open than want to see it closed" (Over 5000 signatures on petition to keep Eskdale open) 2. UNIQUE ETHOS • Unique ethos – 'Every child matters' • Pupils, Parents and Staff are happy (See Ofsted parent view 83% children strongly agree they are happy, compared to National Average 53%, Caedmon College 46%) • Small school which enables teachers to know pupils well and vice versa. Especially useful for those pupils with special educational needs who benefit from a smaller nurturing environment.Plus access is better for the disabled. • Education for the whole person • Focus on practical skills and on art/music not just academic (excellent music pods) • Encourages pupils to take initiative and responsibility • Broad range of extracurricular activities (eg. Many varied clubs-gardening, art, drama, choir, gymnastics, trampolining, juggling, minecraft club to name a few) • Excellent pupil reward scheme in place using 'vivo'system 3. EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS • 'Personal development, behaviour and welfare' rated 'Good' in 2015 Ofsted report • Extremely high positive feedback on Ofsted ParentView (91% would recommend the school to another parent) • Dedicated group of well qualified teachers • 'Curriculum at Eskdale prepares pupils well for life in modern Britain and provides for their spiritual, moral, social and cultural development effectively' (OFSTED 2015) • Large Choice of competitive sports teams • Good range of subject choices (drama and 2 language choices, from year 7) • Eskdale received Requires Improvement in its inspection report but it continually states throughout the report that there has been too little time since the previous inspection to see the results of the implementations they have put in place. Many other schools in North Yorks have received Requires Improvement but they have not been deemed to close. Surely in this situation the LA should be doing all they can to help the school or are they just unwilling? • Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger. They have not had an Ofsted since 2013. Caedmon was deemed a Requires Improvement School before merge and hasn't been inspected since. Are they going to cope with an influx of another 300+ pupils from Eskdale and the amalgamation process, do they have provision to provide? How will this effect Caedmon College pupils? • 2014 GCSE results 5A*-C in English & Maths - Caedmon College overall 59%, ex-Eskdale pupils 62%. Proving Eskdale pupils achieve just as well (or better) as pupils from CCW. • Eskdale teachers have the desire and dedication to put their all into the 14-16 curriculum and achieve excellent results. Teachers have been working hard to prepare for the GCSE courses. Pupils too, desperate to prove Eskdale can produce fantastic GCSE results. They should be given the chance to do this. Much of Ofsted inspection and a school's 'worth' is based on data driven measurable results. There is no longer KS3 SATS in year 9 and Eskdale do not have GCSE results to be measured on. If they had the chance to do this, we'd see just how fantastic the school is. • Much research shows that many schools that have merged/amalgamated (especially in North Yorkshire) have had a decline in standards. Most recently and closest to home the Graham and Raincliffe Merge in Scarborough led to them going into special measures within 2 years! • In Filey there is only one secondary school, over recent years standards have dropped as no competition. They were in special measures and have now been taken out of the Local Authority control and converted into an academy. This is not a good track record for school mergers within the Borough of Scarborough and a lesson worth the learning. 4. COMMUNITY • Large open space (tennis courts/large playing fields and playground)for pupils (and locals) to enjoy benefits of fresh air and exercise. • Local and good links with community (eg. Sainsburys opposite work closely in projects with Eskdale) • Building strong relationships with each other and within the community • Has community woven into it. The following groups use the site at various times throughout the year, some every week, some on occasional basis): ABRSM Music Examinations, Fishburn Park football clubs 1st and 2nd teams, Fishburn Park kids football, Fylingdales, Lealholm and Whitby Rugby club football teams, Fylingdales netball, Methodist church group, motorhome rallies, ONOMY(young church group), Whitby Music Centre, Tennis Club, Ultimate Soccer, Whitby Christian Fellowship, Whitby Ladies football, Whitby Company of Archers, Whitby Rugby Club, Young Farmers basketball) All earning money for the school. • Eskdale is not just a school but a centre for East side community of Whitby. It is a vital resource • Good relationships with primary feeder schools (especially East Whitby, over the road and Hawsker who use facilities such as food tech room) 5. FUTURE PROVISION • Pupil Numbers set to increase • Windfarm – more jobs, more families, more pupils. • Potash - more jobs, more families, more pupils • More housing to be built in the town, the children from theses will need schooling 6. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS • Secondary pupil numbers set to increase over next 10-15 years (predicted 25/26 1647) Eskdale is needed. • Plans to build more family housing in Whitby will mean more school places needed. Much of this will be close to Eskdale and in prime feeder territory • Sound business plan for 11-16 • There are plenty of towns of similar size and similar pupil numbers to Whitby that support 2 (or even 3) secondary schools, why can't our town? 7. SPECIAL NEEDS • Eskdale has always been highly regarded in terms of catering extremely well for SEN pupils. This is down to their caring ethos, small size and provisions they have put in place to deal with particular needs and accessibility. 8. PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT • Strong parental involvement (Excellent

Local resident

<p>PTA and regular termly events from bingo to Summer Fair) 9. SIZE • Small school ensures excellent pupil/teacher relationships • Helps pupils to feel safe. One small school is better for many pupils rather than a large school on split sites in terms of them 'feeling at home' and well prepared for learning. Especially important for SEN pupils. • A smooth transition for year 6 pupils, especially those from very small feeder schools in surrounding rural areas, for whom a small school feels safer and more secure • 10. INFRASTRUCTURE/PRACTICALITIES • One safe site (no time wasted travelling between sites for pupils or staff) • As all teachers are on one site at Eskdale, all of the time, it is easy for pupils to find them at break time, before and after school to tell them anything they need to, go over homework, seek support etc. • Accessible (Good safe access for buses dropping off and picking up) • What impact will there be on highways and roads around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? • What impact will there be on parking around Caedmon College Sites if they do amalgamate with increase in numbers? • Caedmon College still adapting to the previous merger, in terms of practicalities and organisation how will all the pupils be 'housed' if they amalgamate and are split over 3 sites for at least next year, then on to 2 the year after. This chaotic approach will surely have a detrimental effect on all pupils over the next few years. • Have they the space to accommodate everyone safely especially with numbers due to increase in coming years? • Is it short sighted of NYCC to even consider closing a school when numbers are set to increase. If Eskdale does go, in 10 years time much of the teaching could end up happening in cabins/temporary classrooms at Caedmon College sites? Surely it is a better way forward to build on the investment NYCC has made to Eskdale School site over last few years and let it carry out the wish to carry on as an 11-16 establishment? • If both schools were to continue to co-exist in such a manner they would still be average size for North Yorkshire</p>	
<p>Eskdale should be allowed to become an academy, it is an excellent and much needed facility for the east side. To close it removes choice for parents, do you really feel justified in talking about closure when there aren't enough facilities at Caedmon to take Eskdale's pupils? All the new housing developments are a short walk from Eskdale, 107 being built by a Social Housing landlord on Helredale playing field, well over 100 on Eskdale Park, when these are occupied mainly by families with school age children how will Caedmon cope with the demand? Children go to school to learn how much time will be wasted travelling between schools when the curriculum dictates? What was Whitby Grammar School, then 6th form college should be closed instead, it will sell for more money than Eskdale, being a prime west side site, there is plenty of room at the old Caedmon site to build the necessary classrooms to take those pupils. Please use some common sense and take your heads out of the sand, put right the wrong decision made years ago when the 6th form college was introduced.</p>	Local resident
<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College.</p>	Local resident
<p>Do not close this school, there will NOT be a good enough quality of education for the children of this town if they are all crammed into a school that isn't big enough and isn't ready (after its own merger) to accommodate them. Their education will suffer. The current parents and children need choice and future parents need choice too.</p>	Local resident
<p>I do not agree on the amalgamation. There needs to be parent choice in the town. The poor performance of Whitby college several years ago shows the risk attached to having a sole education provider in the town.</p>	Local resident
<p>Why close a good school? Why upset so many children and parents? More classrooms will have to be built on other sites. A split site is never totally acceptable. If more housing is planned for Whitby - won't there be a need for school places? Small schools are more personal. When Whitby school became a comprehensive 14-18 school with greatly increased numbers the pupils struggle. This will inevitably happen if the schools amalgamate - "small is beautiful".</p>	Local resident
<p>I came from a small village school, to go to a big school of 1500, teachers wouldn't necessarily know all the kids well. Concerned on parking too. I am against the amalgamation.</p>	Local resident
<p>Not wanting more traffic and parking problems. I am against the amalgamation.</p>	Local resident
<p>My suggestion on regarding this proposal is - SCRAP IT. It is a foolish and short term means of temporarily saving (making) money which will not benefit the local educational needs. Eskdale School appears, to me, to general It turn out well educated and balanced young people who will be served no better by being in a much larger establishment. Where individual needs tend to be more likely to be lost in the greater number of students. There is also the issue of choice in what is a relatively isolated area. Parents will effectively be reduced to a choice of one!! Hence no choice in a time when all supposed to make individual choices. Please listen to the voices of those who use , and hence used, this good school and reject what is a misguided and foolish short term non-fix for anon existant problem.</p>	Local Resident

The School authorities & staff have always (over the past 26 years) been of great help & advise to me in relation to the area 'of ground' annexing the school & my property. I want 'assurances' that if the proposal goes through that the vacated ground will <u>NOT</u> be used for any further housing projects, (particularlry relating immigrants). My first 2 husbands were Headmasters of Secondary Modern Schools in the Midlands. I know a fair bit about the education system & the present proposals are NOT taking into A/c either the staff or pupils of Eskdale School. I suggest THINK AGAIN!! Stop thinking of your purses!	Local Resident
Children from my village and this area are at present pupils at Eskdale School. They and their parents are very happy about all aspects of the school. As a governor at Whitby Community College, I attended joint meetings with Caedmon & Eskdale Schools, I discovered that Eskdale was a very happy school with a warm atmosphere and very friendly pupils and staff. (I have heard many other people make very similar remarks). As a former teacher myself it was very obvious to me that this was a successful well-loved school. I know teachers/teaching assistnats working at Eskdale School (or who formerly worked there) and I am always impressed by their love for and their loyalty towards the school, and also their work there over and above the actual requirements of their job descriptions. I hear children, weekly reading at Fylingdales School and know that Eskdale School is the choice of pupils and parents when the time comes because they respect its reputation and achievements.	Local resident
I have no direct interest in either school, but I wonder if due consideration has been given to the increased traffic which, I think, will follow amalgamation. At times of assembly and departure the presnt situation is difficult to say the least.	Local resident
I am against the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon Schools. XX has been quoted this week in the paper as saying that sixth form education will be cut in Whitby if the schools do not merge but he fails to understand that education is changing and older students no longer feel the need to stay close to home at 16 as they would have done previously. I feel that XX is scaremongering and I fail to see how this can be an objective process with the comments which he has made. He also gives misleading information as Eskdale School had been awarded 11-16 status which was in place when the amalgamation was proposed so he is in effect shutting down an 11-16 school, not the 'last remaining middle school'.	Local Resident
The large new estate being built here should increase pupil numbers who may attend school.	Local Resident
It is distressing to see that when my 3 children will be old enough, they won't have a choice of secondary school, and with living on Eskdale Road that school would of being our choice. Why you think it is okay to take that away from us??? All these houses , but what about all the families what will be occupying them, is there enough room in 1 school to cater everybody??? What kind of education will be given to my children is my concern.	Local Resident
Parents need to have a choice of where to send their children to school.	Local resident
I think the schools should be left separate and not mess the children about. I don't agree with it. Mayfield Road is very busy already. I don't want more people parking near my house.	Local resident
The meetings were all for one side that was 2 11-16 schools for Whitby. Children crossing a main road to do PE madness.	Local resident
This has been rushed through to quickly slow down and think again. 2 11-16 schools forget the 6th form.	Local resident
Stay open	Local resident
Eskdale School should stay as it is. If it was to close it would be a loss, if we could get the facts? That it was about pupils and not money.	Local resident
Do not think it is a good idea to close this school, parents should have a choice as to which school they want their children to go to. Eskdale School is a very goos school, I went to Eskdale as did my son and was very happy there the teacher were always willing to help and in some case's going the extra mile to help.	Local resident
You need to think again we need 2 11-16 Secondary Schools. 6th form is better in Scarborough, Middleborough and Redcar. Whitby 6th form cannot compete with these. Keep Eskdale open. Listen to the Whitby people.	Local resident
Ofsted says Eskdale is letting students down, they are not doing as well as they should in results. Old, cold building – needs too much money to update Eskdale. Eskdale teachers protesting and using students and making them upset, just so they can do what they are doing now – failing children.	Local resident
I live on the estate near Caedmon Normanby site. Twice a day during term time the traffic is horrific queuing the length of Mayfield Road sometimes past the roundabout up Guisborough Road. This is about 400 metres. If 300+ more students were sent to these two sites the traffic jam could reach half a kilometre. For a small town like Whitby this is ridiculous. The entrance to the Normanby site is too small at the moment and is difficult to get in and out. There have also been numerous accidents at the Scoresby site entrance due to traffic queuing across the high level bridge nearby. The grass verge near the traffic lights has already been chewed up due to large lorries from the building site on Helredale Road being impatient in the traffic jams and driving on the verge to get past	Local resident

quicker. This will multiply once the mine gets going. More traffic = more accidents. Keep two secondary schools at either side of the town. This is what everybody wants. Do not merge the two schools.	
How can this be rushing through so quick. I think this town needs two 11-16 schools children need the choice. A large school with large classes is not the answer. The Whitby 6th Form has never offered many courses. Close it keep Eskdale and Caedmon. I went to the meetings, I listened and I heard the voice of Whitby. 2 11-16 Schools!	Local Resident
Whitby Town Council do not want it. Scarborough Council do not want it. Whitby Town do not want it. So plan B no 6th Form and 2 11-16 outstanding schools.	Local resident
Well I went to both meetings and I think XX needs to stop and think again. You cannot close a school because of Ofsted also WCC will not have one for another two years. Plus they only joined Caedmon last year, and we don't know how good that is. From what I hear not good Children Crossing roads and teachers late for lessons moving sites. not good. Keep Eskdale open 2 11-16 schools no 6th form.	Local resident
I am against the proposed amalgamation. Preferred option: 11-16 on Eskdale site, 11-19 on former Caedmon School site, alsoing WCC Normanby site to finance the move. This would retain the sports facilities, resources, stuff and good current practice could be shared. A more collaborative approach is required. Parents/pupils & staff clearly want choice in Whitby. This is not about Eskdale vs Caedmon, both schools are good. A significant number of parents are actively looking outside Whitby because they are concerned about the merger. It is now clear that the majority of Whitby people wish to keep Eskdale School open. Eskdale School should be given the chance to provide an 11-16 education. Eskdale has the capability, and the pupils, parents and staff are united and highly motivated to achieve success.	Local resident
The amalgamation of schools represents a reduction in choice for the families of Whitby. If Y7 & Y8 children from all over the town are to be taught at the Eskdale site this will see a significant increase in traffic & the potential for an accident on the already congested roads. The proposal distribution of year groups will not solve 'transition' issues or promote a sense of cohesion amongst pupils. Movement between sites on the west side of Whitby will also create potential worries over the safety of pupils.	Local resident
I object to the closure of Eskdale School	Local Resident
With all the new houses where will all the children go to school as they will not all fit at the proposed site. Do not agree to closure.	Local Resident
Keep choice, competition, challenge. Do not close Eskdale School, it is the best school in Whitby. Ofsted reports are not all they are cracked up to be. Ticky boxes mean nothing - happy children learn better. Se parent survey on the Ofsted report!!	Local Resident
The closure of Eskdale School is wrong for so many reasons, I categorically disagree with the proposal. Leaving the children of Whitby no choice of school for 11 year olds will inevitably see lots of them travelling over 20 miles, maybe a lot further if there aren't places in the nearest schools. Eskdale has a unique ethos, there aren't many schools where children are so happy, contented and ready to learn. They have some fantastic, dedicated teachers who go that extra mile and who might not be willing to move over to Caedmon preferring to find jobs elsewhere. The merger between Community College and Caedmon has not been tested for long enough, who's to say they won't end up in special measures at the next Ofsted. As for needing the money to prop up the 6th form, if all the funding for the children of the two merged schools isn't enough to offer a wider range of subject choices then how is funding from another 300 going to help? The 6th form in Whitby, has never been adequate and has seen lots of children going to 6th form colleges elsewhere to continue their education. Surely this is a better option as they have much more choice and can enrol on courses they are interested in studying rather than having to choose from very limited options. The closure of Eskdale will not only be detrimental to our young people but to all who use it for sport, music, church groups etc. Please consider carefully and use your vote wisely, if the proposal goes forward we will be losing not just a school but a vital part of the community on the east side of Whitby.	Local Resident

<p>In my opinion the Consultation Document is flawed in many areas, several questions remain unanswered and I fail to see why this proposed amalgamation is being made in such haste. I am concerned that : a) other options have not been pursued (or if they have, why wasn't the outcome of those options made public. b) the traffic to the CCW sites will need much planning and in depth consideration (I live on Mayfield Rd, traffic at school opening and closing time is often back up at a standstill outside my home, particularly on wet days) logistics should be sorted before adding another 300 pupils to the nightmare. c) how much teaching time is going to be lost when Staff are flitting between sites ? d) The three site proposal for at least a year is totally unacceptable, why should our year seven and year eight pupils have to suffer all the upset at a time when they are apprehensive and nervous about starting their secondary school education. (XX stated that the proposed amalgamation would benefit all our Children - I can't see that year seven Children from small country schools will benefit - the upset they will be put through could scar them for life !) e) Why should the lower school have to compensate the higher school (ie sixth form) - surely it is more important that the eleven to sixteen year pupils get the very best education. f) Choice is of the utmost importance in such a geographically isolated town like Whitby - if Eskdale were to close, students would have to travel over 20miles to an alternative. g) many local parents have, for varied reasons, needed to remove their children from Caedmon to Eskdale , and indeed from Eskdale to Caedmon. The ethos at each school is very different - one School does NOT fit all. h) Planning permission for over 200 new homes was passed earlier this year at land near Sneaton Castle, (west side of Whitby) building work is in progress on a large scale of new homes off Eskdale Road, (east side of Whitby) the Wind Farm and New Potash Mine planning proposals have also been passed. Surely it is very short sighted at this stage to be thinking of closing a School. g) I feel that we as residents of Whitby are not being told the full facts about this amalgamation, why were questions side lined or not answered fully at the Public Meetings ? Many are saying it's a done deal, the arrogance of a Committee planning a new Uniform and Name for the proposed New School certainly makes it look rather like a done deal ! h) Do we have an assurance that all the County Councillors, who are going to make this Monumental decision on our young peoples future, have been to visit Eskdale, spent time with the pupils there and listened to them and their parents. i) further to the C of Ex. statement last week re:all school are to become Academies by 2020 - if Eskdale is vacated and CCW becomes an Academy, - no doubt at some point NYCC will sell the Eskdale Site - Where then will the income go ? j) It has been said that some Staff will have to reapply for their jobs, why then does the same rule NOT apply to The Head ? k) There has been no Ofsted inspection at CCW since WCC and Caedmon amalgamated, sounds to me like we could be jumping out of the pan and into the fire !! l) I feel the people of Whitby should be told the full facts, we are the ones who are effected by any change, there seems to be so much secrecy. Openness by NYCC, CCW and Eskdale (Heads, Staff and Governors) is what is needed and I don't feel we have had that. I have been told that some Staff on all levels at both Schools dare not get involved as they fear the consequences. m) I do not have anything against either CCW or Eskdale - each in their own way appear to be good Schools, but I see no justifiable reason for them to amalgamate. n) Please take a step back and make sure that the future for all our wonderful Children is the very Best possible chance for them to learn and achieve what ever is best for each of them. Finally, I wish to confirm that ; I AM OPPOSED TO THE AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE, WHITBY.</p>	<p>Local resident</p>
<p>I am a resident of X X in Whitby. I do not agree with this proposal going ahead. This would take away choice of secondary education for this children of Whitby and surrounding areas. We have a population of over 13000 people and to have only one school serving our young people is absolutely ridiculous! You are letting each and everyone of them down with this proposal. As a local resident in the area of the Caedmon sites, I already have to wait extremely long amounts of time trying to get into mayfield road at school drop off and pick up times. The amount of cars that already park on side roads is bad enough and this is only going to get worse with more children at the sites. Due to ill health, I've also had to wait longer for an ambulance delayed in school traffic. This again will only get worse for people with emergency services stuck in grid licked roads - these delays could be critical to somebody. Shake your heads NYCC and think seriously about this proposal. A failing 6th form in Whitby should not be dealt with by closing a secondary school on the other side of town. Our young people choose to leave at 16 to seek a wider range of opportunities elsewhere due to the choice on offer for them. I would suggest that Caedmon and Eskdale remain at 11-16 school serving our pupils, leaving healthy competition and challenge in the town. Concentrate your proposal on this, if this ridiculous scheme goes ahead Whitby will never recover from it</p>	<p>Local resident of Caedmon sites</p>
<p>I STRONGLY DISAGREE WITH THE CLOSURE OF ESKDALE SCHOOL. THERE ARE SEVERAL HUNDRED HOUSES PROPOSED OR ALREADY BEING BUIT WHICH WILL INCREASE PUPIL NUMBERS. THE SCHOOL HAS LARGE PLAYING AREAS, WHICH OTHER GROUPS ALSO USE. SMALL SCHOOL ENSURES EXCELLENT PUPIL TEACHER RELATIONSHIPS. HAS GOOD PICK UP POINT FOR BUSES. GIVES PUPILS A CHOICE OF SCHOOLS. A DEDICATED GROUP OF WELL QUALIFIED TEACHERS. CAN CAEDMON COLLEGE SITES COPE WITH 320 EXTRA, PLUS MORE IN THE FUTURE PLUS STAFF. HAVE NYCC ALREADY MADE THERE MINDS UP TO SELL THE SCHOOL SITE FOR HOUSING WHICH IF SO IS A SHORT SITED PLAN.</p>	<p>Other</p>

I do not agree with the amalgamation of the schools. I think it would have a negative effect on education in the town. And will force more families to send their children out of the area to schools that may suit their child better. I think it's so important to have a choice, there are many differences between the schools and think eskdale is much better suited to a lot of kids than Caedmon. I just can't see how this move is in the best interest of the towns children whatsoever. It's very upsetting.	Parent
Please keep eskdale open because I really want to go. I felt happy there because I felt like I mattered. I will be coming from a small primary school in September and don't want to go to a huge school. Please let me attend my chosen school that I chose for myself.	Parent
Please keep eskdale open because I really want to go. I felt happy there because I felt like I mattered. I will be coming from a small primary school in September and don't want to go to a huge school. Please let me attend my chosen school that I chose for myself.	Parent
XX, You have compiled a New Children & Young People's Plan. Young & Yorkshire - we heard a bit about it last night. In it, you talked about how children & young people are our most precious asset, saying that you know that if we work well together and listen to their voices we will be better able to help <u>every single one</u> of them to grow into confident and successful adults. How exactly are you listening to all their voices? To help <u>every single one</u> ? The children that 'chose' Eskdale, chose the school because it suited them.. They liked the small school with a nurturing ethos, where 'Every Child Matters'. Yes they will grow in confidence here, as they are known as individuals. You say that ' You will not rest until we can confidently say that all North Yorkshire Childrens' life chances are in their own hands, rather than being determined by geography or family circumstances? So, by proposing to close a school they 'chose' as vital life choice, I'm sure you'll agree, how is this putting the decision in their hands? If they 'chooce' to not attend Caedmon College, Whitby as it perhaps doesn't suit, after all 'one size doesn't fit all,' then there choice is somewhat narrowed. They would have to partake in a 40 mile round trip daily across the NY Moors to find an alternative, so this is very much determined by geography. The extra travel would need funding, so if your family are unable to cover this cost, then family circumstances would again play a part in your 'chances'. Another contradiction I'm sure you'll agree? So this consultation is all well & good, but only if you are <u>open</u> to listen to what our concerns are. The Young & Yorkshire consultation will have cost the tax payers, after all nothing is free. Was it a good use of money, if what our young people have actually asked for in fact being ignored. Our young People have asked for 'more to do' in this fabulous plan that you have gone to the trouble of compiling, but how is taking away a school that actually offers lots of extra curricular activities, including football, tennis and archery going to offer more? Where are you proposing these community groups go? Whitby is short changed when it comes to facilities as it is, lets work out a way to keep these groups and strice to gie our young people more not less. You are honest in admitting that these times are challenging for services you represent, so where would you find the money neede to relocate these clubs? A lot has been made of Eskdale requiring improvement in their last 2 Ofsteds. (Whilst the fact that Caedmon's last ofsted pre amalgamation was actually RI too, and apart form a Local Authority review, we don't know if the newly amalgamated Caedmon College, Whitby would now get a 'good from Ofsted?) That aside as it actually has NEVER been about who is better, but I feel that Eskdales RI's have become a focus. Reading their Ofsted it didn't ever read that Eskdale was a school that was failing, it was and still is improving, and I think that given the righth support & time they would have come through this and would go from strength to strength. Eskdale and it's pupils were excited to move forward the 11-16 plan, and I feel they should have had a fair shot at this. How do we know that the newly amalgamated Caedmon College, Whitby will cope with another amalgamation in such a short timescale? We only need to look up the road to the amalgamation @ GRaham & Raincliffe Schools, to see it doesn't always work, they ended up in special measures. You say that you, "Recognise that fun, happiness and enjoyment of life are also important." Well I think that our Parent View at Eskdale backs up, that our children are in fact happy @ school, with 83% strongly agreeing against National average 54% strongly agreeing. Another contradiction it seems, where what you say when we can back it up with a statistice, it isn't listened to. Please think about this, don't make the decision without really thinking of young people, their voice really has to be heard!.	Parent
The reason why I think it shouldn't close is because Caedmon & Whitby College can't take the amount of pupils & more when new houses are built.	Parent
Consultation to close Eskdale. I would urge the executive decision makers to listen, read and acknowledge the Whitby community, parents, students, teachers and governors. Please do not presume that NYCC have the best way forward. They have one idea for our town and this makes them single minded. All the statistics they produce are going to substantiate what they are claiming. We would like 2 schools (choice) with maybe a federation of governors. Eskdale does have great teachers, more than capable of delivering good quality education at GCSE. Already proven in year 9 results. We do not need to bail out another school that needs sorting out. Give Eskdale a chance to prove itself over 5 years. If it doesn't you can go down this road then. NYCC will not listen to us and we hope you will!!!! It's a whole community and town – we stand united. Children matter	Parent
this is rediculus sugestion regarding closing eskdale school aswe are completing 300 new build houses at rear of this school	Parish council

Hawsker cum Stainsacre Parish Council is most concerned about the proposed closure of Eskdale School. The Parish Council wishes to express its opinion very strongly, if the closure goes ahead, that any money from the sale of land after the closure of the school should be reinvested in the children of Whitby.	Parish Council
As many children of Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council attend Eskdale School, the parish council would like it to be logged that it strongly objects to the closure of the school. It also has concerns whether proper processes were undertaken ie consulting with parents on the matter, and if enough due regard has been taken into account of the effect on students and the increase of pressure of providing schooling at the other educational establishment in Whitby, that being Caedmon Community College. The parish council would be grateful if you could seriously review this decision and consider keeping Eskdale School open.	Parish Council
Eskdaleside cum Ugglebarnby Parish Council is against the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby	Parish Council
Sneaton Parish Council is against the amalgamation on the grounds of removing choice as well as safety of children being transported to/from school. Reducing the facilities available to children regarding sport also increases chances of obesity etc	Parish Council
Aislaby Parish Council is against the merger of Eskdale School and Caedmon College	Parish Council
After consultation with the Parish Councillors, a number of views have been raised. The over-riding concern regarding the financial implications and falling numbers have been commented upon and feel should be given priority. However, it was also commented upon that the impact of teaching and learning on both Students and families should also be considered as it appears that there is a strong community influence suggesting that this is an emotive issue. It was acknowledged that in todays climate of austerity that financial aspects will be the long term factor in the decision by NYCC.	Parish Council
Closing Eskdale would greatly reduce the choice for students in the Whitby. Each student chooses based on their personal situation. Each school has it's own merits and neither don't compare to the other. The closure of Eskdale would cause increased pressure for Caedmon. Class sizes would double and the care towards the students stretched. The sixth form at Caedmon will yet again be left in the shadows when those years are do very crucial for progress onto university. Eskdale is a caring school, students are individuals not just a grade. The merge would see those who are quieter and those who achieve lower grades slip under the net due to the volume of students each teacher will have. having the two schools mean that those who have problems at one can transfer to the other. Those who have done so are now panicing as that person may become their classmate once again and with a high number of students teachers aren't gonna have time to focus on individual bullying cases. Whitby needs the two schools. If Eskdale was to close it would be a great loss to the town. Save Eskdale!	Past Eskdale pupil
I am 21 years of age and now completing my final year at university. Without the teachers and facilities at Eskdale school I would have never made it this far in my education. I was not a particularly bright, or school loving student but my time at Eskdale really changed this. I don't believe that there should be change to the school. It supports students through a very important time in their childhood and helps to shape them into young adults. The size enables students to feel valued and at home. Eskdale provides a more intimate and engaging learning environment and helps students to feel more confident in expressing their views and asking questions. Learning for young people is all about asking questions. This school had a huge impact on my life and I am confident in saying that it did the same for many others in my year. Save Eskdale school. I would be more than happy for this statement to read out at the consultation.	Past Eskdale pupil
Eskdale School should stay open as a stand-alone school. Children need a choice of schools. Some children will do better in a smaller school. If they don't settle at one school for whatever reason, they don't settle at one school for whatever reason, they need another choice of local school. Due to Whitby's geographic location it is a long way to travel to another secondary school. Competition between schools improves their performance. I went to Eskdale School myself and was very happy there. I was hoping my own children would go there in the future. If Eskdale School was to close, it would be a huge loss to East side of town and local villages. The number of children in Whitby (this area particularly) is likely to increase over the next 10 years due to new housing being built, could Caedmon College support all these children successfully?	Past Eskdale pupil
I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of the two schools, mainly because I feel that there has been insufficient research done into the effect that this will have on the community. I am also sceptical of the motives behind this merger in the first place and am of the opinion that there has not been adequate transparency with the community as to these reasons. In addition, see the Save Eskdale School Facebook page for more reasons. Also as a further point I must add that this online consultation form is abysmally presented with next to no clarity as to how to complete it. For example, you have given us a maximum of 9999 characters with which to work, yet only a 4(!) line box to input our opinion, how in the name of X X is 9999 characters going to fit into 4 lines? I could go on, but I feel it would be a waste of effort.	Past Eskdale pupil

<p>I am no longer in the area, but all my children attended Eskdale school. My 2 younger would have still been on role now. Eskdale is more than just school every child needs are met and every child counts, they not just a number or an face to get good grade and look good for ofsted. Eskdale pro ride more than just education it provides a safe haven for the children to learn in an environment that's small and friendly where every teacher knows you name. Not a college where you can spend 3 years and get little support and come to the end and people still don't know you. Unless your a high flyer and getting the required A to C GCSE or behave bad at CCW your a nobody. My children had amazing support throughout their time in Eskdale. Others need to chance to have this. Why become a super school just to suit a select few. If this happens it will mean so many more children fail and end up mistake in school. I urge you as an ex Eskdale parent please consider the children of Whitby and don't take away their choice.</p>	<p>Past parent</p>
<p>Having successfully educated three children at Eskdale school, all of whom transferred from a small village primary I am appalled at NYCC decision to close and amalgamate Eskdale with Caedmon College . Two of my children struggled hugely with the move to secondary education, one had a diagnosis of ASD and one currently in year 10 , not in school and undergoing assessment for ASD also . In both cases I was able to choose a school I felt most suited their needs , without the need for them to travel outside of the community in which they felt safe , and both I feel were nurtured and fulfilled their potential in a happy caring environment . Neither it must be said achieved the same success undergoing yet another transfer in year 10 . For this reason I feel Eskdale remaining open and accepting , along with Caedmon College children up to the age of 16 is the clear way forward for the children of Whitby . The split site proposal I feel unsuitable for children , particularly in bad weather , Mayfield Road , one of the main thoroughfares into Whitby is already busy and congested , particularly at school opening and closing times . Selling off Eskdale site for housing can surely only lead to more children needing educating at a later date . Two of my children attended 6 th form at Caedmon college , neither able to study the subjects they really wanted to , due to the woeful lack of choice . Neither felt they wanted to commit , even at 16 years old to travelling 20 plus miles to study what they really wanted to , leading to a compromised choice at university level for one of them . Greater investment is needed in the children of Whitby and their education , removing more choice is not a way foreword . Two secondary schools for 11- 16 year olds , and a more competitive 6 the form college is no less than our children deserve . Our area is possibly unique geographically but that is no reason for our children - the future of the area to be penalised . The idea of amalgamation seems to me a short term cash raising , ill thought out plan which in actual fact has nothing to do with children , teaching standards , locality , or wellbeing at all</p>	<p>Past parent</p>
<p>Eskdale has been an excellent school & I have known many local people who have attended the school & later gone on to good Universities & courses - and later still to good careers. Eskdale has also been very supportive school for pupils with less academic ability. My main pints of concern - It is quite likely that in the future the school roll in Whitby will increase. Caedmon could find itself challenged for space in this respect. Whitby is very short of good amenities for young people - particularly playing fields. The East Side has already lost one playing field to housing developments - Eskdale fields host may youth football games & could be used for more activities in the future. Where are young Whitby children expectd to play & stay fit in the future?</p>	<p>Past parent</p>
<p>Choice is denied, human rights? Is the large amalgamation proven educationally, suitable for students from small feeder primaries. Is it proven by Ofsted to be capable educationally of meeting the standards required by the parents and employers of the local area? Have the sites chosen the capacity to provide for the needs of the Whitby Area in future? How much future proofing has been built in to the proposals? The unique nature of Whitby seems to have been ignored when in the past two feeders and a Sixth Form/ university outreach were always a more secure option. Financially the situation has presented problems but where else in this country has it not been a problem? In respect of the proposals where are your alternatives. Close inspection does not seem to offer the town any! It would appear the decision rests with one plan though suggests some building work will alleviate already severely crowded facilities at more, unplanned expense. History shows this situation and Whitby students and parents have been left with less than satisfactory provision for the education because of a lack of determination to sort out the problem once and for all. This situation is not looking for an immediate solution it requires a longer term answer that takes into account trends in both education, needs of the wider community and national trends in population. Your proposals seem to present a fait accomplis, it does not seem to offer alternatives nor planning foresight.</p>	<p>Past parent</p>
<p>This school has incubated so much fantastic talent: sports people representing our country- tiatheletes, cyclists, fencers, volleyballers, and then musicians and then those doing the most demanding vocational jobs - nurses, police, doctors, teachers and then to those that stay in our community carrying on a tradition and way of life - farmers, vets, local businesses, new businesses. AND ALL OF THESE are examples that I KNOW personally from my daughter's peer group at Eskdale. So how many fantastic people has this "little" school helped shape. And how many lives have they touched? Our children need choices. Parent's need voices. One size does not fit all. Not everyone is able to ferry their children to other schools miles away. If you take this choice away there is no choice.</p>	<p>Past parent</p>

Eskdale School is an excellent educational centre which as served our 3 daughters to a very high standard with their ethos. Our eldest daughter attended Caedmon and we found more emphasis was put on 'data' than the pupils needs. I believe the amalgamation will deny pupils of the personal attention they currently receive at Eskdale. Monopoly is not always the way forward as values diminish!	Past parent
I do not agree of the closure of Eskdale School, my daughter attended this school and thrived there. I have a nephew and a niece at Caedmon and this would have a nock on effect for them too.	Past parent
To a lot of people in this town you are closeing a EXCELLENT SCHOOL. I do not agree with the school closeing.	Past parent
People of Whitby need choice. The town is increasing in size and the council think it's a good idea to close a school. This is a short sighted plan. I do not agree with the school closing.	Past parent
I do not agree in the closure of eskdale school because the other schools don't have the facilities to hold all the otwns children in just two schools our children and granchildren should also have a choice off schools to pick so they don't have to go to schools out of the whitby area.	Past parent
I dissagree with the closure of Eskdale School. All three of my children attended there and all three have done very well for themselves. I have never known in all my days children been excited about going to school. All my grandchildren are now going and some hoping that it will stay open so they can attend. If the children are happy leave them alone. You've disrupted them enough!	Past parent
The loss of Eskdale will have repercussions for years to come, this school is not just about education, it is about nurturing. The education and welfare of our children should not be squandered lightly. The amalgamation is purely a cheaper financial solution in the short term, why not wait and see if the amalgamation between Caedmon and whitby even works before burning bridges? Multistorey housing was a cost-effective solution to the housing shortage and in time proved to be a disaster. Vast educational establishments might offer a financial saving but what is the real cost? Have you the right to bulldoze a wonderful school against so much opposition and gamble with our children's future? Shouldn't parents and pupils have a choice?	Past parent
It would be an absolute travesty if this school closes. I chose this school for my son as it was by far the best school in the Whitby/Scarborough area and still is. There has to be choice for the parents and children of Whitby. My child died in year 9 at Eskdale School. One of the things that gave us comfort was that he'd had a wonderful life. Eskdale School looked after him and supported him in every way. He was the only one from his primary school who went there and they were amazing in their care for him. He came from a small primary school, the same as a lot of children in the Esk Valley. A mega-school in Whitby is not going to serve the needs of these children. I am sick and tired of financial considerations coming before common sense and compassion for our children. I would like every individual involved in this decision to put themselves in the place of a parent choosing a school place for their own child. My situation is extreme. My child died. But I'm not being sentimental. Every child deserves to go to the school that's right for them. Eskdale is an amazing, unique school. I wish I'd gone to a school half as good. You only get one chance at childhood and education. And it is one of the most important and formative times of your life. Please listen to us. I know you've been surprised by the strength of feeling that this proposal has invoked. And this won't go away. We will continue to fight. We are not giving up. Please, please put our children's education before financial decisions. Please, please imagine your own child not having a choice. And what is going to happen to children who don't settle, for whatever reason, at the big Whitby school. What provision do you have for them? Scalby School? Lady Lumleys? Who's paying transport fees for this to happen? I don't know if this is already a 'done deal' but if not, please listen to us. I don't know what else to say. I no longer have a personal stake in Eskdale School. It doesn't affect me directly if Eskdale School is closed. So why am I bothering to write to you? Because I care about my community and I really care that parents and children in Whitby have the opportunity to choose this fantastic, caring, nurturing, amazing school.	Past parent
Eskdale School has always been a very good school in the 42 years that I have had family members through it. The ethos has been caring and the academic results have enabled my family members to achieve their success with one at Cambridge University, one now a managing director of a medium sized company, another in banking, being in charge of data for a small independent bank on the Isle of Man. Some members are still studying for their degrees or doing apprenticeship, but all have been given the ability to fit in whatever their surroundings and achieve in more ways than the academic, thanks to the nurturing and grounding given by Eskdale school. Do not destroy this very special school. Caedmon, is where I taught. It too was a good school but the ethos is different and the mix of students not as diverse . The overcrowding of the corridors gives a hectic atmosphere at lesson change which contrasts with the calm changeover experienced by the Eskdale students that gets them to their next lesson, calm and ready to learn. The larger building of Eskdale would lend itself better to the combined middle schools at it also has a separate dining hall and assembly hall which is not the case at the Caedmon middle school campus. Students and parents need choice. They are being denied that choice if you close Eskdale School.	Past parent
Keep 2 11-16 Schools. My children went to Scarborough 6th form	Past parent

<p>With Whitby increasing in population. If these schools join, there will be serious overcrowding. These schools should remain as they are. Selling the school should not come before education.</p>	<p>Past parent</p>
<p>I have used the key considerations for decision makers criteria as proposed by NYCC on which to base my reasons why amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby should not go ahead. I am against this amalgamation and believe it would be detrimental to the students of Whitby and the surrounding area. KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR DECISION-MAKERS A set of key criteria has been developed against which potential alternative options for the future of secondary provision in Whitby might be measured. This allows for an objective evaluation of how potential changes will meet the needs of the area both now and in the future. The key questions which decision- makers need to consider are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o How far will the proposal contribute towards the County Council's aspiration to see all schools in North Yorkshire being judged as good or outstanding?; Specifically, will it lead to rapid improvement and, in the future, an outstanding education for the young people of Whitby? Rebuttal: Not currently a quantifiable question to be measured against. The current Ofsted Inspection grade for Caedmon College of 'Good' is based on the former Whitby Community College 2013 grade. In order to strengthen this proposal the school should undergo another inspection on the current framework / guidelines. Eskdale it is stated had LA support but was judged an RI school a second time. The LA support was obviously not suitable and the LA should look to their provision to ensure the school moves forward. Has Eskdale continued to address the issues raised in their Ofsted inspections? What progress has been made to date? o Does the proposal offer the young people of Whitby the best opportunities for progression, qualifications, further education, employment or training in a visionary and ambitious town? Rebuttal: For some students the answer will be a resounding yes. However, these same students will progress in the current environment but not all students will progress in the proposed huge 11 – 19 educational environment. Some will find the environment too daunting and will not achieve their potential. o Will the proposal reduce the potential disruption to the education of children and young people through unnecessary points of transition? Rebuttal: Transition points will remain and are part of student's educational life. It is how these points are managed that is the key factor. If Eskdale School is supported in its 11 – 16 goal then the age 14 transition point has been removed. Sixth form transition point is not really an issue the students have reached an age in which they should be able to approach this move with maturity. o Does the proposal have a clear focus on overall educational arrangements across a geographic area rather than on simply protecting the current institutional status quo? Rebuttal: The proposal certainly does not protect the current status quo. A clear focus on overall educational arrangements is a more moot point. In regards to the geographic area students are simply not used to potential size of the proposed school. Many of the students in the catchment area attend rural schools in the Esk Valley or surrounding villages of Whitby with numbers relative to its size on roll. The emotional / social health & wellbeing of an 11 year old child is of paramount importance to parents. They need to be confident that their child is happy in school, safe and with their friendship group. o Does the proposal enable governing bodies to provide in partnership with others a depth, breadth and quality of teaching and learning through successful recruitment of the very best leaders and teachers? Rebuttal: It is notoriously difficult to recruit in coastal area schools particularly Whitby as it is out on a limb. It does not necessarily follow that a large school would attract more applicants to posts as the cost of housing / living in the area will not change. o Does the proposal meets the County Council's aim for all schools to be working in partnership with appropriate others in a way which enhances opportunities for joint practice development and as a result to lead to improved educational standards? Rebuttal: Governing bodies & leaders can forge links / partnerships with a whole host of other education providers whatever the size of the establishment. o Is the proposal financially sustainable over time; and does it enable young people and staff to work and study in as high a quality of physical surroundings as possible? Rebuttal: Government funding / monies change continually making this criteria difficult to measure against. If the proposed school has a major refurbishment then maybe the physical class rooms would be of a high quality but the proposed loss of geographical space would give an overall feeling of too dense a population in a small space. o Does the proposal recognise the significance of schools as part of a wider local community and avoid unnecessary prolonged travel arrangements for young people when quality affordable provision could be maintained locally through creative partnership arrangements? Rebuttal: Judging from the reaction of parents at the two consultation meetings, the fight to save Eskdale Campaign, Alistair Griffin's musical contribution then I would say that was a resounding no. The proposal does not meet the above criteria and parents would appear to be willing for their children to travel out of the area (sufficient places not withstanding) for their education. Creative partnership arrangements may be the answer but obviously not this proposed amalgamation. o Does the proposal prepare the area well for the projected growth in pupil numbers in the future? Rebuttal: No. How can the closure of one site and the transferring of students to an already small geographic space prepare the area for projected growth in the future? There is a significant number of housing sites under construction in and around Whitby. o Does the proposal allow for the strengths of both schools to be incorporated into a single structure? Rebuttal: No. The present incumbent of Caedmon College Whitby was a previous head teacher at Eskdale. If Eskdale's ethos isn't already part of that school then it won't be after an amalgamation. The time scale for this proposal is so tight that the only way it could progress is if Eskdale, its staff and whole 	<p>Past parent</p>

<p>community is just incorporated into Caedmon College and everything it stands for will be lost for good. • Does the proposal enable the current financial challenge to be met? Rebuttal: Without detailed information of each sites financial situation it is another unmeasurable criteria. Does the Executive Committee actually know the current financial position of Eskdale & Caedmon College? Are both sites currently in surplus or deficit positions? Isn't the government funding per pupil about to change? Caedmon College has already gained the funding for the closed site's students and saved on some costs but if it still can't successfully operate a viable Sixth Form then maybe other avenues should be explored. There are other collaborations of Sixth Forms within the NYCC. Would a federation / collaboration with a Scarborough educational provider for the Sixth Form be a viable option? I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School with Caedmon College Whitby. I urge XX and the Executive Committee to ask the CYPS Corporate Director XX to bring before the committee another proposal which has the support of the parents, students and the local community.</p>	
<p>The recent merger of Caedmon School and Whitby Community College was not one that was welcomed by the majority of people in Whitby and here we go again. The merger was done purely on financial grounds and yet since it happened staff have been made redundant (from the public coffers) and then re-employed in some cases! Students are currently being taught in bigger and bigger class sizes and in some cases by teachers not qualified in that subject Examination results show no sign of noticable improvement and staff and students now spend part of their busy day moving between sites with all the potential traffic hazards that poses. The only potential winner in any future reorganisation of the schools in Whitby is the Headteacher of Caedmon College as he will see his salary and pension rise even further. After the previous merger there are now none of the Caedmon school Senior Management still in post - more of a takeover than a merger. The same will happen again as the staff at Eskdale School have put their hearts on their sleeves, spoken out against any merger and in doing so put their heads well and truly above the parapet. The Headteacher has a well known history of going after anyone who dares to oppose his views or his aims. There is a growing list of staff and Governors who have been forced to leave Whitby Community College, now Caedmon College, as result of them daring to question X X. Any future merger will always run into opposition as long as X X is the person in charge. Lets now wait and see how many of the Eskdale staff either walk away or are forced out of their position by a culture of bullying which has been present in Caedmon College ever since X X arrived in post. If you do not believe me, trust me there are plenty of people out their in the local community who are just waiting for an opportunity to share their unpleasant experiences and they will get their opportunity. It is clear that NYCC are either blind to what is really going on in Whitby's Secondary education system or actually support the culture that exists. The public have very little confidence in NYCC when it comes to education on the East Coast as the failures of schools in Whitby, Scarborough and Filey testify. Whatever you plans are for Whitby they will be more effective if you are brave enough to put a new Senior Management Team in place. This would begin to restore trust and show that you are actually serious about IMPROVEMENT rather than just attempting to balance the books at the expense of a generation of young people who only get one chance. Stop playing with lives and talk to the people of Whitby - they care, do you? All of the evidence to date is proof that the use of the word "consultation" is nothing but smoke and mirrors and there exists plenty of evidence, which will surface, to prove that you never had any intention of listening to the public.</p>	Past parent
<p>I do not agree with the closure of eskdale school. One size DOES NOT fit all. Eskdale is not just a school but a centre for East side community of Whitby. There are lots of organisation in Whitby that use this school and its facilities, where would these go?</p>	Past parent
<p>The proposal for Eskdale School to amalgamate with Caedmon College in my opinion would be a disaster with no freedom of choice for parents or children. There would be too many children in classes how are they going to get the same education that they get at Eskdale and what of the pupils already at Caedmon College with such a large influx of new pupils will that not impact on them too? These are just two of the reasons that Eskdale should be kept open there are many others primarily Eskdale is a lovely school all my 3 children went there and were very happy there, they moved onto the college at 14 with new teachers etc and their grades dropped dramatically which could have been to do with the fact of having to change schools and get used to different teachers, classmates etc. The teachers and staff were all second to none at Eskdale I cannot speak highly enough about them. Also another point what about all the local Football Teams that use Eskdale playing fields as there home pitches? Clubs that use the school? Eskdale School should be kept open as a 11 to 16 year old school please do not close this lovely school!</p>	Past parent Eskdale
<p>Please don't close Eskdale School. This community has been built around the school which has been a wonderful place for students, to come to for 60 years. Because it si a small school it can help children who would not fit in well at a larger more impersonal school such as Caedmon. If it wasn't for this school and it's kind and understanding staff I doubt that my son would have done so well at school. They helped him when he had severe emotional problems during his early teenage years. Also, if all the students at Eskdale are forced to go to Caedmon has anybody actually considered the traffic problems this would cause</p>	Past parent Eskdale

<p>on Whitby Bridge at School times? It is already chaotic with coaches and cars trying to get in and out of the school. To increase attendance at this school is an accident waiting to happen on that road. Please bear this in mind.</p>	
<p>It is ridiculous to expect one school to provide education for the whole of the Whitby area - as stated so many times 'one size does NOT fit all' - some pupils just need a smaller more family orientated surrounding in which to thrive - after all surely education is about pupils thriving and achieving to the best of their potential and, as the provider of their education, YOU have a duty to provide what is best for the pupils, not to sit in your counting house calculating how much money you can make by selling off the precious land and taking away not only school facilities but also facilities used by the wider community. Presumably the people in charge of this decision-making read the papers and have read the numerous articles about the increase in secondary pupil numbers in the next decade, it's not supposition- THIS IS FACT, and the assumption is that this increase will have an impact on the number of pupils to be educated here, or is this little corner in the North East of England exempt from these increases? - if Eskdale is closed then where do they anticipate the extra school places will come from - surely Caedmon College does not have infinite capacity? You have a duty to look after the welfare of the pupils in this area and this means providing them with the educational environment which suits their needs and abilities. Surely, you must realise from the amount of opposition encountered that the parents, pupils, teaching staff and the local community as a whole, are appalled by your proposals - it's easy to sit back and make comments but they are actively standing up and fighting for this - YOU NEED TO LISTEN!</p>	<p>Past pupil</p>
<p>I would like to register my opposition to the proposed merger. I believe it is incredibly important to retain the choice pupils currently have. My elder daughter attended Caedmon School, my younger daughter attended Eskdale School, so obviously in my opinion no school is 'better'. Each of my daughters attended the school that was right for them, and both flourished and enjoyed their time at the school they had chosen. Whitby desperately needs to have that choice. No one size fits all. Also, Whitby's geographical location is unique. Are future pupils really to be expected to travel 20+ miles each day, twice daily, across the moors? In winter this will simply not be practical or safe. Neither school is better than the other. Both Eskdale and Caedmon have strengths and weak points. But each school caters for different children. Some will flourish at Eskdale, others at Caedmon. I urge you to not remove the choice for the wonderful young people of Whitby. My mother was in the very first intake of Eskdale School. My granddaughter is due to begin Year 7 in September. I would not like to think she will be in the final intake.</p>	<p>Past pupil</p>
<p>The future generations education is important to the whole of Whitby and the closure of eskdale and the amalgamation of both eskdale and Caedmon college takes the choice away, every child should have that choice not one shoe fits all. Eskdale was part of my life and a big part of my sons life the teachers put there heart and soul into the kids education it would be a complete shame for this to happen .Why fix what's not broken</p>	<p>Past pupil</p>
<p>Against the proposal as I think the children and parents should have a choice and living in a rural area the needs to be a requirement for 2 secondary schools, also having 2 schools, any kids that are shy, timid or require extra needs then having 1 large school the kids will feel lost and not get the attention that they deserve. Also the government keep stating that since the country held the Olympics in 2012 how important sporting activities are, how will Caedmon college cope with the extra 300 plus kids on their current playing fields, and more than likely the playing area will be reduced in size as more buildings will be needed. Still on the sporting theme, the current state of the astra turf will get even more damaged due to over usage.</p>	<p>Past pupil</p>
<p>X X. I was a pupil 1981 - 1984. This is clearly a cynical exercise in my view to facilitate Academy status for Whitby School or whatever it chooses to call itself these days. Under X X the town was promised access for adults to a college and appropriate courses in order to secure funding for newbuildings etc. That turned out to be a joke and I understand that the school went into special measures. This is the same school that you now wish to be Whitby's only option for secondary education. There is supposed to be a principle of choice available for parents. How can this be served by having one school twenty miles away from any alternative? The school should be allowed whatever support it needs in order to overcome any of the difficulties which NYCC ascribe to it instead of bullying the school into closure. Councillors are elected to implement the wishes of the residents - not to sew up dodgy deals behind closed doors. Councillors should remember that they only have the power given to them by the electorate. They are not god. Clearly the people of Whitby have overwhelmingly said that they do not wish Eskdale to close. Equally clearly it seems that councillors have decided to ignore this public opinion. What then is the point of being a councillor if you don't work for the community which you claim to represent. If money is the problem councillors should be telling central government that the programme of cuts has gone too far already. They shouldn't bend over backwards to deliver above and beyond what has been asked of them and then whine when central government demands more and more as they will. Stand up for residents wishes. If you can't then quit.</p>	<p>Past pupil</p>

As an ex-pupil I think this is a terrible idea, concentrating all the pupils from Whitby and the surrounding area in a single large school split over multiple sites eliminates choice and forces everybody to attend the same school which will not fit each pupils needs. I look back with very fond memories on my time at Eskdale and the College though I note that Whitby CC is a shadow of its former self today, and at least part of that blame probably lies with the fact that it has never had any competition and was able to attract pupils by default. By promoting this idea you are giving a monopoly to a single school from the ages of 11-18 and unlike other areas where alternative schools can be found in neighbouring towns, the same cannot be said for Whitby. I think this is a short-sighted decision made by people who clearly do not live near Whitby and have no appreciation for the local situation.	Past pupil
Keep Eskdalemuir school open. It's an excellent school and Whitby needs it!	Past pupil
A terrible idea. I was a pupil one of the town's schools and needed to transfer after initial problems. After moving, I flourished, leaving the town with 3A grades at Alevel for a top university. Without the opportunity to transfer within the schools I would not have left the town with the same positive prospects. Moving to a school in Scarborough or Pickering would have been financially impossible, as I'm sure it will be for many parents in the town. All pupils in the town deserve to have the same option. Eskdale School is a positive and caring environment and for it's pupils a wonderful place to learn and, themselves, flourish. The 'consultation' process and the way it has been handled on social media and within the town is upsetting and disruptive for these young people. Especially for those with additional needs, many of whom I work with. I have spoken to young people who are confused as to what is happening, why people are taking away their school when they have just got settled. These pupils are scared by the idea of a large school, where they feel they will be ignored and isolated. Quite frankly, that is unacceptable. These pupils deserve answers and have a right to feel safe in education. It is a credit to the school and staff that the pupils have shown their support so vocally. I hope the council can see that closing Eskdale will have a negative impact on the academic and emotional well being of those children.	Past pupil
I'm totally against the amalgamation of eskdale and Caedmon college give the kids choice in there education	Past pupil
There should be choice available. This principle is offered to everyone in the UK. WHY SHOULD WHITBY PEOPLE BE DENIED? Thousands of children have been able to receive a good school education at Eskdale. It is a good school and this exercise is solely about money. Whitby School wants to get its hands on the monay from pupil numbers NYCC want to sell the site. It has nothing to do with the quality of education at Eskdale. Where are all of these families from all the additional housing that is being or will be built go to sned their children? It is wrong that they all be crammed into one school. Why are Whitby people being dictated to by Councillors from Northallerton? If local people are simply ignored why do they have to pay for NYCC? Why is the education of Whitby children being decided by councillors people in places like Leyburn and Skipton. It aleys the same you want our money but we get overruled time and again.	Past pupil
Why close a good successful school? Both me and my family attended this school and received first class education. In closing it - you reduce freedom of choice and alternative school would mean more travelling which is a green issue.	Past pupil

<p>As an ex-pupil of Eskdale of of Whitby Community College I disagree with the proposal. Eskdale has a unique ethos, which I do not think is either understood or appreciated by those 'external' from the school who are making decisions about it's future. Eskdale is nurturing and supportive in a way that a larger school cannot possibly be! I hated my time at the Whitby Community College due its size; which was extremely daunting coming from a very small village primary school. I felt I was lost in the system; teachers did not know my name, I did not know who I could access support from and I was not known for my skills or talents. I was simply a number. I actually achieved straight A's at both GCSE and A level and I have gone on to excel academically as well as in sports and music, yet all of these things were all overlooked at college because it was too large to know each student on an individual level in a way that Eskdale could. If this happened when I was at college (prior to any amalgamation), then I am very concerned at how students are going to be able to excel and be known on an individual level in a school any larger. This will be detrimental to pupil well-being and should not be ignored. There is huge amounts of evidence to suggest that children in larger schools, particularly inner-city school have poorer outcomes, both academically and emotionally. You cannot use evidence from CCW current performance/inspection as evidence that the results will remain like this in the future. This is flawed and is not a valid methodological process by which you can make such decision. If you instead look at evidence from the impact of merging from other schools in the area, you may start to consider the negative impacts that this will have on local children. Furthermore, there will NO ALTERNATIVES should this amalgamation take place. If a child is struggling or being bullied they will have no choices. What's more is I believe the incentive for CCW to solve any problems or issues relating to the care of its students will be removed. In all other areas of public-sector services, standards are being driven up by introducing competition. For example NHS commissioning now means that patients have choice over the services they receive, where they receive their care and by whom. The same in happening in social care provision. The proposed amalgamation will remove choice and remove completion, in a way which could be detrimental to the future of whitby residents. We also need to consider the impact on mental health and wellbeing of children. Adolescence is a time of many maturational changes and is a time of increased vulnerability for mental health problems and behavioural challenges. 1 in 4 young people will have a mental health problem, but we know that this is known to increases in larger schools, where there is not the level of emotional support and containment that can be achieved in smaller schools; given the lack of mental health provision in the area for young people, I am surprised at how little consideration is being given to these matters and at the speed that this process is occurring. This makes me question what the other motives for this amalgamation are? The lack of honesty and transparency by NYCC is very concerning.</p>	<p>Past pupil</p>
<p>As a former Eskdale school student I think this is a terrible idea. I loved my time at Eskdale and hated it at Whitby Community College. If educational standards are to be improved in Whitby then choice and competition is the best solution. Amalgamation of the schools will undoubtedly save money in the short term, however over the longer term will undoubtedly prove to be poor value for money. I do not think the small amount of money saved is worth the risk to something as important as the young people of Whitby's education.</p>	<p>Past pupil</p>
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Eskdale School should not be closed for the following reasons. Choice of school is important. Competition drives improve standards. Dedicated group of teachers.	Past pupil
Eskdale School is a pillar of our community and always has since it opened 60 years ago. The decision to close this school is the peoples it will affect and the ever increasing places for its pupils will only force parents to choose out of Borough schools. The timing of this closure will not be in favor of our community when housing development are in place and others planned for our area. So if Eskdale is closed where will the extra places be found for these children. Of course there's the question of where this temporary village may be located. Is that what may be in the mind York County Council to cash in on this from the opening of the new potash mine. Come on YCC think pupils not cash.	Past pupil
I went to Eskdale School and loved it was sad to leave to go up to Whitby School. Disagree to the closure of the school.	Past pupil
I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School as their Arts department is fantastic and as I'm an actress/singer myself I think it's important for all children to express themselves but also have the choice to pick what school they want to go to.	Past pupil
I do not believe this proposal is intended best interests of any student parent or teacher this town is growing and to lose one of the best secondary schools I have ever been to is a shame and an outrage. College is not working and I have been witness to a few failings so to send every child in this town there is wrong and not in their best interest children need choice and teachers need time not to be rushed from one site to another that is not caring for education that is massacring a fundamental right to a child's education. I will send my children out of town when the time comes if the mistake has been made to close the school.	Past pupil
I do not agree with this as an ex student I think it's bad that you want to close Eskdale school it's not a school it's a big family I loved it and miss it very much	Past pupil
I miss Eskdale school it was left when we moved away my friends and my teachers were lovely my mum said it was nice as they all knew you by name keep Eskdale open for all the people there	Past pupil
Please keep open.	Past pupil
Leave the school as it is.	Past pupil
Valuable asset to eastside of town.	Past pupil
I am against the proposed closure of Eskdale as an independent school as I believe the lack of choice will have a negative impact on education in the town. Eskdale has always been the choice for the village children - taking away the option of a smaller secondary school is taking a step backward. Eskdale is also a well-used community building - providing a venue for children's groups, a church, sports clubs and social events in the east side of town and would be badly missed by the community as a whole should it be closed.	Past pupil
Keep separate	Past pupil
The proposal takes away what most parents nationwide take for granted, that is a choice of which school to place their child. Parents deserve this choice to feel comfortable they have given their child the best start in life by choosing an environment in which they will be happy and comfortable. Taking away this choice will seriously affect the outcomes for hundreds of Whitby children in years to come.	Past pupil
Keep Eskdale open	Past pupil
Do not close Eskdale school	Past pupil

Since the establishments of the quiet market town in 1988, OFSTED and league tables have been introduced to allow parents to use information for making one of the most important decisions in their family life. OSTED have reported: parents in Whitby are still wishing to send children to Eskdale. Your signs show that its student's role will expand in the coming years. Zero concern has been given to the new 840 studying formula and Eskdale's deficit is shrinking. The key funding issue is Caedmon College's deficit ballooning to £340,000 by 2016/17. Why should Eskdale be sacrificed as a result of this?	Past pupil
I object to the closure of Eskdale School	Past pupil
Object to the closure of eskdale school	Past pupil
I think that it is absolutely preposterous to contemplate closing this wonderful school. The value to the local people is much more than the financial recompense to the council.	Past pupil
I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School with Caedmon College Whitby. Surely the Executive Committee do not want to be responsible for making the decision to disrupt the current education of the children of Whitby for a school that may or may not succeed in improving their future education.	Past pupil
I do not agree with the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College, for all of the reasons which have been identified by the Save Eskdale School campaign.	Past pupil
Can I suggest this is a short term plan which fails to take into account future developments and the need for extra school places ,for example the opening of the new potash mine by Sirius in the next few years	Past pupil
i would like to add my voice to all the others who oppose the proposed changes to the education of whitby and district children .I have read your reasons for change none of which give any benefit to childrens education and in my opinion make it worse .	Past pupil
I am against the amalgamation. I am a past pupil of Whitby College and feel that it is this College that is failing our town. My education was always great until I attended the college at Whitby. Teaching is just adequate not special or great for that matter and leave no long lasting desire for learning. It does not offer enough courses to retain the children here and no amount of funding will achieve this, as unfortunately for Whitby, the Colleges in the surrounding areas have and always will be bigger and better. I think that closing a perfectly good school (regardless of ofsted report being requires improvement) I have been and read the parent views online and following this campaign with interest. It is clear for all to see that this school is special and to close it would be devastating for the people in this town. Caedmon School was always a decent school when I attended and both schools pinned against each other always achieved well. Unfortunately since Caedmons merger with Whitby College the standards have slipped and children are not achieving as well as they were before. Regardless of what hype the staff their can spin, it has numerous issues that really do need addressing. Throwing another school into the mix will end in disaster rather than a happy and thriving education for the children of Whitby. I dont think this proposal has been correctly thought through and personally believe that the long term plans really need looking into. Perhaps two 11-16 Schools would work better in this town? Then let college try and do its best as it did before, if it continues to be the white elephant it has always been then maybe it is time to call a loss for the college in the town. If children want to travel for 6th form education then at 16 I believe they are ready. At 11 to have to travel out of town is not acceptable, and they really will start to leave at 11 if a better solution isnt found to this stupid proposal.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby
I am against the proposal for Amalgamation, as i do not feel that it is in the interest of the students involved. All students should be able to have a choice. As a former student i have nothing against CCW , but i do feel that some students work better in a smaller environment. Also moving sites to complete their education especially when the bad weather happens (lots of children don't wear coats only hoodies) so they are not prepared for the change in weather. Another area that worries me is the safety of the access to the Scoresby site. The traffic using the New bridge which links the Scarborough road to the Pickering/Middlesbrough routes is always very busy. Lots of cars park on the slip way up to the school on an evening making the entrance difficult for buses. The two schools both have different things to offer the children of Whitby and i feel that taking one away will mean less competition for the students (we had a very healthy competition with Eskdale when i was at Caedmon.) Where will the year 7 students play? there are no playground at CCW on either site. Some of these students are still only 11years old its important to give them room to run about. I know the Scoresby site has fields but thats no good when its been raining. The concrete area to the back of the school is used for parking most of the time and not very safe for children to play on. I know Eskdale was again given RI in their latest Ofstead but it does state that they haven't been given enough time to make the improvements that are required. Since the previous Ofstead staff have continued to train and progress with their teaching and after numerous visits from 'outside agencies' were told they were moving forward in the right direction. So who got it wrong? The parents spoke highly of the school and said they would recommend the school to others. surely this is an important part of a childs schooling. I hope that you will listen to the parents, staff and especially the children of Whitby who want to be heard not just the Eskdale students but the Primary students and CCW students, they don't want a large school where they will get lost in the crowd they want to be recognized	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby

<p>as individuals in either school. On a final note Eskdale was built for the Eastside of Whitby to take it away would be a travesty for all the people of Whitby. Choice has to take priority over all other. The decision that is made has to also take into account all the outside clubs that use the school facilities. Football, Tennis, Golf, Volleyball, Archery , Church, Music clubs to name just a few.</p>	
<p>CCW has a very high deficit and is set to double - this needs investigating CCW has no post amalgamation OFSTED - Graham/Raincliffe amalgamation was a complete DISASTER - school in special measures - how can you be sure that this will not happen to a new school OVERWHELMING OBJECTION! Petition over 5200, 120,000 video views, major news coverage - itv/bbc - 500 people at the march, 100s of people at consultation meetings, celebrity support from famous ex pupils AG and JF, nearly 3k likes on 'fight to save eskdale school' NO ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS - what about loosing sixth form and loosing accommodation on scorsbey site and keep sporting facilities. money to be reinvested back into the two 11-16 schools. CONSULTATION IS FLAWED! lies lies and even more lies. Eskdale school CAN teach GCSE! WHY THE RUSH NYCC? POOR LEADERSHIP AT CCW MAJOR SPILT SITE ISSUES AT CCW MAJOR SAFEGUARDING AND BULLYING PROBLEMS AT CCW all schools to become academies in 2022 - why not wait till they can sort their own finances out? CCW traffic reaches DANGEROUS levels ESKDALE SCHOOL CAN NOT BE USED AS A SCAPEGOAT FOR A FAILING SIXTH FORM! THIS IS A PROBLEM CCW SHOULD BE SORTING INTERNALLY NOT CLOSING A WHOLE SCHOOL FOR KP's GAIN! many students go out of town including myself for better quality of courses, free transport and teaching. CCW SIXTH FORM IS FINANCIALLY NOT VIABLE! When WCC/Caedmon School amalgamated their was redundancies. this will happen again! 20 miles to the nearest school over bad rural roads! 1000s of new homes being built in whitby - what happens when the new school is oversubscribed? As there is no option to tick 'i agree or do not agree' I think i can say that I DO NOT AGREE with the proposals to amalgamate Eskdale School and CCW WHAT TO WE WANT? CHOICE! WHERE DO WE WANT IT? WHITBY!</p>	<p>Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby</p>
<p>The only option is for amalgamation to prevent losing valuable post-16 education, which, as a former pupil, I know is absolutely outstanding and I couldn't be pursuing my dream of chemistry without it. Also, to increase the range of subjects available, which is important for students in deciding career path, the only resolution is to merge schools.</p>	<p>Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby</p>
<p>I am against this proposal. I enjoyed my school time at Caedmon but feel that one big school will not benefit our children's education. Bigger is not always better. Children in larger schools get overlooked and problems are often not picked up on. I don't think our schools should be forced to progress just for the sake of it. We are a small town and should not be made to try and 'fit' in with the rest of the country and bigger towns. Our primary schools are small feeder schools & our secondary schools the next step on the ladder and should not be over crowded just for money reasons. The education and happiness of our children should come first.</p>	<p>Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby</p>
<p>I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School. Why on earth would you close a school when pupil numbers are set to increase. More houses = more children. Windfarm, Potash = more jobs, more children. Is anyone thinking of Whitby's future? Stop this now!</p>	<p>Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby</p>
<p>i was a pupil at ccw. i hate the split site. it takes ages to get across the two sites and the underpass is filthy. its horrible in winter when its chucking it down and spend the rest of the day freezing cold. teachers also take ages to get across the two sites and this is eating into out learning time. i do not agree with the proposal to amalgamate the two schools. two sites is bad enough, never mind three. please listen to whitby. we do not want this</p>	<p>Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby</p>

the sixth form is in trouble? as a pupil who had to endure four horrible years at ccw/wcc i can say its horrible. they do not have good courses. my teacher wasnt even qualified to teach law. it was shocking! no one cared at the sixth form, you just turned up for lessons (if anyone could be bothered) and that was it. i really hated it. iv never known a place so uninspiring and miserable. ccw should drop the sixth form. money should be spent in getting 11-16 right. to be honest ccw struggle to get that part right. trust me, it was the worst years of my life i went elsewhere after wcc and i excelled.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby
It feels like an ultimatum, not a consultation.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby
I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. Parents and pupils deserve to have a choice of secondary school for children to attend. I previously attended Caedmon school but my year 5 daughter had already set in her mind that Eskdale was where she wanted to go. Every child is different and deserves the right to have that choice.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby
Definitely don't need to get rid of the school maybe some changes to it but Caedmon and whitby cc can only take on so many people what will happen to all the rest off the public local children if they don't get a space? They'll get shoved out of town which we don't need!!! There is nothing wrong with the school it's built in the perfect place!! Whitby should have its own council not bloody Scarborough!!!	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby
It is absolutely disgraceful how you plan to abolish a school that has brought so many amazing memories, and, more importantly, removing choice from the ever growing number of young people in the area. It's downright stupidity to remove a school to build housing on, where will the extra kids go? When I attended Cædmon and College (as two separate places) both already felt cramped, so unless both are getting major redevelopments to make them more suitable I have no idea how this will work logistically. Not to mention how many children and parents (my mother and grandparents included) who will be devastated that their little school is being demolished.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby
You cant sell a school to build flats & houses. I'm a former pupil from Caedmon School back in 1986 me & my family had a choice of schools Eskdake or Caedmon. But I lived 5 mins from Caedmon school so that was an obvious choice for me - as well as my friends we're going to Caedmon too. Just because I'm not an Eskdake student doesn't mean I don't agree that in 2016 that parents & children don't get to have a choice. The video the kids made with AG has been online about 5 days & it's got over 100,000 views already. It's just common sense.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby
I object to the closure of Eskdale School as there will be no choice for children in Whitby	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby
I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School. There has always's needed to be two secondary schools in Whitby. The traffic is bad enough as it is with Caedmon College. People are stuck for age's which isn't good for local business' that use vehicals. Even though I went to Caedmon the sports facilities were far superior at Eskdale & our school used them a lot. You would be making a very big mistake.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby
As a pupil of Eskdale & Whitby college. I can honestly say I loved Eskdale an wish it had been an 11-16 academy whne I went, as I thrived there. As soon as I moved to Whitby College I struggled & hated it. I have since mived to Redcar College to do what subjects I like, I would not recomend that school to anyone. Eskdale is whats made me what I am today, please do not close this school. Let children ahve the choice and opportunity that I had.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby
I disagree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale school and Caedmon College. I disagree as I believe throughout the years that the system of having a choice has benefited both pupils and parents. Having the right to choose where you learn and spend vital years of your life is surely important. Imagine an 11 year old joining a school which was forced upon them, a school which will hold over 1600 pupils, joining this school from previously attending a school which held 50 pupils. It just isn't fair on them. From personal experience I left a remote country school and joined Eskdale, from 40 pupils in the whole school to 300 pupils was a huge leap. However over the 3 years I made friends for life and I believe this was due to the friendly atmosphere of the school. Every child matters was the motto of the school and I thoroughly feel that every child did matter, every minute of every day. Each teacher knew your strengths and weaknesses and knew your name. I moved onto Caedmon College and although I did succeed, I feel this wouldn't have happened without the support and nurture over my period at Eskdale school. For children to miss out on this opportunity and choice, I feel is totally unjust and unfair.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby & Eskdale School

<p>Do not agree with merger. 350+ pupils to integrate into a new school is a huge task. How do we know this will happen smoothly, surely there will be teething problems. Therefore the education will suffer during the disruption of transferring pupils whilst trying to integrate them into an already established school where children have already formed bonds with teachers and other pupils. Will teachers in a school of a much larger intake be able to get to know all their pupils and understand what their strengths and weaknesses are and dedicate themselves to help those who find it difficult to keep up, or to encourage those that are excelling. Ofsted is yet to confirm the first merger has been a success. Why try a third merger with no evidence the split site campus is working. This is a huge gamble to take with our children, all to save costs!! Land on the East Side of town is worth a fortune and well sought after as we all know, the west side is running out of land to build on. Could this be an ulterior motive. Safety of our children should come first, the extra traffic on the east side with the industrial estate, sainsburys, home base, waste disposal site and penny hedge etc makes Helredale Road highly busy, should you add 350+ children to Caedmon College there are many who won't live within walking distance causing more congestion on this already busy road and it only has the one junction in and out. Not all children suit the same environment which is why choice is so important to an area of this size with such poor geographical location. Should a child encounter difficulties at this school for many reasons their only other option is to look for education out of town a whopping half hour drive away. Many folk of Whitby would not be able to afford the travel expenses to do this meaning their child is trapped in an environment in which they are not happy. Unhappy children do not learn, then they are being let down. We all know bullying goes on in every school and this could be a huge key factor in causing such problems for children. Whitby's population is increasing, the Windfarm plans and new Potash mine can only ever bring new skilled people to the area, many of which will have families that will require educating all adding to a higher intake. What is expected to happen to the staff at Eskdale, after all their dedication to pupils past and present are they to be guaranteed jobs? Also the office, canteen, cleaners and grounds staff what is their fate? There is a 50/50 chance of this being successful and it is not enough of a guarantee. Eskdale School staff provide excellent dedication to their pupils, the school's ethos and morale is second to none. Long may it continue. Save our children's education instead of finances!! You could also cripple the locally run Ultimate Soccer School who provide excellent coaching for children of the area. The children love the service this business provides and there would be many disappointed children and parents should this business have to fold due to the loss of affordable rates Eskdale provide. Caedmon would then have the monopoly on staging sporting facilities locally and people having to hire the facilities would have to raise their prices causing a knock on effect. Fishburn Park also need the facilities Eskdale provide as they host all their home games and training on Eskdale fields and Brookfield Park which they have a lease with 18 years remaining. The grounds aren't much use without the use of the changing facilities. Many people are affected by this proposal, one that seems highly unjust.</p>	<p>Past pupil Eskdale School</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation between Eskdale School and Caedmon College. By amalgamating the schools it takes away parents and students right to choose where they want their child to spend their education. There have been many instances whereby students from one school transfer to the other if they are having issues and difficulties with it, the amalgamation is also taking this away from them. I also feel that the amalgamation is disruptive in the current students education, if this move was beneficial for the students then disrupting their education by forcing them to move schools at such a crucial age in learning is not the best option and can easily be avoided. As well as this right to choice that we should have, Eskdale is by its own right a good school. It is not struggling in the inspections, it is a small school where each student's needs are catered to. Each teacher knows every child's personal abilities and achievements and with a much larger merger this will inevitably and sadly regress.</p>	<p>Past pupil Eskdale School</p>
<p>As a retired Service Manager (for Middlesborough Council) I fully appreciate the challenges on Councils to save money, with reducing budgets yet need to retain & improve standards and services. I remember moving from the old Thorpe School to Eskdale in 1963. It seemed a huge school in comparison & very scary. I can only imagine how much worse it would be for children moving from a small secure village school to a secondary school twice the size of Eskdale. Has any thought been given to retaining Eskdale School but in addition using the site for increasing revenue by developing services for the community? ie My husband & I attempted to get Spanish lessons in the locality but we would have had to travel to Scarborough, I placed a small ad in the 'Bayfair' for both a teacher and other interested people wanting to learn Spanish & immediately found a teacher & sixteen people wanting lessons. Appreciate this example is insignificant when the Council could sell the site for millions for housing, however there are other options to consider. Could the playing fields be used for camping/motorhomes during school holidays. Not sure how much Adult Education already takes place outside school hours? Could it be used as training/conference centre etc.</p>	<p>Past pupil Eskdale School</p>
<p>I am very disappointed to hear this is happening my sister works there and has for many years - she'll be thrown on the scrap heap like all the staff at the school. Teachers will get jobs. Other schools <u>MAYBE</u>. The Government get pay rises Look after the vulnerable what is there going to be left in Whitby Nothing.</p>	<p>Past pupil Eskdale School</p>

I went to Eskdale school and I loved it. Being in a small middle school doesn't make the jump from a small village primary school so scary. Also, being in a small school means there's a better student-teacher relationship, teachers are able to get to know the pupils more and this in turn helps the education of each individual pupil. Being at a small school like Eskdale meant every pupil was cared about and were not lost in the educational system. When I think about my time at Eskdale I think about how lucky I was to go to that school and the set up of education in Whitby. I enjoyed school and I had good relations with teachers. I could go and ask questions whenever I needed. I honestly believe I would not have enjoyed school as much if it was just one big school because I would not have had such a big identity, I would be a name on a register that was hopefully remembered by the end of the year. I suggest that the council stops thinking about saving money at the expense of an extremely good education that everyone should be entitled to.	Past pupil Eskdale School
I personally believe the amalgamation to be unfair on current students and ones in the future that may not get the invaluable learning experience that Eskdale School offers. Being a former student of Eskdale I know first hand what a unique and beneficial service Eskdale offers. As it is small; the move from an extremely small primary school was not daunting and easy to adjust to. Also, the close relationships you have with teachers is something that can only benefit a student. I am currently studying Law at an academic Russel group University after gaining A*AA at A-level. I was able to achieve this from my strong learning foundation that Eskdale gave to me. Due to this I suggest and truly hope that current students and ones in the future are not deprived of this excellent learning experience that I can honestly say can only benefit the students.	Past pupil Eskdale School
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No choice for the kids. It will cause disruption between the two emerging schools if plans go ahead. They won't be able 2 cope with the amount of kidz.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Children should be allowed a choice in a town the size of Whitby. Eskdale has always had a very good reputation especially in the last fifteen years and it seems a great pity that the school should be closed.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Have you heard of malfeasance in a public office X X - you want to be careful ...	Past pupil Eskdale School
ONE WORD CHOICE!!! We need two secondary schools!! We need to retain our unique small town with our small schools!!	Past pupil Eskdale School
I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School. If a child as problems or issues ie bullying, they can move to another school. Ever child matters. Why fix something that's not even broken!!	Past pupil Eskdale School
I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School. Every child matters. What would the impact be on local roads around the Caedmon sites if these schools amalgamate? Its chaotic as it is, especially with the country buses. Has anyone thought about the children's safety, crossing from one site to another over the busiest road in Whitby? I think it is very short sighted to even consider closing eskdale school when school number are set to increase!!! This is not a well thought ou plan. Eskdale needs to be left as an 11-16 academy.	Past pupil Eskdale School
no change	Past pupil Eskdale School

I believe children should have a choice of schools to attend without having to travel to another town (if parents can afford a bus pass!) Making one large school/college takes away choice and I cannot see how children can be taught effectively in such large classes.	Past pupil Eskdale School
It would be good to see what proposals are in place for keeping it open and for it closing and to see the valid reasons for the closing proposal and if possible, how plausible it would be to keep open.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Save our school pupils deserve choice i would like my kids to attend that school when they reach the age as i was a former pupil that attended the school and was a fantastic school	Past pupil Eskdale School
I loved this school beyond measure when I attended and feel it is a testament to the whole of the Eskdale community that it is still loved. I don't live in Whitby anymore but family and friends do and I care deeply about the area, particularly the future of young people there. For me, and many I know, it's not about results and resources but about the community of Eskdale and having the choice to remain a part of it. I had previously attended a very small, rural primary school up the Esk Valley, similar to many primaries in the area that were feeder schools for Eskdale. It was a daunting enough prospect for many of us leaving this setting (very unique to the area) to attend secondary school in Whitby, without it being any bigger (in terms of the site and the student population) than Eskdale is presently. I know that this is the case for many young people in the area today and feel it would be detrimental to their wellbeing not to be able to transition to a smaller, community-orientated secondary school. It is for this reason, amongst many others, that I wholeheartedly do not agree with the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College, Whitby. Thank you for taking my views into account.	Past pupil Eskdale School
I'm 100% against amalgamation as s former Eskdale pupil and a mum of future pupils! My children will go direct to Scarborough if this happens due to my children being quiet and coming from a small catholic school to a huge 11-16 is going to make them struggle..... I say close the college over Eskdale if funds are needed!!	Past pupil Eskdale School
I dot not think that schools should be amalgamated as teachers would not be able to work with lots of students in one group as those that struggle would not benefit, as we know teachers are under enough pressure.all this means is government cut backs and saving money to spend on what exactly as it is not going into the N.H.S or looking after our elderly or going into education leave our schools as they are. More houses more children and no schools to educate them.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Don't let it happen give whitby kids a choice for there secondary school.	Past pupil Eskdale School
As a former pupil of Eskdale I am extremely disappointed and saddened to think that my son will not have any option or choice as to which secondary school he attends. For myself Eskdale was a school that offered a safe, caring, friendly environment, where the teachers cared and supported each pupil to reach their full potential. I fear my son will not have any of these things, he will be forced to go to a huge huge school, where each child blends into another. I think it will be extremely daunting and stressful for children to go from being in a small primary school environment to a massive school where they have to negotiate two sites, so find their way around two schools all the while trying to make friends, settle in and get to know new teachers. It is not in the best interests of the children. Eskdale is a key part of the Whitby Community and it would be devastating to the town to see it go.	Past pupil Eskdale School
I believe all children should have a choice at Secondary School.	Past pupil Eskdale School
I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School because we should be allowed a choice of schools and also my older siblings went to this school and parents went to Eskdale and would also like my younger sister to go to this school like the rest off us.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Whitby and surrounding villages need this school to continue providing the excellent standard it has proven to achieve. The choice must be available and optional to all families involved. This is all down to councils trying to save money and make money. Not thur profess if Whitby town and rural communities future. Save Eskdale school	Past pupil Eskdale School
Terrible idea. I cannot express how vitally important the care and support I got at Eskdale school was in such a tough period of my life. Going to school was my life line and the education I got out of it was brilliant too. I took both History and German GCSEs early and obtained an A in both. Eskdale's caring ethos is something that I have carried through with me onto my further education and I hope and pray that other children will get the care that they need and deserve at this school. Staff and pupils alike work together to create a perfect environment for journey through the school and I feel it set me up perfectly for my later years. Please don't close this school down. It is a phenomenal institute and above all, parents and young adults deserve a choice.	Past pupil Eskdale School

I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School. Pupil numbers are set to saw with the already passed 196 houses going up (family homes). You are jepardizing the futures of all kids at both schools. The people in Whitby need to be heard and this propasal should be stopped in its tracks. What about all the children with special needs that attended Eskdale, they have gone there because even the education authority think its the best place for them to attend. Think about the kids of Whitby.	Past pupil Eskdale School
With the expanding housig stocks: Helredale/Larpool Fields, St Peters Field, Barratt Estate and as the proposed sites of Eskdale itself, there will be a dire need for a secondary school situated on the Eastside of the town. The expansion in new homes is not limited to the east-side of the town there are new properties developed in the countryside which increases need for the country children. Families ahve a righth to choice and taking away Eskdale detracts from choice in the town. Eskdale is a lрге part of the community and children attending the school have a brilliant education - all round. The school acts as a brilliant transition school for students from primary especially for those who do get lost in the larger schools.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Keep the school open.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Eskdale School is a major part of Whitby Town and it's surrounding area. It should stay open to give parents and pupils choice. I was a past student ans the help and support inside and outside of school time was fantastic. As a young lad chasing a career in a motorcycle sport the support allowed to me to continue that dream - something that wasn't match. At Whitby College and there head teacher at the time.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Are the forms going to be the same just with Eskdale or a complete reshuffle? Otherwise I'm not bothered. P.S We will definitely need more toilets at Scoresby site.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Think Its disgraceful i want my son to go eskdale i would rather pay for travel or private education rather than send my child to whitby caedmon college	Past pupil Eskdale School
Eskdale School holds some of my happiest memories of School. I loved it, and all the teachers, I would love my children to have the experience I did and enjoy eskdale as a secondary school 'choice'. To close the school would be a great great shame for the town and its future generations.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Is there going to be enough places and teachers if the new development of houses goes ahead for the children that live in them. The children that no transport and have to walk in all weathers across the new bridge. The amount of traffic the new development will create on the area between East Whitby School, Penny Hedge, Sainsbury's and Homebase not to mention the industrial estates = SBC Waste Collection wagons, Highways Department with gritters, SBC skips, Sky scaffolding wagons, Arriva Buses, Coastal & Country Buses, MKM & Howdens Wagons. Is ent there enough traffic on that road already without addig more. Whitby is notorious for lack of parking and back logs of traffic coming in from all directions. Nevermind building houses and making money. What about Whitby has anybody asked the children what they want.	Past pupil Eskdale School
Eskdale school needs to stay open as it is to give the parents and children a choice in education, a choice that shouldn't be removed from the town. I went to Eskdale school and had the best years of my education there. Keep it open.	Past pupil Eskdale School
I went to Eskdale also my sons went and my grandchildren. Children should have a choice of which school to attend. If they are happy leave well alone. There has always needed to be two secondary schools. New estates are being built all the time. Families moving in, where will all those children go. by closing Eskdale you are making a big mistake. Do not agree with Eskdale closure	Past pupil Eskdale School
I do not agree to the closure of Eskdale School. If a child has problems at one school they can move to another, where will they go? The next school is 21 miles away. Eskdale is a big part of this town and you are destroying it. One big school in this town will not work. There will be kids playing truat moving from one site to another!	Past pupil Eskdale School
I am against the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale school and Caedmon College.i think that children of Whitby and the surrounding area should have a choice as I did when I went to Eskdale. Not every school is made for that one person so this is where choice is a must. Both schools have their own qualities which benefit certain children in different ways. I have many friends who went to Caedmon and loved their time there as much As I did at Eskdale. We had a healthy competition when we met at sporting fixtures. Even whe I was at school we wanted to stay until we were 16 instead of moving on to Whitby college. I am sure that if the choice was for both schools to be 11-16 everyone would be Happy. The 6th form didn't provide the courses I wanted when I was there and even now I would still have to travel to train for my job. Surely the people of Whitby should have a choice. If you listen to the people of Whitby then please don't close Eskdale leave then to prove they can provide good education upto GCSE . There is no evidence that CCW has been a success yet so why can't Eskdale have the same chance. The of stead report said improvements have been made but not enough time has been given to show solid results. Give them chance to show improvements.	Past pupil Eskdale School

I do not agree with the amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby & Eskdale School
I DO NOT AGREE with the proposals to amalgamate Eskdale & CCW. Pupils are NOT happy with the education they receive including ME at CCW. I had complex health problems and I received NO SUPPORT for management or teachers and I HATED it. Grades dropped and my attitude towards learning went out of the window. Teachers would make fun of my condition and it made my attitude even worse. I moved to another 6th Form out of town and flourished. I got the appropriate support & help. Get it right intently CCW before getting bigger. Eskdale management/staff is outstanding. I felt happy, safe and secure where as at WCC I felt unsafe and alone. It is about the money. Make the correct desision and KEEP ESKDALE OPEN. CCW has not OFSTED! Remember Graham/Raincliffe? AMALGAMATION DOESNT WORK! I don't want to see another Graham/Raincliffe.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby & Eskdale School
We need Eskdake school more than we need those houses or apartments they want to build. It doesn't effect me as I've no kids but I've seen kids literally crying over this. Please do the right thing, for once & think of the town.	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby & Eskdale School
Low CCW Sixth form numbers - cutting down in courses, pupils going elsewhere with better facilities, courses, free transport and teaching. 64% of CCW students enroll on to the sixth form. From experience many drop out at the end of year 12 to other colleges. Money from Eskdale closure will be used to keep the sixth form open . How is this justifiable? NYCC pushing down one route in the consultation document . Doesn't explore other alternative options - Loose the sixth form, loose some accommodation on the Scoresby site and have two 11-16 schools . There is limited courses and options available and has dwindling numbers. Capital could be reinvested in both schools Both schools work closely with each other and both schools encourage each other to CCW sixth form. Both schools could specialise in a particular area ; something which offers a wide range of choice for students. Two different head teachers and a governing body's that work closely with each other to ensure standards are high at both schools. Allow Eskdale to become an academy and let it sort it's own finances out Transport - A171 is a very busy arterial road into Whitby. Not safe for young people to be crossing unsupervised. There is a long under pass via the cinder track but this is always filthy with mud, litter and dog poo, children taking advantage playing truant, takes ages to either sites and also children getting cold and wet in the winter months. There is no safe crossing to either sites. CCW students have to board and alight buses on this road. There has been near misses with students running on to oncoming traffic. At 3.40 it is carnage around the two sites. Something that is going to get even worse. Eskdale has its own dedicated turning circle away from the main road. Scaremongering by XX -in the media he claimed CCW will lose £1m. Where would he get that from? CCW has a high deficit. CCW 2016/17 CCW forecasted in year deficit is £180,000 and in 2017/18 £320,000. Eskdales is significantly lower and is set to decrease. Is this a case of CCW not balancing the books properly? Government wants all schools Academised by 2022. What's the point and rush? Only 6 years to wait and both schools will sort their own finances out when they are academy's. CCW has no post amalgamation OFSTED - How do we know it's not failing? It is misleading to claim CCW is a good school and is not a true reflection on the school now. Forgotten about Caedmon schools RI - RI in all areas - Eskdale did not. Graham and Raincliffe amalgamation was a disaster. First OFSTED and it went into special measures and just come out of special measures. No evidence of other amalgamations working. Northallerton? Comments that it's not working. No choice - choice of schools is over 20 miles away in either direction. Bad roads in winter; weather, accidents and road closures. Takes about 40 mins plus. Safeguarding problems at CCW No room for future expansion of Whitby's population. 100s of new homes and land already earmarked for housing (SBC Housing document) . In total CCW has 497 surplus places and Eskdale has less. On roll CCW has 1082 and Eskdale has 310. That means amalgamation would lead to few surplus places and no room for expansion. What will happen if The new school is oversubscribed? Build a new one? Not very efficient. Dalby Offshore and Potash mine to bring even more traffic and large lorries. Might bring families to the area wanting houses and enroll children in schools Eskdale school can teach GCSE - they have a proven record and I also studied for two GCSES - false statement by NYCC According to OFSTED parent view in 2014/15 85% of parents said that their child was happy at Eskdale. At Caedmon College Whitby only 50% said they were happy and this is below the national average. What is that saying? THIS CONSULTATION IS FLAWED! NO REAL ALTERNATIVES - FORCED - NOT A GOOD IDEA FOR THE LONG TERM NYCC NEED TO SUSPEND THIS AND THINK AGAIN!	Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby & Eskdale School

<p>I am a past pupil of both Eskdale and Caedmon School. I am currently studying for a degree at University. I had a nice time at Eskdale with some dedicated teachers....and the same at Caedmon...though I have to comment on the rigour of the teachers at the latter for helping me achieve a very good set of GCSE and A level results. The sixth form team helped me to put together a strong application to top universities. I was treated as a name not a number at both establishments. I think it is time to put nostalgia to one side(one of my parents attended Eskdale and even had a spell teaching there) At the end of the day buildings are just bricks and mortar, it is the quality of staff that is crucial. It is time to accept the inevitable and pool the best resources from BOTH schools. Caedmon has a proven track record of working with a notoriously " difficult" age group (14-18) when emotional upheaval is prevalent and "other distractions" a challenge. I know they steered me through this minefield both educationally and pastorally. With all due respect, teaching 11- 14 year olds without the pressure of exam results is a very different situation to teaching 14- 18 year olds who are trying to achieve the best exam results they can! I am IN FAVOUR OF THE MERGER.</p>	<p>Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby & Eskdale School</p>
<p>I disagree with the closure of Eskdale School. Caedmon School are still trying to adapt too the previous merger. The teachers that I have spoken to have already told me they are late for lessons, that's without a merger. They haven't even had a Ofsted report since 2013. DO NOT CLOSE ESKDALE.</p>	<p>Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby & Eskdale School</p>
<p>5200 people signed the petition. over 100,000 viewed somewhere only we know. over 500 people marched through whitby. 2 major news channels. we came and met XX and XX at northallerton. Why are you ignoring this?</p>	<p>Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby & Eskdale School</p>
<p>I am strongly against the proposal for amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon College. Parents and children in Whitby deserve CHOICE!! I have attended both Eskdale and Caedmon and they are VERY DIFFERENT. I absolutely loved Eskdale from the geginning of Yr 7 to the end of Yr9 and was very sad to leave as were all of my friends as we all enjoyed our time there, learnt lots and were hoping to do our GCSE's there. Unfortunately, we had to leave Eskdale and move to CCW which has a completely different atmosphere that I didn't feel safe or comfortable in and it didn't suit my educational needs . The teachers don't know the students well enough to make progress. I felt as though I wasn't fully valued at CCW but at Eskdale I was. At Eskdale, every child matters where as at Caedmon College I was just a number. Everybody is different so why should we all be forced to go to one school? STUDENTS NEED CHOICE. Eskdale may suit one and CCW may suit another so choice is important.</p>	<p>Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby & Eskdale School</p>

<p>Education isn't always about teaching a subject and getting top grades, it's also about finding out who you are and finding out what you want to be in life and then learning to succeed and be a better person. Eskdale school is a shining example and is not only a credit to Whitby; but to North Yorkshire. Whitby faces its challenges. A lot of jobs are seasonal and we are geographically isolated. We don't have the opportunities places like Middlesbrough and York because they do not rely on the tourist trade to keep the town alive. Because of this many people are on a part time basis and are on the minimum wage. House prices are expensive in Whitby and this adds to the problems. We need a good education system in Whitby to help our young people succeed in life. We need them to learn skills that will help them in the future so they can build a good life for themselves in Whitby. to do that, We need Eskdale School. At Eskdale you are made to feel like a family. You care cared for, your every need is catered for and teachers will help you in anyway they can. They made you feel safe, secure and happy. Even OFSTED can not disagree with that. Speaking of OFSTED; where is Caedmon Colleges OFSTED? Oh wait it doesn't have one. NYCC haven't considered the major impact it will have on students lives. Kids that have come from very rural and small schools will be scared and frightened going into a school with over 1500+ students. Malton and Norton have managed okay with two schools so why carnt Whitby? Money derived from the closure of Eskdale School will be used on propping up the sixth form. That is scandalous and outrageous. How dare you close a brilliant school to keep open a failing sixth form? Let's have two 11-16 schools!! There is a housing document which states that 700 homes at going to be built on Whitby. So what happens when the new school is amalgamated and it is overcrowded and oversubscribed? Well then; they are completly screwed! #nycfails what about the amalgamation between Graham and Raincliffe - another #nycfails . The school went into special measures and jobs lost. Speaking of jobs lost; when Whitby community college and Caedmon School amalgamated there was redundancies! This will happen again. Another #nycfails. Traffic is mad around CCW at peak times which will only get worse. There has been accidents around the two sites. Again speaking of two sites. Teachers and staff are complaining about the arrangement. Both parties late to lessons and transferring sites is causing logistics problems which is eating into time thy could be spend learning. When it becomes three sites. Well it's a joke. To be honest the whole consultation is a joke. It's full of slanderous remarks. Eskdale can teach GCSE! I'm living proof of this . I have a GCSE which has Eskdale School on the certificate. According the NYCC larger schools will attract better teachers. How? I would hate to work in such a large school. It is also insulting to the teachers who work at both schools! Whitby could live without a sixth form. It honestly could. There are alternatives around the area which have better courses, more money to spend, free transport and also specialist facilities; something that CCW could never have. A lot of people go straight into employment or apprenticeships so they can learn the skills they WANT! There is no alternative proposals; What about either; Two 11-16 schools. Two heads. Two governing bodies. Each school specialises there GCSE subjects. One school could specialise in more academic exams and the other could specialise in something more vocational like art/sport and drama. Then there is a true choice in education. The sixth form could look for a sponsor or form a multi academy trust with another education provider. The sixth form would still be housed and have the same staff at CCW but is financially or (partially) independent from CCW. Both schools could work close together to ensure that each school is doing as well as it should do with out formally federating. So it's not like a marriage, but like a friendship. Abolish the sixth form all together. Loose accommodation on the scorsbey site. Capital could be reinvested back to the school. Remember that CCW has 400 surplus places so this would solve the problem. Keep the sporting facilities for community and CCW use. Money could be made from renting out the Astro turf to the public during the school holidays and weekends. CCW has a large deficit. Something that should seriously be investigated by an independent panel. Why are the finances in such a mess? When the news broke that all of this was happening, I started a petition. Over 5200 people signed it and we took it the decision maker and director for Children and Young People's services. We also marched through the heart of Whitby and over 500 people attended. BBC Look North and ITV Tyne Tees turned up. We have famous pupils; AG and JF. Both are very talented and have done well because of the education they received at Eskdale. A sang with Eskdale School and produced a video which has well over 100,000 views. Why are you ignoring this? I could go on and on and on and on till the cows come home about how good Eskdale is. Unfortunately I don't have enough characters but I'm trusting th executive members at NYCC to make the correct decision; because remember, if Eskdale School closes; we are finished.</p>	<p>Past pupil Caedmon College, Whitby & Eskdale School</p>
<p>This proposed amalgamation is not what the children of Whitby and the surrounding area need. It is not in their best interests nor is it in the interests of the staff of Eskdale School. If you look at the statistics from the last amalgamation, Caedmon School and WCC, it is very obvious the Caedmon staff suffered because of it. I know there are more than 20 teaching and support staff that no longer work in the new College, some took redundancy as they did not feel they could work in the 'new school', while others have left due to being squeezed out in on way or another! As for sharing management positions what a joke. Look at the management structure of Caedmon College and you will find there are no senior staff that came from the old Caedmon School, very few of them were even given Head of Department jobs.</p>	<p>Past teacher</p>

<p>My concern lies in the fact that council it's seem to have made up their minds about closure with disregard to the views of their electorate, particularly the unbiased and honest views of the children of Whitby and Whitby's future. Listening to the views of others with an open mind is what is required here, not just taking a financial view of the situation. Stand back and think what does this school do so well that others don't , how can other schools and children benefit from this school</p>	<p>Past teacher</p>
<p>Whitby needs 2 schools. Parents should have the right to choose.Eskdale is a good school & should not be amalgamated with Caedmon.</p>	<p>Past teacher</p>
<p>I do not believe that Caedmon College and Eskdale School should be merged. I do not believe that it is for the best of the education in the town. People need choice! Eskdale School gives parents choice and as a former Primary Teacher in the town, parents choose the secondary school carefully for specific reasons. I think it is a very short sighted decision and against the wishes of the majority in the town.</p>	<p>Past teacher at feeder primary</p>
<p>I DO NOT agree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby.</p>	<p>Past teacher Eskdale</p>
<p>There are any number of reasons why the current proposal should not be taken forward but I will attempt to summarise a few. 1. The catchment area of Eskdale school covers a number of small village schools. Pupils from these school are used to small, warm primary schools where everyone knows everyone and may be moving into secondary education with only a handful of peers. At 11 years old it is cruel to thrust them into a 1500+ school. Eskdale has worked at fostering an ethos that is conducive to helping these children settle and the school feels like a large family. This wouldn't be achievable at a school of the size being mooted. By amending the proposal to support an 11-16 school on the eskdale site and an 11-19 school on the Caedmon site this could be avoided. I believe this is the proposal that the majority people would support. One of the Caedmon sites could even be sold off. 2. XX suggested if the proposal was amended to support an 11-16 and a 11-19 school sixth form provision in Whitby would be under threat. If the sixth form is running at a deficit and cannot offer the range of courses students need then it should be under threat. The funding from eskdale 11-16 pupils should not be redistributed to prop up a failing sixth form. The sixth form achieves poor results and has a worsening financial position. At the age of 16 students are capable of travelling to Scarborough, Pickering, Redcar etc to further their education. At the age of 18 they will spread their wings and travel much further for degree courses. Free transport is available to further education colleges. I believe this would result in GCSE students taking responsibility for their further education and making their own informed choices. At present I believe a number of students stay at Caedmon college because it's the easy option. They aren't encouraged to explore other options as obviously Caedmon college would prefer to keep them. My understanding is that once in sixth form students are expected to remain onsite for the duration of the school day. Even during 'free periods' they are expected to be in the library. It must be a shock once they move onto university and have to manage their own time and freedom. 3. A split site school seems a poor option. Staff are already often late for lessons. There has been nothing forthcoming about how this situation would be remedied. 4. During transition some students would be studying at 3 different sites in three years. This is simply unacceptable at the stage they are at with their education. It would take at least a term each time to settle and get used to their surroundings and resources. 4. Much was made of the governing body stepping down and a new governing body being elected representing both schools, however it has been pre-determined that the Caedmon head would remain. He is a divisive figure. Eskdale parents and pupils would be more comfortable if the plan was that the head vacancy would be advertised and a head would be chosen by the new governing body. They could bring in someone who has a proven track record at large schools preferably over multiple sites. Someone everyone could get behind and all teachers would be given a fair hearing when any restructuring took place. This would make the proposal feel like an amalgamation and not the hostile takeover it is currently viewed as. 5. The Eskdale site provides much needed facilities to the wider community. These are in short supply in Whitby. If one of the sites needs to close, the former Whitby community college site is much less facility rich. 6. The roads around the two Caedmon sites at pick up and drop off times are horrendous. As a main route into town this is further evident on Friday afternoons as vast numbers of visitors also attempt to enter the town. With no provision for coaches they just stop on the main a road into town. It's terrible as it is and would cause further disruption with another 300 pupils parents cars and coaches to add to the mix. In summary, I believe the people of Whitby would be happy to get behind a proposal to support an 11-16 school on the Eskdale site and an 11-19 school on the Caedmon site. If this isn't possible then 2 11-16 schools is preferable with 16-18 year olds travelling to surrounding areas to continue their education if it was deemed the sixth form was no longer workable.</p>	<p>Pre-school parent</p>

<p>I worry about the lack of choice. What happens to my son, who with special educational needs will need extra help to thrive in a school, will have zero options for which school he attends. We hadn't decided outright which school he would attend but we're looking forward to visiting both schools and seeing what they had to offer. My fear is we visit Caedmon College and it isn't for us. Then what!! What happens when a child is forced to attend a school they are unhappy with? A school with a huge number of students. I'm worried my son will get lost in this system. He will not need a SEN assistant by his side during his school day but will need extra help. I worry about what will happen when it comes to that. How can one school with so many children ensure that my child doesn't get left behind or forgotten. Please consider each individual child when deciding the future of our towns education system.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I'm against the amalgamation. I am now going into my SAT's Not knowing if I will get to go to a school I chose, forced into a school I don't want to go to or made to travel on a bus for 20 miles every day when I'm only 11. Please stop playing with my education. I chose Eskdale because it's best for me, I don't want to be a number. We need choice.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>Do not agree with the merger. I am worried the merger may not create the huge power house of learning they are promising. facilities must be going to reach stretching point. children that are less academic may get lost in the crowd, a school of this size surely can't offer the level of personal care a smaller one can knowing all the pupils on the basis of level, strengths, weaknesses, achievements etc. traffic is a worrying issue, with only the one route in and out at both sites to add 300+ pupils many of which will not be within walking distance and will no doubt put huge strain on what is already traffic chaos drop off and pickup times at these sites. children's safety should be key priority. how will the catering facilities cope at these two sites with the added influx of children. there is no playground at scoresby site for children age 11+ will surely need recreational time in the fresh air at break times, more field space will surely have to be taken to provide buildings to house the extra children which is hypocritical when children are being encouraged to be more sporty and eat healthy and outdoor space for 1400+ students will have to be sacrificed to build the additional classrooms. what about the jobs of the dedicated staff at eskdale which includes kitchen staff, office staff, cleaners as well as teachers. many local clubs use the facilities at eskdale that have always been made affordable. without those affordable rates my brothers business ultimate soccer school may not survive. he has ran his holiday coaching courses from this site for 11 successful years, your proposal stands to change all that. he provides an excellent service to young children of the town and surrounding area which is affordable to parents. the children and parents all love the dedication this business provides. fishburn park have a 25 year lease on the land at Brookfield park and the road leading to it with 18years remaining. the closure of eskdale school would mean they would no longer be able to provide changing facilities for home games. fishburn also have teams ranging from children to adults and my father dedicated over 20+years of his free time to help run various teams. all at fishburn have worked hard over the years to provide and maintain this piece of land to stage their games. there is no guarantee the proposed merger will ever be a success. the merger of caedmon and Whitby is yet to be proved so as they have yet to receive ofsted and no one can confirm the split site campus is working and that the schools have gelled well. surely adding a third is a huge gamble. two's company, three's a crowd!!! the future education of all children in Whitby is at stake here and the proposal concerns me deeply. do not merge these schools!! children need choice and option. this they won't receive should the plans go ahead and many parents can't afford the alternative of looking out of town.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I do not support the proposal, I believe due to Whitby being isolated parents should have a choice as to which school our children go to. large schools with large classes are detrimental to a child's learning.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

<p>my suggestion is that you leave the schools exactly how they are. As you can tell the children and parents are happy enough with how everything is at the moment. My son will be going to Caedmon in September and if the joining of the schools were to happen it would effect him immensely. it has taken along time for my son to feel safe away from the kids that bullied him, to the point where he was making himself sick every morning so we thought he was ill, just so he didnt have to go to school. He was 6 years old. No 6 year old should even know how to do this. the kids that bullied him and caused him to have such severe attacks so that he wouldn't leave the house are at Eskdale school. If the schools joined he would be back to where he was 5 years ago and only now is he starting to get back to how a child should be. I know there are bully's are in every school and I know I wont be the only parent to have come across this, which is why the schools should be left alone. So that if the kids did have a problem in a school they should be able to move to another within the town and not have to travel 30 miles to get to the next closest one. Why as parents should we have to pay out almost £800 to send our child out of town when there are 2 perfectly good schools in whitby? my guess is that no matter what the council are gaining money, whether from sending kids out of town and us having to pay you to send them when it's your fault the school has closed, or selling off the land the school is on to build houses. seems like it's win win either way NYCC. All this comes down to is money and by trying to sugar coat it by saying its best for the children. You don't know our children, you don't know what is best for them. WE DO. You are taking away choices that young people should have and dictating to them where they should be taught. I don't want my son worried to go to school at an important time in his life. I don't want him feeling scared going to school, in a place he should feel safe. I don'y want his education to suffer and the chance of him getting the job he wants gone because a handful of people thought they knew what was best for him when they have never met him. So not only will his health be effected again, his education will be effected along with hundreds of other kids who you are deciding to uproot in the middle of their GCSE's because you few people think its the right thing to do. The people of whitby have already shown you that we don't want this and our opinions should out-weigh yours, especially since we are the ones effected by this decision, not you. If you actually cared about what the children want and what is best for the town, you will listen to the thousands who have protested and campaigned against you. Even the teachers at Eskdale don't want this. Think about what the people want!</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>What will happen to the education of the children? the standards will definitely go down with class sizes becoming bigger. the teacher's are not going to have enough time to spend with each students and therefore the education of the children will suffer. What will happen if a child has a problem with the school and wants to change? why should we send our children to another school out of town? what exactly are your reasons behind thinking this is for the best? you dont know our children and they have proved to you over and over that this is not what they want. Not just Eskdale students but Caedmon aswell Building extra homes is all well and good but where will the children from those homes go to school? Caedmon college is not big enough to cater for all of them</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>To whom it may concern, I will keep my concerns brief- 1. Parking- that pick up time now it is mayhem what will it be like when they have more pulled... Are you going to increase the car park. 2. School Size- are you going to increase the size of the school- surely you must do this prior the children been transferred if the plan goes ahead. 3. Disruption- my child does not go to Eskdale or Caedmon as yet but the disruption to change schools halfway through can not be good for the children. 4. QUALITY of teaching- bigger classes are something I do not agree with. OVERVIEW- My son would have gone to Eskdale School and hopefully still will- I am worried that if the schools join then the class sizes will be to big, and even worse if any child needs encouragement this will be overlooked by overworked teachers. The parking and pick ups are horrific on both sites at present and dangerous for the children. IF the schools join together this NEEDS addressing for SATETY. IF the schools join together Caedmon needs investment PRIOR... Is the dinner hall big enough..? Are there enough facilities/ computers..??? As a concerned parent nothing has been made clear... So creates worry. I am all for change if it is for the best ... However if this is just for pure profit so you can sell the land ...then invest in Caedmon first and then sell the land.. Mr and Mrs X and X X</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>My child suffers from bullying, so taking away a caring school like eskdale and putting my child into large school of 1400 is not a option for us , we will not take our child to the proposed amalgamated school and we look elsewhere</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>Eskdale needs to stay open, the children of whitby and surrounding areas need a choice and to take that choice away is unfair. The children at eskdale are happy as are the ones at caedmon and to bring the schools together could turn out for the worst. My daughter is currently in yr 6 at sleights and after going round eskdale to have a look she as i were very impressed, the feeling you get when you talk to the staff and children and seeing the interaction between them is brilliant. When visiting eskdale it felt like every child there mattered and i ferl in larger school my daughter would just become a number. Eskdale is a brilliant school and should remain at the heart of whitby.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I want to go to Eskdale with my friends , I have been to look around both schools and Eskdale is the one I wish to attend . I have had to move schools once already because of bullying and I don't want to go to a big school ,</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

I would like to begin by saying I object to the closure of Eskdale school and would like you to take the time to read why. Firstly I attended Eskdale school. This school provided me not only with an outstanding education but nurtured me to become the person I am today. This school went above and beyond providing me with a very happy and positive experience. This fantastic foundation allowed me to go on and gain a teaching degree, which I now use to create a future for tomorrow's generation! I use my skills to teach in my home town of Whitby and this is Something I am extremely proud of. The fact I went to Eskdale is one reason I object to its closure but I now have a bigger and much more important reason, my Year 6 son. At the beginning of 2015, we looked round both Eskdale and Caedmon College. I decided it was important to give my son a choice in the next stage of his education. We attended Caedmon first and the experience was extremely poor. We came away with my son refusing to go there because 'he was a number'. Not one member of staff spoke to him or showed any interest. He felt like nobody cared. As you can imagine I was concerned but explained how he had a choice and we still had Eskdale as an option. We were worried about the reception we would get there but there was absolutely no need. He walked into the school and instantly teachers talked to him. Even my husband was impressed as he had never ever been in Eskdale school before. They showed interest in him, what he enjoyed doing and cared about his reply. He left the school happy and looking forward to beginning Eskdale as soon as possible. So this is the reason I am writing to you. Please don't take away my son's opportunity to continue the next stage of his education in a school he wants to attend. I really want him to be a person and not a number. Thank you for taking the time to read this and I hope you do consider my views. Regards	Primary parent
Where there's a will there's a way , one 11-19 school ,one 11-16. School ,separate ethos ,two sites ,one shared governing body ,one totally happy electorate ! Sell one of the college sites and use the receipt to adapt the other sites .Where is the problem ?again "where there's a will ,there's a way .	Primary parent
We deserve choice, my children deserve a choice. The location is just round the corner from where we live. My son currently attends a soccer school in the holidays which is run in the grounds of Eskdale school. These clubs need amenities. The east side of Whitby needs these facilities and need clubs to keep the children off the streets. Whitby needs Eskdale, Whitby needs choice.	Primary parent
I wish to object to the merger of Eskdale and Caedmon College. I wish to object for several reasons. The first is based on safety reasons. Caedmon College is based on two sites and access is across the major route into Whitby. I really don't see how with the current arrangements you can guarantee the safety of all the children. Not only could a car hit them but anybody could take a child. Also access to both caedmon College sites are limited and traffic is a nightmare attending and departing school at the current times. Class sizes are another reason I would like to object as I want my children educated in small classes and in a nurturing environment. The size of the school is also another concern. I really don't see how you can track, assess and monitor those sort of numbers as well as really getting to know the child as an individual to support them on one of the most important parts of their education. Also with the current amount of housing developments in Whitby this number can only grow. I could give lots of reasons why I feel this merger is detrimental to Whitby but the most important one is that I want my children to have a choice in their education. I currently have a year 6 child who has chosen Eskdale after visiting both the school's involved in the merger. He felt like a little fish in a very big pond at Caedmon College with not one teacher speaking to him. He is very nervous about the transition as it is as he is leaving a very small primary school. I really do hope you will give him the opportunity to attend the school of his choice.	Primary parent
I strongly object, to the proposed amalgamation of caedmon and eskdale and the subsequent closure of eskdale school. THIS IS NOT THE FUTURE OF EDUCATION IN WHITBY.	Primary parent
I do not want the merger	Primary parent
I strongly disagree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon and feel that it would be a great shame to lose a fantastic school. As well as the choice that the community currently has between two good, but very different schools in our area. My daughter is 10 years old and we'd already chosen Eskdale school as the preferred secondary option because of it's great reputation and the size of the school. An amalgamated school would be huge and couldn't offer what Eskdale currently does - familiarity between pupil and teacher, continuity of being part of a small community. The majority of parents that live in and around the county have intentionally chosen the area for it's community and small nurturing schools. I would like to think that the council will continue to allow parents in and around Whitby to have that choice.	Primary parent
I am against the proposal , there is a better way to reorganise that still offers choice .	Primary parent
No merger. There should be at least two separate secondary schools for the amount of children in this area. Choice is expected for parents and pupils.	Primary parent
Oppose the merger	Primary parent

<p>I am completely opposed to this idea of merging the two schools . Each school has a unique but very different ethos . As a year six parent our family decided that Eskdale was the school for us . I'd also like to say that I bought my house which backs onto Eskdale for this reason . I am completely horrified at the current situation . Eskdale school (also speaking from a professional perspective) is incredibly skilled at nurturing and inspiring their children . There are many very vulnerable children here who have progressed and settled here - not Caedmon . Which some have moved from to go to Eskdale . There is healthy competition between Eskdale and Caedmon and that choice should remain , that drives up standards . I am furious that no other options such as both Eskdale and Caedmon remaining open and losing te Whitby community college site and building or improving that site for decent sixth form provision . Why is that not an option ? Because you want Eskdale land for development . And let me assure you on this , as a resident of the east side I can tell you that if Eskdale goes the heart will be ripped out of this community . Many sporting activities , religious groups and a grant promised for a four g pitch will all go . Why? Because you want the site . The traffic on Eskdale road is increasing due to new housing developments , as is the number of children so how can you take away a school here when there's 400 plus new houses being built on two sites ? It makes no sense . If Caedmon and Eskdale merged the Caedmon site is already at a standstill with traffic every morning , it would not be safe or viable for hundreds more children to go there . My only other option is for my daughter to travel 21 miles on moors throughout the year and winter . Why should she have to spend two hours on a bus a day and go to a school in a town where she's doesn't live ? The actual children here are being completely forgotten . This is an exercise for money . And this town and community will fight and fight nycc on this . You have vastly underestimated the value of this school and school choice to this town . How dare you give children the ideology that they are able to go to Eskdale then snatch it away from them months before year six children are to go and year 9 to start GCSEs. There is talk that this is a done deal , and I sincerely hope that Nycc corruption rumours are u true as I would lose faith in the whole system . But if this is clean cut and above board why are no other options being looked into ? The children that nycc declares are at the heart of education , their wellbeing etc is now laughable . These children need your compassion and understanding that they are at a school where they are happy and they are progressing . They do not want to lose their house and they do not want to travel miles . I am also completely against the development of the Eskdale land , and wondering why a tree protection order that I have applied for was turned down by Scarborough council within 24 hours without an inspection of the site , even though Unknown to them I had an Independant charity view the trees and state them worthy of a protection order . You tell me , does that sound strange to you ? We must keep this precious school and we will fight this all the way .</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I was supposed to go to Eskdale and I still will. Most of my family went to Eskdale and I would love to go there too. In Whitby I believe that we , the year six pupils , should have a choice of secondary school. Caedmon will be to crowed and our education is going to become very bad if we are not happy where we are. What if you didn't want to go to Caedmon then you would have to travel to Scarborough or Pickering which means getting up early to catch the bus and then being tierd during lessons which I don't think is very fair and we will keep fighting for our school until the decision is made that Eskdale will stay !</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I completely object to the proposal to amalgamate the two secondary schools in Whitby. It is vital that we retain Eskdale as a separate school. The people of Whitby deserve a choice in secondary education.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I am really concerned that the proposal will leave us with no choice of school for my children, there is no 'one size fits all' in education. We live in Glaisdale snd there are no other schools we could get our children to. If my child is bullied or unhappy at school there is no other option, children and parents need choice, this also promotes healthy compitition between the schools which will help drive up standards. We need choice, not one size fits all.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>Having read through the proposal, my first concern is a basic one, 'two wrongs, don't necessarily make a right' . There was a lot of emphasis on Eskdales poor ofsted results, however no mention of Caedmon schools (pre amalgamation) poor ofsted reports. Only the mention of a one day local authority review at Caedmon College, which was deemed 'good' which is NOT a full ofsted report. In my eyes this move is too soon, we don't fully know how the amalgamation of Caedmon College has improved education standards. Another concern with regards to the decision being made too soon, is the fact that we cannot see if Eskdale would benefit from going 11-16. The GCSE results could of been outstanding, but we will never know if the amalgamation goes ahead. Next I'd like to point out that bigger isn't always better. Most of the children who attend Eskdale come from small rural schools and the change when going to Eskdale is just right as it is, not too bigger step, to a huge 'super sized' school like they will have to do. I also don't believe that educating across two sites is beneficial. Children need stability & as little change as possible, education on one site, from 11-16 is the way forward for them to achieve more! Finally there appears to be far too much focus on money in the proposal and I feel that there may be hidden agendas?! (time will tell if I am right or wrong). More money does not automatically mean that education standards will be driven up. I feel that the focus of this proposal is all wrong & feel that we as parents have been pushed into a corner and are effectively being forced to send our children to the only school available in our town. We need choice. If I had the money that the County Council so desire I can tell you without a doubt that my children would be educated out of the area if Eskdale was to amalgamate.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

I do not agree with the Eskdale school amalgamation .	Primary parent
I totally disagree with this proposal - a town the size of Whitby needs choice. The nearest schools if our children do not want to go to Caedmon is Scarborough. Are you going to fund travel? Eskdale should be allowed to go 11-16 and give everyone a chance - why was NYCC so against this? One size does not fit all Finance - XX has already said it is about keeping CCWs 6th form open - why if they cant succeed without Eskdale's pupils monies who says they will? Empire building on a grand scale - the Head of CCW has already got Caedmon and now he wants Eskdale Why not get a local college or training provider to go in with CCW to develop its 6th form instead of depriving our kids and our community a valuable asset. We dont need any more house we need a choice of education in Whitby	Primary parent
I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of eskdale school and Caedmon college	Primary parent
To loose Eskdale would be a backwards step for the children of Whitby and the surrounding areas. Children are all different, as such a one size fits all approach would not benefit the children in their development and education. We need choice and to remove Eskdale would eliminate this. We were thrilled when Eskdale got its GCSE status and looked forward to our children attending in the coming years. With a relatively smaller school flexibility is increased thus improving the ability to better cater to the children's varying needs. It also helps foster a feeling of belonging and security which is vital for healthy happy children. To lose this would be damaging to the children and the community. Please for the sake of our children don't close Eskdale School.	Primary parent
I am against this proposed amalgamation. Whitby is over 20 miles away from all other schools taking away choice. My main concerns are: Traffic increase to an already dangerous congested part of town, kids struggle to get their lunch in a packed, and as my niece says, 'bursting at the seams' normanby site, class sizes, teachers low moral, kids being a number and not a name, you're taking away childrens choice and creating anxiety, more building sites will mean more children, we don't know if the first amalgamation has been successful yet, cost of the amalgamation will be high and massively disruptive at a vital part of a childs learning, I feel the whole thing is just unorganised and a total mess, I have a year six excited to go to a fantastic school and now with SATS looming is stressed not knowing where shes going and for that matter neither do I!. You say you don't want an 11-14 school, as far as I knew my child was going to an 11-16 school!, best interest of the child you say? Has anyone visited Eskdale School?	Primary parent
An utter ridiculous proposal. Our children are only in primary school, but I know this will affect their future. My niece is set to move up to secondary in September and has chosen Eskdale. Children are always encouraged to be confident in making their own decisions and life choices. Why then, take the choice of secondary school away from them? To be forced to attend a too large a capacity school, where pupils wouldn't be able to be monitored sufficiently. How do the council suggest they will tackle bullying if teachers can't see the signs as the class sizes are too large? Yes Whitby is a small town, but it is far too large to only have 1 secondary school to incorporate 6 primary schools. Preposterous!	Primary parent
Why do we feel we can't get to the facts? I am an intelligent/IT skilled parent but I can find no easy route to the facts. I do an internet search just local media comment nothing on Eskdales website. This is childrens education we are playing with please be honest and make this process timescale quick. Pupils & staff are feeling demotivated. If it is a fore gone conclusion - tell us. We cannot be in this position again in a few years all I want for my child's education is to have inspiring teachers, honest leaders & opportunity for all. At presnet I feel staff & pupils don't get this - decisions are being made at the top. The leaders of Eskdale & Caedmon are not inspiring & those at county council level don't even have the common decency to provide the facts nor provide a clear line of communication. We want a positive future for Whitby education that needs to be built on trust.	Primary parent
I am very unhappy with the idea that Eskdale school could close, It's all about choice. My child has development delay problems and to put it very bluntly we moved house so my child could go to Eskdale school. I had talked over learning problems with the schools and Eskdale was the best choice for my son. As you are also aware there is a large bullying problem, where do the children go apart from out of Whitby to be taught when this becomes an issue. It's ok for people sat behind a desk saying what's a better option, I hope you listen to the parents as well. Thank you.	Primary Parent
My children deserve a choice of secondary school. Primary schools are so diverse and there is so much choice that to then limit options so drastically at secondary stage will have a serious impact on our children.	Primary parent
I would like the right to choose which high school my children will attend. One size does not always fit all. Creating a super-size school which every child from Whitby and ALL surrounding small village primaries will not necessarily be the appropriate setting for ALL children. I want a more 'personal' experience for my children. I want them to be known by the teachers and develop lasting friendships with their peers. In such an enormous school I worry that teachers will struggle to build these relationships with so many pupils and they may become numbers on a spreadsheet, not individual learners with their own personal needs and potential.	Primary parent

<p>Eskdale was (20 years ago!) and still is a stepping stone for children who live in small villages to adjust from primary school to high school (GCSE level). It maybe doesn't matter to some parents/children whether teachers know 'who they are' but it certainly made my experience at Eskdale more personal, parents were aware of exactly how their child was developing/progressing. Sports/PE at Eskdale was motivating, with a growing concern that the general population is becoming obese, its a shame that once you hit Whitby College there isn't the requirement for everyone to partake (this may have changed?) If Eskdale is to be developed into a housing estate, please consult the teams at Whitby Hospital as downsizing at a hospital is not safe with a growing town.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I believe it is important to have choice for children for schools as different environments / styles / ethos / staff groups / pupil groups / etc will suit different children. Remaining the only local option will put pressure on children to either be taught in an environment that is not suitable/optimal for them or to endure travelling great distances to find alternatives. Not only can this be exhausting and stressful for child & family it can also incur great expense. I beleive closing the only alternative secondary school will be a real loss to the community and I can also see pressure on a single school increasing in the not too distant future with increased pupil numbers following all the new build housing currently in development. I would also be interested to see the impact of the previous school merger on pupil grades & well being before another merger happens meaning the previosu impact cannot be seen.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I am concerned that we no longer be offered the choice of a small school where the majority of rural parents would wish to send their children. Short sighted closure not taking onto account any increase in children wishing to attend Eskdale, asfter Potash becomes the major employer in the area & residents of the recent house builds.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

<p>Possibly the worst thought-out proposal ever inflicted by NYCC!! At the start and end of the school day, CCW is gridlocked, leading to the kids walking between cars. When the vehicles start to move, the kids are in danger. What are the proposed infrastructure changes to address this? Recently, a staff member at CCW crashed into my car and failed to stop. Thankfully there were hundreds of witnesses as it was the end of the school day and the road was swarming with children who recognised the culprit. When later questioned, the perpetrator claimed she "didn't have time to stop as she was rushing to the other campus." I hope she would have stopped if it was a child she'd collided with! Currently, kids moving between sites have to cross the main arterial road through Whitby, or use the 'underpass' which is litter with dog waste, beer bottles and drug paraphernalia. What are you proposing to fix this? When (and it is a when, not an if) a child is hurt, the minds behind this scheme will have themselves to blame. Eskdales governors claim that the proposals they were offered and the one they accepted was not the same as the one proposed to XX. How has this happened? How can you 'do a deal' and then change the facts? Are you prepared to carry-out a public investigation? Whitby has become the centre of a few big economic projects. The offshore wind farm and potash mine are the most prominent. There are hundreds of new houses proposed (ironically, including the development of Eskdale School site) this will lead to more families moving to the area, which strangely enough, will produce more children needing schooling. NYCC have predicted an increase of over 2000 children in the next few years. I can only assume that the suits within NYCC will have changed careers or retired by then so it becomes someone else's problem. Caedmon School had a terrible Ofsted report. When it amalgamated with Whitby Community College, the bad Ofsted report vanished and CCW inherited the Ofsted from WCC. How is this possible? Eskdale had a better report but "required improvement". We have been told that any issues have been addressed with the hard work by the staff and pupils at Eskdale, yet there has been no follow-up inspection. If NYCC think that using any Ofsted results to justify closing Eskdale, then they should be looking at doing the job properly. Re-inspect Eskdale and CCW NOW! The staff at CCW are 'brainwashing' the pupils there. They're been told that the reason why certain courses are not available is because there is not enough money in the school. Likewise, the reason why the staff is having to buy schooling materials out of their own wages, is because the budget is not there. The pupils have been told that if the amalgamation goes ahead, there will be enough cash floating about to keep everyone happy. Don't take my word for it. Go to CCW un-announced and ask the children and see what they say. They've been told to fill in these consultation forms in, during school time, to help the amalgamation go ahead. If CCW can't handle the budget now, including the whopping hand-out to help the transition it has just undergone, then what makes you think it can handle any more? And now to the important bits. The kids. I attended Eskdale, as did my parents but any emotional feelings are irrelevant. What I want now is the best for the current and future children in the area. This includes my own children. My son has attended many out of school events at both CCW and Eskdale. He's also attended several open-evenings at both schools and he has decided he wants to go to Eskdale. He has no second choice. His reasons are many and varied. He likes the atmosphere at Eskdale. The staff know him by name after the few times he's been there and the other students have always been very friendly and helpful. He's experienced quite the opposite at CCW. My son currently attends a small primary school and the transition to a larger school is enough of a trauma without have to go to a huge school that also caters for 19 year old 'adults'. We bought a house close to our preferred primary school which in itself is a huge commitment. However, when that schools management changed, we noticed a change in the way the school was run and it was affecting my children. The school failed to address our concerns so we took our children out of that school and now take them 10 miles up the road to a more suitable school. This usually incurs a 40 miles per day commute. Often 60 miles if one of the kids has after-school activities. We do this at our own expense because our children matter. Since changing schools they have both become happier and their education is back on track. Obviously you know that the nearest alternative to Eskdale, apart from CCW, means a huge commute to Scarborough, Pickering, Guisborough or Redcar. Many of these schools are already at capacity and all of them involve travelling over remote roads that readily close during the winter. In effect, you're taking away any reasonable choice for us and our children. In summary: Please keep both schools open in Whitby. What suits one child, is unsuitable for others. Inspect the schools NOW and talk to the students as I've suggested and see what they say. What you're proposing may be a quick-fix that will help balance the books short term, but it is a long-term error for the education in Whitby. Moreover, it is affecting the children NOW and it will get worse until you call a halt to this scheme. Finally: If XX and XX are certain that their plans are the way forward, let's see them make an open statement that they will forfeit their positions within NYCC and any related pensions, if the proposed amalgamated school fails to deliver. PS. Don't think XX association with X has gone unnoticed.....</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I think this would limit the childrens choices and create one very large school which I would worry would struggle to cope with such a high intake and make it almost impossible for a child to be known as individual and get the attention/teaching needed to really help them learn, grow and achieve.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>It would be nice for the kids to have a choice! I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>Strongly agree this school should be kept open for the children of Whitby and other areas. Freedom of Choice. Giving a chance for the children to choose. Listen to Actually what Whitby people want for a change.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

<p>Eskdale School should not be shut! Every child should be able to have the choice of more than one school to attend. I had hoped in years to come my children will be able to attend this school.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>Eskdale School has an enviable ethos. Its catchment area includes students from the very rural Esk valley and also some of the most socially deprived students in the country. The atmosphere of the school is inclusive, caring and conducive to learning in a way that other schools can only envy. The building is spacious in a way that the equivalent premises on the other side of the river with its narrow corridors and congestion at lesson change makes a mockery of the thought of increasing the congestion with even more students, if the merger takes place. No wonder there is a move to save Eskdale school. Go to both premises at lesson change and see for yourselves and ask where you would prefer to be!</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>If Eskdale is closed what will happen when extra places are needed for pupils in the future? There is a nationwide shortage of secondary school places it seems very short-sighted to be losing places in our area. It is important for pupils and parents to have a choice of secondary schools traditionally children from the rural villages went to Eskdale - a small friendly school similar to the very small primary schools they came from. Not all schools have the same ethos and it is not a case of one size fits all, it is very important that there is an alternative choice for families. Closing a successful, popular school is a mistake!</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I totally disagree with the losing of Eskdale for many reasons of which am sure you no already my biggest concern is that for the children you say this is not down to money but down to what's best for the children well I can tell you now I no alot of children that picked Eskdale over Caedmon due to BULLIES my son and nephew for 2 and I no for certain there is lots lots more so can you tell me how this will be better for them children its not a minority it is alot !!! Mentally physically there fine now enjoying school and learning u close Eskdale and these kids will not be happy or learning and will carry physically emotional and mental scares throughout there school yrs underachieving how on earth is that benefical. The roads access traffic in summer come on surley I don't need to point out the health and safety issues there as there is massive floors in how it works now the disruption to the children moving schools is going to be massive seriously you are making a massive mistake but to be honest I don't no why we are all filling these forms in its just to show ur doing the process you won't even probable read them you wouldn't even answer the questions given to u on Mondays consultation u proved that night that the whole of Whitby ur Mind was made up let's hope you can all sleep at night !!!!!</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>Dear XX/XX. I am writing to make clear my fears if the amalgamation of Caedmon and Eskdale schools goes ahead. I am the parent of a year 6 pupil who was very excited about starting Eskdale. Having spent an evening there, I too was filled with hope and optimism for the future. Eskdale was bright, welcoming, and alive with academic and extra-curricular activity. The library was flooded with light and designed to encourage and inspire, with pictures of well-known celebrities who have, themselves, struggled with reading. I believe the success of both schools is due in large part to the existence of the other. To amalgamate all pupils will leave many at opposing ends of the academic spectrum let down, and this scenario does not even bring into focus the great number of pupils who seek education elsewhere, and who are facing a 20-30 mile journey to school. For these children there will be a huge negative impact to their daily lives and freedoms, while their families face disruption, and economic pressures which many will struggle to fulfil. Eskdale is not merely a smaller version of Caedmon, in which case amalgamation would be easier to justify, but a completely different academic institution serving very different needs. My case is this-In education, as with clothing, a "one-size-fits all" claim, is something of a misnomer. It actually fits and suits a small minority, leaving the greater number struggling to fit in it and finding it inadequate for their needs, or are totally swamped by it. Pretending a one-option-super-school will better provide for the educational needs of all is totally unrealistic and contradicts current thinking in education. Those pupils happy and thriving at Caedmon, progressing under the academic approach it has chosen, are bound to suffer with the influx of around 400 pupils who, for very real social, personal and academic reasons, chose to go to Eskdale. I believe many of these pupils will struggle to adjust to an approach and ethos very different to that at Eskdale. I do not believe this is conducive to thriving, and achieving their full potential. Fearing this, I know many are looking at the alternative of a considerable daily commute, again, clearly not satisfactory. I strongly believe that each and every child let down by any decision made to close Eskdale school, will pay the price for this great injustice for many years to come. We are fortunate to live in a democracy, and to deny choice in such a vital part of a child's development into adulthood would, in my opinion, be a grave mistake. Off stead reports can be improved, changes can be made, Eskdale can continue playing a vital role in the future, if it is given a chance, allowing Caedmon and Whitby community college time to concentrate on their own amalgamation. If Eskdale is knocked down there is no chance for the wealth of resources, teacher commitment and the very real sense of community built up there, to play any part in the future of Whitby's educational provision: One option, one route forward, one chance to get it right for each and every child — that seems like a dark prospect. If I may conclude by returning to the library at Eskdale, my daughter, who had been overwhelmed and intimidated by the size of Caedmon's library said, "I'm not a strong reader, but I would love to read every book in Eskdale's library." Thank you for taking the time to read my letter, and please, please, ensure a bright future for all Whitby and the</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

surrounding area's children, by allowing Eskdale a chance to continue. It is only within the last year that it had been granted permission to teach children to the age of 16.	
I am really concerned about the impact of disruption, the closing of Eskdale will have on my daughter. The merging of schools will be very stressfull for all concerned, staff & pupils alike and is bound to have a negative effect on all. Starting a new school is daunting enough but with all the uncertainties ahead my daughter is already worried and is getting distressed. General concerns are, is the site at Caedmon big enough to support all the extra children. We do not want the sites to spread over a distance. we would have preferred her to go to a smaller school, as we feel generally education, support & well being are easier obtained. We hear worrying reports about Academies not being the big success they were predicated to be, being told lots of negative things by staff and pupils who attend several over South & West Yorkshire over the past 4 yrs.	Primary parent
XX Please save Eskdale!	Primary parent
I am all for this! I would have no second thoughts about choosing CCW for my daughters' secondary education. Seamless, streamlined support + teaching can only be a good thing! 'Rivalry' can do more harm than good! Imagine what can be achieved when all our communities' children are working together. Could members of staff/governors visit the primary schools to speak with the staff and students there?	Primary parent
Eskdale needs to remain where it is , as an 11-16 school. There is no question about it. We don't want any more subject options or any more sports facilities if it means loosing Eskdale as it is. Our children's happiness and well-being at school is our priority. Subject options at 16+ doesn't matter in Whitby. Teenagers have and will continue to persue their education out of town. It is far more important that our younger children can be happy and settled up to GCSE'S level. Don't compromise our choice to choose a secondary school just to allow more choice at 6th form. We don't want it. Please listen to what we want!	Primary parent
I just want to express my deep unhappiness with these proposals. My son will be starting secondary education in September 2016. He has had an appalling school experience so far, has been hugely let down and even missed 2 years of school due to how badly his situation has been handled. My son is currently awaiting assessment for the Autism spectrum, he has huge self esteem issues due to how badly he has been treated by the two primary schools he attended. And he has only ever known tiny village schools,he does not cope well with crowds, noisy, busy spaces or with the education system n general. I am deeply concerned about how he would react to the alterations to the structure of secondary education in Whitby if they were to go ahead. We have applied for a place at Eskdale due to it's excellent reputation for handling SEN kids. And for it's calmer atmosphere. However, long term we have two other children whom I had also hoped would attend Eskdale, mainly due to my very serious concerns regarding XX as XX. I feel he is grossly unsuitable for the role, and has no idea of how to approach students who are struggling, he has inappropriate reactions to students who fail to meet the schools frankly ridiculous uniform rules, and I have heard very concerning things regarding him and his approach to the well-being of students. I am very worried about him as a head and do not wish for any of my children to have to attend a school with him in charge. The last thing I wish to raise is Caedmon Colleges reputation in regard to bullying. I appears there is a real problem which is not being addressed. I feel that to leave children with no where to escape bullies by amalgamating all the secondary schools is morally disgraceful. And I worry that with no alternative school available to students who are being bullied there is very real possibility of tragedy occurring. Above all the principle of choice in education must be taken into account, we live in a geographically isolated community, there are no practical alternatives for parents who do not wish their children to attend this proposed "super school", and we are entitled as citizens to have choice available to us as to how and where our children receive education. It is undemocratic to rob us of that choice and I feel as though the county council and all those involved are dictating to the community, I feel we are being disregarded; our opinions and wants irrelevant, treated as secondary to the desires of local government who make decisions with no regard for the needs of those they are supposed to be serving.	Primary parent
This a complete and utter shambles!	Primary parent
As a parent of a current year 6 pupil, I feel that the propsed amalgamation will not only be of vreat benefit to my daughters education, but the will benefit the town of Whitby. Having one school with one budget and one set of clear values and guidelines will equal MORE choice. having read both Eskdale and Caedoms ofsted it becomes clear that both schools have there strengths and weaknesses that said combing these 2 schools would mean we could give the children if Whitby an outsranding education while keeping the very important post 16 provision. Having looked around both sites and spoken to both heads it was clear that both were very passionate about what they had to offer. XX has aclear vision with strong values and an amazing team around him from SEN and team leaders to support staff, if you team this up with XX strong pastoral care you have your self an educational dream team. The only concern I have is about sending kids up to Eskdale for the first year, however having discussed this with my daughter she is extremely happy as it means that she wouldn't be sepersted from her friends. I hope that a desocopn is made in.favour of the proposed amalgomTion and we can move forward as a society.	Primary parent

<p>Having sat through the two consultation meetings and listened to all of the questions and lack of answers , I thought now was the time to write. I was not convinced at all about the proposals that XX set forward and feel there has not been much thought about the actual education of our children just a money saving deal that is in need of pushing through as quick as possible and let the town pick up the pieces when it goes wrong. My child is in year 4 now and is going to a small primary school he is one of the many who will not fit into such a large school, I am now starting to look at home schooling as this will be my only choice. Choice where will it be if this ridiculous takeover goes a head because I know that is what it is.The dangers that you will be putting in front of these children is appalling stop and have a good think. There is total disagreement through the town as the Caedmon college amalgamated only last year and there are many issues happening, with teachers being late for lessons children crossing a main road to do P.E what if there is an accident one day ! I think this needs more time ,why can't we have two secondary schools which are outstanding not worry about a sixth form I could go on with my arguments but the protests have shown the support. I will like to see if XXs words are true "this is not a done deal" which he did say on both nights. I think there was 35 consultation replies for the Caedmon amalgamation see how many this one gets. Thank you XX</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I do not agree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby. I am a Year 6 pupil at Sleights Primary School and I am due to start Eskdale School in September. During the past few years I have been to lots of different events at both schools e.g. sports, music, maths activities etc. I always thought that the pupils at Eskdale seemed really happy they would say hello to us and help us if we needed directions. When we went to Caedmon College the pupils just pushed past us or ignored us. Last year I had the chance to look around both Schools and to choose which Secondary School I wanted to go to, I could see there were good things about each School but I felt safe at Eskdale, I felt like I would belong there, I liked the teachers and the way they wanted to talk to me not just my parents. I have friends that go to both Schools so I know that people are happy at both but I have come from a small Primary School there are only 15 children in my year group, the thought of going to a large school with 1600 pupils is really frightening to me. I went to one of the consultation meetings and I heard the people from the Council talking about the fact it costs a lot of money to run two Schools and I understand that but I do not think they are trying to see things from our point of view. I know that money is important but I think that the children should be as important. I know most of the pupils from my School chose Eskdale and I know that they very worried about what will happen to our education now. In School we have been learning about democracy and how it works. I know that adults like my Mum and Dad get to vote for who becomes a Councillor and I know that they are supposed to listen to the adults before deciding what to do. I can't get why people have been making plans for the new School if they have not decided yet this doesn't seem right. This doesn't seem like what we have learned about democracy. If you decide to close Eskdale School you are taking my choice away from me. I have got to do my SAT's in May I have worked really hard for them so far, I want to do well to make my teacher and my parents proud and because I want to be a pilot when I grow up. This is making it really hard for me to concentrate on my school work because I do not know what will happen in my future. If Eskdale closes and we have to go to the new school I think things will be really stressful for quite a long time, we will have to change Schools at least twice. I do not think this will be good for my education, I need good exam results to be a pilot, I do not think your plans will help this and I do not think that is fair. My mum and dad are now looking at Schools that are not in Whitby for me to go to, this would mean that I would loose contact with lots of my friends and might mean I will have to give up some of the clubs I do after School. You say that you are doing this for the children but I cannot see that this is true. I have a medical condition that gets worse when I am worried or stressed and at the moment mt Mum and Dad are very upset because we cannot get it back under control. I thought I knew what my future was and I was happy with it please don't take that away from me and my friends.</p>	<p>Primary pupil</p>
<p>Having sat through the two consultation meetings and listened to all of the questions and lack of answers, I thought now was the time to write. I was not convinced at all about the proposals that XX set forward and feel there has not been much thought about the actual education of our children just a money saving deal that is in need of pushing through as quick as possible and let the town pick up the pieces when it goes wrong. My child is in year 4 now and is going to a small primary school he is one of the many who will not fit into such a large school, I am now starting to look at home schooling as this will be my only choice. Choice where will it be if this ridicules takeover goes ahead because I know that is what it is.The dangers that you will be putting in front of these children is appalling stop and have a good think. There is total disagreement through the town as the Caedmon College amalgamated only last year and there are many issues happening, with teachers being late for lessons children crossing a main road to do P.E what if there is an accident one day! Also the students have just been told the new year 7 and 8 will this year be at Eskdale and the year8 at Eskdale now will be going to CCW in September many students are upset and confused with this decision and are going to have their education disrupted for I think the next three years this is not good. Sports clubs will also suffer as the school is used by many clubs charged with affordable prices. We as a town would be missing out on all these things. I think this needs more time ,why can't we have two secondary schools which are outstanding not worry about a sixth form. Please listen to the children and the voice of</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

<p>Whitby I think you will have a lot of responses on this proposal, not for it but against it I ask you again please think carefully with your decision. I DISSAGREE WITH THE PROPOSAL. Thank you XX</p>	
<p>I disagree with your proposal to amalgamate Eskdale and Caedmon and beg you to think about my personal situation which I think may be important to other pupils now and in the future. I am a year 6 pupil. I have chosen to go to Eskdale in September this year. I am extremely happy at my primary school which feels happy and full of light. I have a lot of lovely friends. I am involved in lots of activities and I feel that I am an important member of the school. In my last school report I was told that my work and progress is better than what is expected of somebody my age. I have not always been happy at school. From nursery until year 4 I went to another school in the village where I live. I enjoyed some parts of this school but I did not like a lot of it. I had one real friend at this school. There was one other person who made me laugh and that was my teacher in class 3. I wanted to be friends with people my own age but they did not make me feel happy and I felt that they did not want to be my friend. I felt very lonely and for many days my mum and dad had to force me to go to school. They spoke to school about it but the school did not listen. There were times that I felt trapped and very alone. When I got to the end of year 4 I was really worried about going into class 4 because I would not have the one teacher who made me feel safe. My mum and dad asked me if I wanted to look around a different school. It felt scary but I was so sad I wanted to try. It was one of the best decisions I have ever made. My school life is completely different. It was also my decision to choose which school I went to in year 7. I chose Eskdale because it has the same happy feeling that my primary school has. It made me feel safe and happy. When I have been into Eskdale to visit, I already felt like I was part of it. The teachers are happy and the pupils all look like they are having so much fun learning. I have Type 1 diabetes so it is important that all the staff know me in case of emergency. It is a very difficult medical condition to deal with every day and sometimes it is hard. For unknown reasons my blood glucose can shoot up or down and I need everybody in a school to understand this because it can be life-threatening for me. I visit the hospital every 3 months. Some days it makes me sad. I need to know that everybody in my school understands this. My brother is in year 8 at Eskdale and he comes home happy every day telling us what he has been doing and he is doing so well in his subjects. I want to be like him. I am doing my SATS in a few weeks and I don't need any more worries. I am worried that if there is one school I might be unhappy like I was in my first primary school. I want to carry on loving my learning like I have learnt to do at the school where I am now. I am worried that if I am a small person in a massive school that the people who work there won't know me well enough to understand my Type 1 diabetes, or me! There are probably more children like me in year 6. In a few months I will be starting secondary school and I don't know what is happening. With all this change, I do not want to even go to school in Whitby anymore. There will be more children in year 6 now and more in the future who might need to decide to go to a different school for lots of different reasons. I have been looking forward to going to Eskdale school and now I might have my decision taken away. I am scared what I am going to do and what will happen to me. Please let Eskdale stay open and let me feel safe.</p>	<p>Primary pupil</p>
<p>I would like to stress firstly that I am opposed to the Amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College in Whitby. The best option to me, and the majority of the residents in the wider Whitby area is to keep the 2 schools. Eskdale School to cater for pupils aged 11-16 on its current site and Caedmon College catering for pupils aged 11-19 on a single site. This would still produce cost savings by closing one of the Caedmon sites but would give the children of Whitby a choice of where they study for their GCSEs and would provide good education in average sized schools. Reasons: 1. The amalgamated school would have 1,500+ pupils on the Roll. This would be a very large school, the largest school within the area and that includes schools in the city of York. A school of this size will not be able to cater for the wide diversity of needs of pupils in the area and the bullying which is already a problem is not going to improve. 2. Settle College was held as an amalgamation success at the consultation meetings. Settle College has 586 pupils on the roll of which 104 are sixth form students. This is a good size for a school and the same size that Eskdale School would be if it remained open and catered for 11-16 year olds. So why is a school of this size acceptable in Settle but not Whitby? Caedmon College would cater for 900 pupils aged 11-19, a perfectly acceptable average sized school. Both schools would have the capacity to expand if pupil numbers in the area increased without being too big. 3. It is the view of the Local Authority that 'a single organisational structure would be most likely to secure high quality, sustainable provision in the area'. This is a view of a group of people and as I discovered in the consultation document is not backed by any solid facts. There are no statistics or guarantees to support this amalgamation, the only clearly defined reason outlined in the consultation document is cost savings. 4. Currently Eskdale Schools Ofsted Report states that the School requires improvement. Malton School was another secondary school that had an Ofsted Report which stated requires improvement. It's recent Ofsted Report states 'GOOD' in all areas. That School improved without amalgamating with another school so it is reasonable to expect that with work and support from parents that Eskdale will be able to improve and offer quality education up to GCSE level. 5. At the age of 16 pupils will be able to choose where they continue their education. At that age it will be up to them. Just because a school provides education to A level standard doesn't mean that all pupils wishing to take A levels will stay at that School. 6. The amalgamated Caedmon College will be set on two sites connected by 'a footpath via an underpass'. This is a</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

<p>public footpath that would require pupils to leave school premises to move between sites. The footpath is not a 'safe route'. Too many places for people to hide or for bullies to strike out of site of witnesses. This is a footpath that I will not walk down on my own. 7. Major works are needed at the Caedmon College sites to accommodate the increase in pupils. Both these sites are size restricted being surrounded on all sides by housing estates. Eskdale School site has more scope for expansion being on the edge of Whitby. 8. It is not possible to make a decision on costs of improving each of the sites as the information contained in the consultation document is not complete. There is no details behind the figures to show how they have been calculated like for like. Therefore the information at best is misleading and so cannot be relied upon. 9. It was intimated that eventually the Scoresby site could also be closed with up to 1,600+ pupils being accommodated on just one over crowded site. Given the government proposals to make all schools Academies by 2022 it looks as if the Local Authority are Asset Stripping the valuable school sites in Whitby before having to hand them over to the private sector. This will jeopardise the education provision in the Whitby area. 10. The consultation document suggests that a large amalgamated school will offer pupils more choice n courses at GCSE level. I would suggest a large school may offer a wider range of GCSE options but there will be more competition for places and those less academic will miss out and will be left with options that will not benefit them. 11. Previously merged schools such as Graham School in Scarborough and Settle College, both of which are smaller than the proposed school in Whitby, have failed to offer more choice. Graham School is considered the worst school in Scarborough with poor GCSE results. 12.Pupils at Settle College are being asked to take some GCSEs earlier at the age of 14. The worrying thing is that if they get a poor result they are not being given the option to retake the GCSE as 'RETAKES DO NOT COUNT IN THE SCHOOLS STATISTICS'. This shows that the school priority is not the pupils educational but government statistics. 13. How will such a large school cater for pupils who are gifted or have special educational needs? There is nothing in the consultation document that seems to suggest that this provision has been adequately thought through. With over 1,500 pupils and fewer trained teachers per pupil ratio those who require more support will be failed by the school or overlooked if the educational needs are not picked up. This has already been the case at what was The Whitby Community College (now Caedmon College Normanby site) where the needs of dyslexic pupils were not addressed leading to them under achieving in their GCSEs. 14. I am a qualified Accountant so understand budgets, having to look for cost savings and making difficult decisions. I also understand that there is a fine line between making cost savings and maintaining the service provision. Creating very large schools does not mean improvement in the education provision in an area. The law of diminishing returns says at some point a school becomes too large and the quality of the educational provision decreases. In my opinion the proposed Whitby School will be too large. In conclusion I would like to point out that I am a parent with a child in primary school at present and I have been looking at which secondary school to send him in a couple of years. We do live within walking distance of Caedmon College but if the amalgamation goes through I will not be sending my son to the new Whitby School. It will be not be one of my options and if we cannot get him into a school outside the Whitby area then we will home school or move house and business to find an appropriate educational establishment for him.</p>	
<p>I am against the merger for the following reasons: (1) CHOICE is hugely important for children at age 11. Many have come from tiny primary schools, some need a fresh start away from a particular cohort, others require a school structure and ethos which suits their needs, and some seek the exemplary inclusivity which Eskdale provides for those with complex needs. One larger school cannot provide adequately for all this. On choosing to go elsewhere, children in Whitby - at 11 years old - are faced with a long, dangerous journey twice a day and their parents are faced with the transport costs. This is not true choice. What happens when children are excluded from this one larger school? Will NYCC pay to transport them to the 'next nearest' school, or will they all end up in the same 'sink' Outreach Centre - out of sight, out of mind? Or will staff see this situation for what it is and end up avoiding exclusion at all costs (ie the cost of the 'great education' XX says he wants for all children in Whitby). XX stated that a single, larger school would increase choice for all children as it would be able to offer a broader curriculum. Currently the favouring of the EBacc qualification by CCW is squeezing out the Arts subjects....how is this increasing choice for those creative students who have traditionally excelled in Whitby schools? (2) COMMUNITY is a much overlooked issue today and yet Eskdale School's role in the community of the East Side of Whitby is historic, intrinsic and vital for this community's wellbeing. The quality of relationships built up over decades between staff, parents and students is extremely rare. Coupled with this, the partnership which exists between Eskdale and East Whitby CP School - across the road - has enabled the extremely successful transfer into secondary education of many children who could easily fail at this transition due to their home background, behavioural difficulties or SEND profile. The wider community of Whitby also benefit hugely from the plethora of groups who use the Eskdale site for football/tennis coaching, archery, church activities etc and who would struggle to find alternate premises which fulfil their need. A great concern connected with the proposed use of Normanby and Scoresby sites for ALL Whitby's children is the disruption this would cause - to the town's traffic, as well as educational disruption due to operating on a split site. With impending expansion of the town - new housing and new industry planned - this will both increase disruption further AND increase the need for school places. (3) Eskdale is NOT A FAILING SCHOOL! Ofsted in 2015 stated that the school was</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

making progress in the areas it needed to, and just needed more time for consolidation of these improvements. There was no mention in the report of any concerns over staff delivering GCSE courses effectively. To suggest - as it has been - that staff would not be able to teach to GCSE is patronising in the extreme! They are indeed ALL qualified to do so, many have previously taught to this level and some of these very recently. Some staff have moderated or marked for exam boards. ALL schools are undergoing retraining for the complete overhaul of GCSE subjects from September 2016. (4) ESKDALE IS A GROWING SCHOOL WHICH IS FINANCIALLY VIABLE and which had made plans to remain so on conversion to 11-16 status. The 'excess places' argument appears to be based on fictitious numbers which don't necessarily relate to anything 'on the ground'. A recent governor-requested PAN of 110 over 5 year groups puts the future Eskdale total at 550. This reflects the approximate numbers currently choosing Eskdale each year, and was projected in the business plan to show financial viability. This was not questioned at the point when Eskdale's plans for 11-16 status were going ahead. Eskdale has consistently increased its roll over the last few years, with a significant number of students choosing to come from outside the traditional catchment area - often choosing Eskdale over CCW. Indeed the school uses its own minibus to transport some of these children where they are not eligible for free transport. It has also continued to attract new students since the news of its threatened closure has been known! Fully informed parents and students have still chosen Eskdale - coming both from outside the area, and from CCW! (5) THE SIXTH FORM ISSUE SHOULD BE DEALT WITH SEPARATELY. When it is suggested that Eskdale be closed, in order it seems to 'prop up' CCW's failing sixth form....this just doesn't stack up. If a comparison is made between the numbers choosing Eskdale versus the numbers choosing CCW's sixth form for example....? When the merger between Caedmon and WCC was planned, did a business plan address the issue of the sixth form? How was it planned to maintain it? This is an internal issue for CCW, which cannot be allowed to be solved by disrupting 11-16 education for the town. If fewer students are choosing to remain in Whitby for post-16 education then the root causes should be investigated. I would suggest that a consistent, basic offer at post-16 would cater for some of these students who wish to remain in Whitby. I would also suggest that seeking to go elsewhere at 16+ is acceptable as a search for specialisms, a bid for more independence and an exploration of life outside Whitby. It is not acceptable to expect 11 year olds to have to do the same. With one 11-16 school and one 11-19 in Whitby there would be the possibility of offering breadth of curriculum with each school specialising in different areas for GCSE. The sixth form could continue as a basic offer and if in the future it was found that the demand for this just wasn't there, then at least we wouldn't have sacrificed Eskdale School in the process! These two schools could still operate on two sites, with the third being sold off. Keep Eskdale on the east side and sell off one of the other sites instead. (6) I have CONCERNS OVER PROCEDURE and the way NYCC have treated the people of Whitby during the announcement of their proposal and throughout this consultation period. When the proposal was initially announced to Eskdale staff, this was done by their governors with no NYCC presence to explain the thinking behind it. There was then no NYCC response/explanation/presence in the town to make their intentions clear until the public meetings in March. This allowed much confusion for staff, parents and students of both schools, as well as Y6 students and their parents. This attitude showed a huge disregard for the people that these plans were going to affect. This is not an example of NYCC 'working with' the town, or being in 'listening mode' - despite what XX claims.... Despite discouraging teaching staff from attending the two public meetings because they would be given their own 'staff only' version, this has not happened and Eskdale staff have not been given the chance to properly engage with NYCC in the consultation. This, on top of being warned by HR not to take part in the campaign group debate about the school's future for fear of what may happen to their jobs if the merger goes ahead. The staff of Eskdale have been allowed NO VOICE whatsoever in this process - a gross denial of the right to free speech and contrary to the nature of a 'consultation' - and these are the same people who will be expected to carry out and make work the council's ill-conceived plans Again, NYCC showing huge disregard to the people involved! The shadow governing body (which appears to have been set up very secretly and with little or no reference to the people, ie staff, who will have to make plans work) was promised an independent chair. There is however, NO independent chair of this committee! Apparently one could not be found. This would surely call into question any decisions made by them? The 'final decision' date in June falls after the resignation date for teaching staff. This means that if the merger were to go ahead and staff did not wish to work at the new enlarged school in Whitby, they have been denied the opportunity to go elsewhere and are essentially being forced to work in a school they have not chosen to work in. This will have a great negative effect on morale in a newly merged school. Finally, XX claimed that he wanted an "open and constructive" dialogue during the consultation period and that NYCC are in "listening mode". If this is truly the case, he surely cannot ignore the sensible views, arguments and alternative suggestions which are being sent his way. He and his council indeed need more convincing arguments FOR their proposal as every one they have attempted to use has been countered effectively. XX maintains his "only agenda is a great education". In that case, I ask that he take time to properly consider all possible solutions and not just railroad Whitby into a scenario which won't provide this, and which the people of Whitby don't want.

<p>Whilst I agree that choice for schools is important, I also understand the importance of my child's education going forward. The main point for me is the provision of a good to excellent education for 11-19 year olds in Whitby. If this amalgamation didn't happen then I fear for the 6th Form provision in the town due to costing issues. Consideration needs to be given to pupils of Eskdale who chose Eskdale for it's size and ethos. Also staff must be protected as best they can be. Parking and travel issues will also need to be scrutinised. Whitby is no different to other areas that are also going through some form of amalgamation and if the outcome is a greater better school that caters for all ages then I would be happy. Unfortunately Ofsted reports don't lie and I wouldn't want my child attending a school that requires improvement twice having been good. However choice is for pupils and parents and I can see the reasons for hoping Eskdale remains open.</p>	Primary parent
<p>I am a student at a small village primary. Both my brothers went to Eskdale. One of them is still there in year 9. We were both looking forward to being at the same school as he chose to stay on at Eskdale and was very upset when he was told that he would have to go to c.c.w. I also chose to go up to Eskdale and now do not know what is going to happen. I am very worried that all of us children from whatever school and whichever year who are all still unsure as to which school we will be going to and if the amalgamation goes ahead what effect all the moving about from school to school is going to have on our education. I chose to go to Eskdale and Eskdale is where I want to go. Not some messed up together school spread out over three different sites. I believe that Eskdale should stay as Eskdale and do not agree with what N.Y.C.C has planned for all our schools and all us children!</p>	Primary parent
<p>I think it is very important for our children to have a choice in their education. If the amalgamation goes ahead, this will not happen and one school does not always fit all. I am also very concerned about the traffic to the Caedmon College site. It is already very very busy as it is so if the school was going to cater for approximately 1600 children, the traffic would be ridiculous. I do not like the idea of my 11 year old son walking over to Caedmon College with this amount of traffic and also walking this far on cold dark winter mornings/after school. Eskdale is a wonderful school which has a lovely ethos and my son chose to go to this school - this choice should not be taken away from our children.</p>	Primary parent
<p>I do not believe that one school for Whitby is the way forward. I have a child who has been through Eskdale and Whitby community college and the community college atmosphere was not for her. The staff did not help her achieve her potential. She chose to switch off and not learn. I am lucky in that she has done well for herself since leaving. The smaller more family like community of Eskdale was far more suitable. In future I have two young boys who will pass through the senior education system in Whitby. In my heart I would very strongly like them to be educated at Eskdale until they are 16. I do not want my boys to be lost in a large school where they are just a number. These years are very important to our future generation and children do better if they are addressed and known personally. Eskdale may not be for everyone but it is certainly for my family. I would very strongly consider my children being educated elsewhere if we lose Eskdale. I have no faith in Caedmon college Whitby or that it can be a success should Eskdale amalgamate. As for the sixth form needing help. By the time a child turns 16 they are old enough to travel for education but with our nearest choice for 11-16 being at least 20 miles away young children may have to travel daily. Keep our choice in Whitby for our future generations.</p>	Primary parent
<p>Whitby is a small town but with a large catchment area for schools. We need the choice of two schools, the distance to travel to a second choice is too far. Not every child will succeed at Caedmon College or like it. Without the choice the school system is doomed. Personally my second child will never attend Caedmon College after the failing of my first!</p>	Primary parent
<p>Have grave concerns regarding the safety of children around the Normanby site / Mayfield Road junction if numbers are increased at this school. The increase in buses and traffic in general will be a real hazard I feel.</p>	Primary parent
<p>As a parent of a child who has moved schools for academic reasons and the effects this caused on his confidence, performance and demeanour, I find it horrifying that you had no instant reply to the issues of primary safeguarding and wellbeing of ALL children. It was not a unique case and should be reason alone to abandon any thought of this amalgamation. DO NOT MAKE CHILDREN SUFFER?</p>	Primary parent
<p>There should have been consultations such as these prior to the "leaked" information. This appears to have been dealt with in a very underhand way. Saving money? Rubbish!! It will be very interesting to see what Eskdale land will become in the next few years! I think we already know that one. I have very little faith left, I really do believe this is already cut and dry. I am proud to be a concerned parent in Whitby.</p>	Primary parent
<p>I do not agree with the amalgamation, my daughter looked around both schools and immediately chose Eskdale she felt a lot more at ease there, I have no issues with Caedmon as I attended there but I feel our children should have a choice, it is very important for them to be happy at school!</p>	Primary parent

<p>Eskdale School must not amalgamate with Caedmon College. The reasons are 1. There has never been an amalgamation/merger between schools not once but twice within a two year period. 2. XX says it is a risk to let Eskdale go on with there 11-16 age change. What you are suggesting is a far greater risk. If it goes ahead, parents will have had no choice, remember parts of Whitby are very poor. If parents send there child to Eskdale, they know the risk and are happy to take it. 3. There will be years ahead of disruption to childrens education. Having spoken to friends who's children attend Graham in Scarborough, I know this to be true. 4. This is there time to be educated at secondary level, once it has gone, that will be it for them. 5. You say that transferring as in the old system is not good but you are now willing to subject our children to three transfers. 6. What would you have done if Eskdale School had not received 'requires improvement' for their Ofsted? Other schools have also had two RI's but have not been treated this way. Eskdale had it's second Ofsted fter only 23 months. Ofsted said they had improved but not enough time to see how effectiv the changes had been. STOP THIS NOW!</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>This is my response to the Eskdale School and Caedmon College, Whitby Consultation on a Proposal for Amalgamation. I am a parent of a child in Year six, Year Two and one in Nursery. As a parent I viewed both secondary schools with my daughter and after discussion as a family, my daughter decided to choose Eskdale School. My daughter comes from a small rural primary school and informed me as her parent she would feel safe and secure and would like to attend Eskdale School in September 2016. During an open evening I attended at both schools with my daughter she felt Eskdale School offered more opportunities for her as a student. I felt Eskdale School would allow my daughter to access opportunities within Drama, Music and Sport the three areas she enjoys. Looking at the Drama department, to start with Eskdale School provides opportunities which the other secondary school in Whitby cannot. It offers all students throughout the school year an opportunity to participate in Drama productions in a variety of topics. Some of the different topics as a parent I have seen are productions using the 'Tressle Masks'. This is something my daughter is very interested in. After speaking to the Drama Teacher at the Open evening, I was informed by the Drama department that these masks were purchased through the Parents association. And not every school has them, very few we believe in North Yorkshire. As a parent I think this is a great opportunity for all children to have the experience. Music is another subject my daughter really enjoys. She currently has music lessons learning to play two musical instruments and attends the local community band at Eskdale School. This band which is held at Eskdale School each Saturday throughout the academic year, allows children from all primary and secondary schools to attend. My daughter was pleased to hear that all students at Eskdale School have the opportunity to learn musical instruments and perform within concerts as part of the school. Looking at the sporting data Eskdale School sporting department has produced some county and England trialist's within a variety of sports especially Cross country running, Tennis and Athletics. The school has the only link with the Lawns Tennis Association allowing Tennis to be played all year round and this is organised by XX former teacher of the school. This club allows all children to play and develop there tennis skills and become part of an active coaching and competitive club. There is no other facility available within the town for this sport and is funded through the Lawns Tennis Association. As a parent I welcomed the idea of this school offering GCSES to all current students, and allowing them not to transfer at a crucial stage of their GCSE's. This meaning at present we have a 'choice' for all children to go to either school. I welcome the idea greatly as a parent for every single child In Whitby to be allowed a choice for their own education, not being forced into one school which will not cater for every single child's needs within the town. It is a long way to another school if there is only one school left. All parents in Whitby need 'choice' in case their children have a problem at one of the schools it allows them to change schools and have a new start. The most important fact of this consultation is the children. Throughout this process there has been VERY little communication between myself as a parent of a new starter of a year 6 at ESKDALE but also CCW year 6 students too. As members of the NYCC executive committee I am hoping you consider the serious health and well -being in which ALL year six students have ALREADY been put through over the last few months since the news of an amalgamation was disclosed. This news has had serious worries and undue stress been put on my daughter and all the other Year six children, and all children in Whitby, as it will affect every single child's education in the town. I am very worried about her progress in the forth coming Year six examination's she will be taking in a few weeks, and the outcome of your decision will affect all those children who have chosen either Eskdale or Caedmon college Whitby, as the decision is going to be made before ALL these children take their Exams. As a member of the local community I am hoping the decision will be made concentrating on the health and future of the children, their education and thinking of the future generations of children and not a financial decision just to focus on saving money. The town of Whitby is growing and more land has been sold at the end of Eskdale School by a local famer to build more affordable housing. Therefore more and more houses are going to be built and the need for two schools may be a financial burden at present but will be greatly needed in a few years' time when more families come to the area due to the building of the 'Potash Mine' at Sneatonthorpe and 'Wind Farm in Whitby. The town in growing and expanding and this will encourage new teachers to the area for both schools. One option to keep Eskdale School and have it as an 11-16 and have Caedmon College Whitby as an 11-19 provision offering a sixth form for the town. One site could be dispersed off making savings and allowing one governing body to work closely with both schools as two separate schools, ensuring we have a breadth of curriculum and allowing subjects such as</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

<p>Equestrian, Agriculture, hair and Beauty to all be offered. Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby are both good schools and I urge you as a voting committee member to allow both schools to continue to provide education to our children for now and the future years to come. As a parent i do not want the children to be forced to attend another secondary school out of the town, as this would affect their human rights and choice as a child. I do not agree with the Proposed Amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby. I would like Eskdale School to remain open as a 11-16 secondary school.</p>	
<p>I disgusted the county council is proposing to close eskdale and merge it with Caedmon college leaving just one secondary school for an entire town. The school will be too big (too many pupils), dangers with transport roads and children travelling between sites. As a parent of a primary school age child I want a choice as to where I send my child. I would like to see the council consider other options and let eskdale continue with its bid for academy status. The college has not had an ofsted inspection since its merger and I'm also concerned about the many stories of bullying not being dealt with and children having to be moved out of the college.,if my child does not settle at your proposed super school where will she go a 50 mile round trip every day? The county council needs to listen to the people of Whitby. I do not want eskdale school to be closed down. I'm also extremely unhappy about your so called consultation and the way the public meetings at the pavilion were held. I found it a sham with council officers stating when the schools merge not if??? Merging eskdale is a huge error I attended a very large school during my teens and I experienced a poor education as a result.please listen and Save Eskdale School Whitbybis a unique York with poor transport opportunities and limited job opportunities. don't ruin our children's future</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

<p>I DO NOT WANT ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY TO AMALGAMATE I am a Y6 pupil at Hawsker School and have just made my choice about which secondary school to go to. I have chosen to go to Eskdale School in September 2016. My brother goes to Caedmon College Whitby (he chose to go to Caedmon School) and I have visited the school lots of times with him and my mum. I have also visited Caedmon School and Eskdale School with my class and on Open Evenings. Both schools have good things about them and there are lots of subjects that I don't do now. Both schools also have after-school clubs and activities. I am quite good at maths and science but I really enjoy English, art, drama and making things. I also go to dance sessions twice a week in the evenings. I know Eskdale School teach lots of the things I enjoy as subjects and I can do my GCSEs in them there. I will learn better and do better in subjects I am interested in. After visiting the schools and talking to my mum I think the best school for me is Eskdale. It was very welcoming and everyone was friendly. It isn't too big as I am now at a small school with only 6 of us in Y6 and I don't feel I will get lost. At Caedmon College Whitby there are going to be over a thousand pupils and the school will be on two different sites. This is confusing. I think if I have to go to CCW then I will be at the Eskdale site for Y7 and Y8 anyway, then I will have to move to the Normanby site and later to the Scoresby site. This is a lot of moving about. Please do not close Eskdale School. It is important that we have a choice of schools in Whitby. I want to go to Eskdale but my brother wanted to go to Caedmon. It is important we have a choice. I DO NOT AGREE TO THE AMALGAMATION OF ESKDALE SCHOOL AND CAEDMON COLLEGE WHITBY</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. I attended one of the meetings and listened to the Councils arguments but I am not convinced. In my opinion this is a short sighted proposal and money driven. It is not in the best interests of our children or our community. My preference would be to have the choice of a smaller, more personal school for our son when it is time for him to move from primary school. This is despite the risks/implications (re curriculum, budget, teachers etc) as highlighted at the meeting. I am prepared to take those risks and think it is far riskier and detrimental to amalgamate the schools into one enormous, split site school that has not had time to adjust following the previous merger of the school and college. I agree that one school having a monopoly is not desirable in terms of raising educational standards and that competition is more likely to drive up standards. I realise that there are financial issues that need to be addressed but, in my opinion, amalgamating the two schools is short sighted as, I have read, that secondary school pupil numbers are set to increase. This is definitely the case at my sons primary school. Now is not the time to limit our options for the future. Then there are also the implications of the possible increase in numbers due to the additional housing in the area; York Potash; jobs created by the wind farm project etc. I do not want my son to attend a huge impersonal school that is likely to get even larger. Could the new Whitby School cope? I do not want to risk finding out. It's our children's education and they should not be treated like guinea pigs by NYCC. An important point raised by a member of the public at the meeting was that, if a child has problems/issues in one school they can move to the other and have a 'fresh start'. With only one school, where else could they go? I believe that there are towns of similar size and similar pupil numbers to Whitby that support two (or even three) secondary schools, why can't our town? In my opinion a small school is infinitely more preferable to a large one, even if a larger school can offer a more varied curriculum. I agree that a small school - aids excellent pupil/teacher relationships. - helps pupils to feel safe, secure and valued - is a less daunting transition for year 6 pupils, especially those from small feeder schools in surrounding rural areas Please do not jeopardise our children's education by amalgamating Eskdale School and Whitby College.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College. My preference is to have a choice of secondary school. I do not want one, large secondary school. It is NOT in the best interests of our children or our community. Caedmon College has not had time to adjust yet and to amalgamate with Eskdale School would cause further disruption for all pupils and staff for what looks like a number of years. The only winners would be NYCC and the head teacher. This is not about whether Eskdale or Caedmon are better than the other but about having the choice of a smaller, more personal secondary school for our children. I have read the proposal document and realise that retaining two schools could come with possible risks however I think that they are risks worth taking. The amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon is NOT a risk worth taking.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I strongly disagree with an Amalgamation of these two schools.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I think the proposal for the two schools to merge would be terrible, I think the children of this town should have a choice, surely a smaller school would benefit the children more instead of one massive inner city type! I will not be sending my children to Caedmon college. I really feel that this one choice school will not be good enough!</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I was looking at sending my daughter to Eskdale , best in the area she needs to be in a school that really cares. If the merge goes ahead then I will be back to the drawing board. It is such a shame that what the children parents and carers want is is not taken into account. That it comes down to people who have no clue on the impact this will have on the mental health of lots of children and families.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

<p>I believe that it is vital that the children of Whitby are able to receive a complete strong secure secondary education. So where as it would be nice to have a choice of secondary schools for our children to attend I believe that ensuring our town has a 'sixth form' provision within the town is of greater importance. There is a focus within schools of the town to raise children's aspirations - this starts from a very early age. I find the thought that barriers could be put in place which will influence a child's choices/options regarding how they will continue their education after GCSEs and which could effectively deter children from progressing onto a 'further education' route appalling. If the amalgamation were to go ahead I think that it will be vital that a large proportion of the funds raised from the sale of the Eskdale land is invested into the remaining sites, obviously initially to ensure sufficient buildings for all the children, but also to have a fund for future development. I would not want to see the money from the sale just be absorbed into County Council funds - there has been a strong message from County Council about ensuring the town has the best secondary provision enabling the town's children to receive the best education - the County Council's commitment to this would need to be honoured through the use of the land funds. My child is currently in Year 6 and in this very uncertain time is due to start Caedmon school in September. Even though it is likely to make my child's transition to secondary school more difficult in the short term I do still support the amalgamation if it will provide the town with secure and complete secondary provision. A concern I do have and would like further information on is that it is being considered to place the Year 7 & 8 children at the Eskdale site for a year. My child does not turn 11 until the latter end of the academic year and we live on the West side of town at one of the furthest most points from the Eskdale site. Having no transport available, my child will have to walk around two miles to school, I do find this concerning - will there be any transport provided if this were to be the case? I believe that children who arrive in the town by train are currently transported from the train station to the Eskdale site. Would that mean that other young children within the town would also be able to be transported to the site from a central town location perhaps?</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I do not agree with Eskdale School closing because it will stop the choice to go there. Both my older sisters go and went there. Don't close Eskdale it's a great schiik so don't let it close. I would really like to go there. This is about my future.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I do not agree with accommodating year 7 and 8 pupils over three sites for one year only as this would result in several transitions over a relatively short period of time for these children. If there is not enough room for all pupils on the two Caedmon College sites, would it not be preferable to move the year 12 and 13 students to the Eskdale site.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>'We want choice', seems to be the main message from the 'save Eskdale' contingent in the town. In an ideal world I would normally agree, however, in the real world choice comes at a cost. I find it flabbergasting at a time when health care provisions in the town are constantly diluted to save money, nobody is campaigning unlike the fight for 'choice' in education. The other main point I would like to highlight is to my knowledge the current leadership team as Eskdale have let the standards at the school slip from 1 to 3 regarding Ofstead grading. At the same time the Caedmon College leadership have done the opposite and gone from a 4 to a 2 which for a coastal school is way above average. In my view this would be the best way to use the publics money and also offer the best situation for the children. More money per head, better facilities, better teachers and better leadership. This is not an opinion, this is fact, making this decision was brave because of the emotional connection that I am aware many people have. This is not a reason to accommodate 'choice' at a cost to the public and this proposal is a positive one for the future of the education provision in Whitby.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>Please don't close eskdLe school as I don't want to go to 4 different places when I move up to Whitby next year. I come from a small village in and went to look at both schools. I loved eskdale , you said I had a choice but now I don not. I know some kids don't feel safe at cadmon and I don't want to be in a big school if it joins into 1. I do not agree with both schools joining. I will not go to one big school and I am scared about crossing all the roads.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I am against the closure of Eskdale School. feel one large school offers no choice and split sites do not work in teachers being available to support pupils and run classes on time.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>Serious safeguarding problems at ccw. unresolved bullying problems, weak management, split site, major traffic problems. no thank you, i wont be sending my child to ccw no matter what happens. i will be considering sending my child to a private school or home schooling. i want my child to go to eskdale school. where i know he will be safe, happy and excel.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>We were 'given a choice', or led to believe we were given a choice of secondary school. I have a daughter who is currently in year 6. we have 'chosen' to send our daughter to Eskdale School, not Caedmon School. I was overwhelmed by the attendance of parents, children and staff who are obviously deeply disturbed by the amalgamation. I personally believe that this isn't a proposal as the deal has already been set. What happens to Eskdale School and grounds? I think we already know. The only one good thing that will come out of this amalgamation is that our children will still be together. I really do hope and pray that a revised bullying policy is put in place and has a zero tolerance. You will be held responsible XX.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>

<p>I attended the consultation meeting at the spa and would like to begin by saying how disappointed I was by the whole event. I felt not enough time was given to ask questions and when questions were asked an answer was not given. I felt that the meeting was not a consultation but an event telling us what would be happening. I would also like to set out the questions I would like answering but nobody took the time to answer it at the event. I am a very concerned parent of a year 6 child who I feel is getting completely neglected by the whole process. In September, we applied for my child to go to Eskdale and were extremely happy with this choice. However it turned out that my child doesn't have a choice if these proposals occur. As a year 6 parent we could find nothing about what would happen to them. Would they attend Eskdale at all or go straight to Caedmon college. This led to many year 6 experiencing more stress in a very stressful time of sitting SATS and moving to secondary school. Currently not only does my child not know where they are going to school but they can't even prepare for the school. As a parent I don't even know what uniform I will need to get something I usually organise in May! I also don't agree with brining children over from Caedmon who have just settled over to the Eskdale site for a year. The impact on these children's education will be very unsettling and will have a massive impact on their progress. Also why should these children's education suffer. Three moves in three years is not good enough and is unsatisfactory. You state how important transition is yet we will constantly be moving children around. My child will just get settled at a Eskdale before getting moved to a new diet with new facilities to get use to if the merger occurs. I have many concerns about the proposed merger such as child safeguarding, site access, class sizes and choice for all children. One main concern I have is that you said the most important thing for you all was to provide our children with an excellent education however I am concerned that Caedmon College also doesn't provided this. After I attended the meeting I looked at the database on the OFSTED website and was alarmed to find that the college was in the bottom 40% for it's results compared to similar schools for 2014. Yet I was told at the meeting it was providing outstanding results and would gain a good inspection when OFSTED next visit. You told me that you are striving to improve results and one school would do this but with no competition surely the school will become complacent. The other thing that worries me is the fact that you are to keep the headteacher of Caedmon College yet this is the same head that was given notice to improve from OFSTED in 2008. Caedmon was also given notice to improve when Eskdale first was but the amalgamation of the college and Caedmon meant their OFSTED report was swept away under the carpet. Surely if we want the best for our children we should advertise the post to make sure we gain the best possible head to take over to raise standards. Also to call the new school Whitby School is going back 20 years yet this proposal is suppose to be leading the education of Whitby into the future. Why can't we have a name that incorporates all of whitby and it's unique and famous past. The other thing is why sell the Eskdale site off? A site where you could extend and build to provide the best education. What I would like to see for the future education provision of Whitby is to have two schools, one based at a Eskdale and one based at Caedmon. I would sell off the site at the old Community College as development is limited there and this site would surely be worth the most. The Community College site has poor access, facilities and space to develop where the other two sites can provide this. I would use the money from the sale to create two sites with the best facilities money can buy providing the children of Whitby with choice and opportunity. You stated at the meeting this wasn't about money but providing the best education available to the children of Whitby yet every slide was about money. I feel there are many solutions to the problems not yet considered or explored. One last point. We are currently building over 200 houses near Eskdale school with further land available to develop. Sneaton castle has just been given permission to build another 200+ house. We are getting a wind farm and potash mine all bringing jobs and families to Whitby. Where will we educate these children when the proposed school is full? I don't want my children taught as a number but as a person who is nurtured to fulfil their full potential. Therefore I am asking you to put the children of Whitby first and not money. Let the children have a choice and a future. Let's have two great schools offering our children the best. They only have one chance of a secondary education. Please don't let mine be a guinea pig. Let's learn the lessons from the amalgamation of the two Scarborough schools. Thank you for you time.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>Don't put all your eggs in one basket. This piece of received wisdom still holds true today; when dealing with other peoples eggs and baskets however it is not perhaps taken so seriously. Whilst not being affected themselves by the amalgamation of schools in Whitby (and thereby promoting to even greater power a head whose track record is mediocre) I urge NYCC to consider the people, especially the children of Whitby who will be affected very much.</p>	<p>Primary parent</p>
<p>I do nothing think it is safe for so many pupils to be in 1 building. Even if the building is made bigger I just don't see how it is safe, also it's so much work for the teachers..... I would hate to be a subject leader! My daughter is autism and we have had our harts set on Eskdale. If the school shuts I will send her to redcar</p>	<p>Primary pupil</p>
<p>Do not agree with the merger. I would have to walk much further to school, crossing a couple of really busy roads to get there. traffic can be very, very busy on the new bridge at school times. lots of children all in one school could make lots of children unhappy. not everyone will get on and not everyone fits in. they would not have the option to move if this happened and this makes me sad. Whitby needs choice!</p>	<p>Primary pupil</p>

I think Eskdale School should not shut down because I think there should be more than 1 school in Whitby. My big sister tells me how good Eskdale school is and now I am eager to go. I don't want Eskdale to shut down because it is so popular and it will be a shame to shut down Eskdale. Seen as Eskdale and Caedmon are really good schools if they came together they would be a bad school because Eskdale and Caedmon are good in different ways.	Primary pupil
I am a pupil at Fylingdales Primary School and in year 4. I would love to go to Eskdale School but if Eskdale School closes I will be very disappointed and all my friends will be going to different schools. My sister is at Eskdale and every day she comes home happy. I would like the same for myself. Thank you for reading this, I hope you listen to me.	Primary pupil
I am writing in disappointment in the proposal to close Eskdale School as I am hoping to move into the school in the future. The reason is because my brother is already at the school and I know he is happy and enjoying his time there. The lessons sound very interesting and the teachers seem to be friendly and very helpful and the environment is welcoming. I have experienced both schools and would like to choose Eskdale School to grow up in so please don't take my choice away!!! Fylingdales School Student Age 8	Primary pupil
I am currently a student at Fylingdales School and I am due to become an Eskdale student in September. I am very sad and disappointed at the proposal to close Eskdale as my big brother (X) has just settled in and I really would love the big opportunity of settling down well and getting outstanding grades to follow into college or university. I, X and my mum, dad and little sister have made a hard choice. Please don't take that choice away from me!! Name: XX Age: 10 School: Fylingdales CE VC Primary School Year: 6 Kestrel class	Primary pupil
Keep both schools separate - volume of children in growing local area. Classes will be too big and standards will eventually deteriorate if houses are built on existing site how will schools manage numbers will my son have to go to Scarborough College???	Primary pupil
I hope that proposal to merge Eskdale and Caedmon goes ahead. All parents keep talking about choice, what if as children we don't want to have to choose where to go, after all it is a difficult choice to have to choose between 2 fantastic schools. Then when we have chosen we are split up from our class mates who we have spent most of our lives with. To stay together and have one voice (one thing I am sure you are aware of by now we have a very big voice). We would love to have more choice in the courses we can take both at GCSE and at A Level. It is also important that we have a 6 form as we don't want to have to travel at least 1 hour a day especially in the winter. That's my positive feedback however I have one negative comment the name Whitby School, there could have been so many options that included our rich history and heritage examples Esk Valley High, Endeavour College, Abbey High, Captain Cook College to name but a few. Thank you for taking your time to read what I had to say and I look forward to starting High School in September hopefully making Whitby history as the first year 7's that will be together standing strong as a community and making the staff, parents and the community proud of what we achieve.	Primary pupil
Please keep Eskdale open.	Primary pupil
Have you ever thought about the children and forgotten about money? I am still waiting for you to reply to a letter I wrote nearly two months ago	Primary pupil
I will be starting Eskdale in September 2016 children like me don't have enough choice and I think XX should think again about closing Eskdale	Primary pupil
I don't want to go to a large school with over 1500 students. I come from a very rural school and this scares me. I want to go to Eskdale	Primary pupil
This is a small school with good teaching. It is not always about exams. School is much more than that. This school provides a sense of ownership to the children, increasing their wellbeing. Teaches them life skills in a safe environment.	Relative
It is important to have the freedom to choose which school to attend and your educational pathway. High levels of educational standards, my family attended Eskdale School. They all have degrees and professional careers. The ability to change schools if needed is also of high importance from previous experience.	Relative

<p>I was here at the meeting last night and I listened to your comments and one thing became clear to me and that this is not an amalgamation this is a take over. An amalgamation is to combine, unite, blend and fuse things together. This is a take over. It's Eskdale that's losing out, it's losing its identity, it's ethos, it's building. Caedmon college is retaining everything, there is no compromise. If the take over was to happen, why can't both schools come to the table as equals. Why can't Eskdale keep their grounds and Caedmon keep one site and sell the other off, this would make the situation feel fairer. At the moment it's Eskdale that's losing everything, especially when Caedmon have the biggest debt. Why can't a new headteacher be appointed. People have lost faith in him. It all feels very one sided at the moment especially when you look at the facts. Caedmon keeps its head teacher, what's happening to Eskdale's head teacher? Is she being scrapped. Caedmon keep its uniform with a small change, Eskdale's is scrapped Caedmon keeps two sites, Eskdale's is scrapped. So what of Eskdale is actually being Kept to amalgamated with Caedmon? Out of this deal Eskdale is set to lose everything. Where is the infusion and blend of the two schools because I just can't see it? Last night you mentioned about building work being taken out on the new sites. It's important that we know. How much will this cost? Where's the funding coming from? This is inevitably going to put Whitby's Education in to either bigger debt, and since you're complaining about the school debts this just doesn't make sense. It could cost a million to sort the sites out. Last nights meeting you said you wanted to attach better teachers, both schools have great teachers and I found this really insulting to those teachers and staff. Those staff members work hard every day to deliver great education for our kids. You obviously don't value their work and I really feel for all the staff at Eskdale school who have been put in this position of an uncertain future. You've got a group together to decide on how this amalgamation will be run but I'd like to know Who appointed them? What's their background? Who are they? Why haven't they had a public meeting to see what are community wants? Why wasn't this meeting called in 2014 so we could be a part of the planning process from the start instead you coming up with only one choice. I want to see the evidence of your research on the other options? Where is the evidence ? This is meant to be a consultation a process by which we put our thoughts forward on an issue that will affect us but I don't think you're listening. It just doesn't feel like you are open to any ideas except your own! There needs to be more options? Why weren't we involved when there was more options on the table. Questions Compromise Why is everything from Eskdale being sacrificed, what is Caedmon sacrificing? Where's the compromise? What is being kept of Eskdale in the amalgamated with Caedmon? <u>Amalgamation committie</u>. Who appointed them? What's their background? Who are they? Why haven't they had a public meeting to see what are community wants? Alterations to new site How much will this cost? Where's the funding coming from? <u>Meetings</u> Why wasn't this meeting called in 2014? Where the evidence of your research on other options?</p>	Relative
<p>Send the year 9's back down to Caedmon site please, then leave it be. Leave Eskdale alone. It's worked for the last few decades, so why should it change?</p>	Relative
<p>I do not agree with the amalgamation of Easkdale School and Caedmon college</p>	Relative
<p>I do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School. My sister goes there and is really happy. She has moved up in maths and science and is doing fantastic in music. She chose Eskdale because she felt she fit in. She felt very uncomfortable when looking around Caedmon. We all need choice. Please don't take it away.</p>	Relative
<p>I believe that for the benefit of the pupils Eskdale School should remain open. as has become very obvious the children love attending this school and to get this many teenagers to feel this passionately about something tells you all you need to know.</p>	Relative
<p>I do not agree to the closure of Eskdale School. I think children should have a choice of what school they attend and should not attend the same school at 11 years old to those of 18 years old as it can be intimidating which I have learnt from previous experience.</p>	Relative
<p>I've read the proposal and reason given for amalgamation. None of the points made are evidence based. It is stated that it has been a longstanding view of the local authority that it would be in the best interests of the children. I disagree, the huge uproar from the pupils regarding the amalgamation is evidence that the children wish to remain in Eskdale. Students struggling to keep up are liable to fall through the cracks in a larger school and the transitional period will cause undue stress on many students. In truth, it is clear that the main driving force behind the local authority's position is financial, we all know the economy of large scale operations. The true cost will be sacrificing the education of local children to save cash.</p>	Relative
<p>I do not agree with the proposed merger. I am the managing director of Ultimate Soccer School and use the facilities of eskdale and their fields for my holiday coaching courses. I have ran these courses from the premises here for 11 years. Eskdale school provide the only affordable rates in the area for such facilities which allow me to make a go of my business, pay my staff and offer parents affordable rates for their children. We offer local children a great service and Eskdale plays a major role in that. Fishburn Park also rely on the facilities Eskdale provide for the home games they stage at Broomfield Park, (which they have on a 25 year lease with 18 remaining) where would that leave them without changing facilities. They also use the school fields to stage their junior teams games. Geographically, I can't see how merging Eskdale with Caedmon College will benefit anyone from the east side. Many children will not live within walking distance of the new college increasing what can already be congested traffic entering both sites, especially as their is only one route in and out</p>	Relative

of both. Eskdale provides many people with a great service. Pupils, parents and clubs alike. I feel Eskdale still has a place in our society and town. Many will be lost without it.	
I do not agree to Eskdale School closing! Whitby should stand for a free choice of where to educate children not just one school for the area. Eskdale is a friendly, helpful good school. I know this is already probable a 'done deal' so we are wasting our time, but not everyone wants their children educated at Caedmon/Whitby College - other peoples views count!!!!	Relative
I do not agree to the close of Eskdale School. We need the school in this area my child liked it there.	Relative
Hello, My sister is a current year 7 pupil at Eskdale School and she loves it there. I would also like to go to Eskdale School but if this proposal goes ahead I don't think I will have that chanceMy sister is a current year 7 pupil at Eskdale School. I wish that I could go to Eskdale but if this proposal goes ahead I might not have the chance to . I have heard peoples oppinions and views about the closure of Eskdale and what might happen to the current pupils there. I can't see how you could possibly close down Eskdale because the Year 7 have settled in and made lots of friends and the year 9 have just planned their GCSEs. Please please listen to the voices of Eskdale School.	Relative
Do not want it to go ahead	Relative
A clear case has been made for Eskdale to remain open. Cost cutting exercises with no forward planning for increasing numbers due to more jobs being created and extra housing to accommodate incoming workers' families including children mean that it is clear common sense to retain Eskdale. In the long run, over the next five years, it will clearly create mammoth logistical problems for education in the local area as the Caedmon amalgamation will be unable to cope by ensuring that pupils have continuity of education without substantial movement during the school day. I have no vested interest in Eskdale but I was a secondary school teacher for 38 years and deputy head at Filey from 1979 until 1994. This was during the era that saw substantial improvement in the education available at Filey School which continued up until the 80s. The change to an academy is not yet measurable	Retired teacher
Eskdale and Caedmon schools have provided a healthy competitive atmosphere in all areas of school life, academic, sports, social. In terms of OFSTED reports there is little to choose between them. Maybe Eskdale performs a little better in exam results. I have noticed a flurry of activity in house builfing in Whitby. Is Eskdale site a valuable housing plot? It certainly has extensive facilites used by pupils and the public. Eskdale has a good record on provision for special needs pupils, often a poor relation in larger schools. With special needs small is definitely beautiful as the development of a rapport with staff is essential. As a special needs retired teacher I understand the importance of this. Has anyone calculated hoe many new homes will be built in Whitby in the next 5 years and how many extra school aged chilren that could generate. At a time when the town is growing it seems obsurd to be closing a school. Is Eskdale just a cash cow for the council. Are parents in the Esk valley whose children travel by train being consulted. What about the Hawsker side of town. What are the academic justifications for this proposed merger? Can Caedmon cope with these additional pupils in terms of classrooms, sports facilities, recreation facilites, teaching staff, and car parking? Perhaps the bottom line is that parents should have a choice. Remove Eskdale school you remove parental choice.	Retired teacher
Support for the fight to 'save Eskdale School' indicates how strongly Whitby people feel about the proposed changes. 1. Closure of Eskdale removes any choice for parents of children in Whitby and surrounding area. 2. Nov 2015 OFSTED - about Eskdale ' a very caring ethos valued by staff, pupils and parents. Excellent relationships and good behaviour. The curriculum prepares pupils well for life in modern Britain' - why give this up? 3. amalgamation not always best choice - see the example of Graham & Raincliffe schools in Scarborough which went into special measures. 4. Disruption of education for children in Eskdale & Caedmon. Moving from one site to another - lesson times already shortened by this. Safety aspect of this multiple siting. 5. Would the present ration of pupils to teacehrs of 23 - 30 (National average is 15.0) be improved by this re-organisation? 6. In my opinion, this is a badly thought through scheme, with little or no consultation, altogether very undemocratic and dictatorial.	Retired teacher

I am a 58-yr-old maths teacher, ex-Governor, parent of 3 past Eskdale pupils, former university lecturer, with private-sector experience. I have had teaching experience at two 1500-plus schools locally (Laurence Jackson and Nunthorpe), and at Caedmon, Eskdale, the former Whitby Community College, and at a feeder primary school (Belmont primary) to Laurence Jackson School. My own secondary school was closed (after I left it): the caretaker committed suicide in the emptied buildings, and the school was razed and was replaced by a mono-culture of nondescript houses, with the added irony that the children have to travel many miles to school. The death of the school still hangs over the housing estate more than 30 years after its closure. The proposed closure of Eskdale leaves me with a sense of despair. I add my testament to the many who have told you that Eskdale has been a model of fantastic schooling, perfectly tailored to the children of its natural catchment area. Our three children have thrived at Eskdale, and in spite of my experience of a variety of schools I cannot imagine a better start to secondary school life. As a governor I took the view that schools are unique, living, vital elements of society. As a governor one takes responsibility for a school's ups and downs, and a basic tenet is to keep the school alive and healthy. Eskdale has been one of the most healthy schools I have known. There is no natural law that dictates the size of a school, but there is evidence that diversity is healthy. The banal 'economy of scale' notoriously brings with it unhealthiness for plants, animals, and humans. People are of course incredibly resilient, and the PR machine can talk up larger schools, but it is a fact that larger schools have more people further from the centre, they are invariably more authoritarian, less personal. I have observed the brightest primary school children move to a 1600 pupil school and lose so much confidence. The bigger schools have larger clusters of celebrity children and at the other end larger clusters of disaffected children. Eskdale does not suffer from these extremes. Over twelve years I attended probably all of the functions put on by the school children at Eskdale. They have been some of the happiest times of my life. At the larger schools, these events were much less engaging for the school community. A significantly smaller percentage of the students and parents took part. Why is this not valued? By simple arithmetic, at the smaller Eskdale, more students get to do more confidence building stuff, representing the whole school. Why, for decades has Eskdale been free from threat, and now, without any impropriety at the school, is it proposed for closure. This is at a time when the richest are getting richer and the poor poorer, when the ruling Cabinet is possibly the wealthiest for a long time. Over the twelve years that my children attended Eskdale, we saw the school support four new head-teachers. Three of these heads, XX, XX and XX, have gone on to bigger jobs. These people were supported by the staff, community, and the county, in a manageable role that gave encouragement and confidence for them to consider more challenging positions. Clearly this is one measure of Eskdale's value. I note that those three heads are X. The current head is X, XX. It is impossible for me to imagine that Eskdale would be under notice of closure if it was headed by one of the three men. I suggest that NYCC considers this aspect carefully. XX has been a fine head-teacher, but it seems that since her arrival, the vultures have been circling. I believe that NYCC is mediating cuts originating from central government. The way that this has been presented is not convincing. A lot has been invested in meetings and planning that point to one outcome, the closure of Eskdale, and the sale of its assets. Democratic responsibilities seem to be non-existent, or at least being paid lip-service. Many people feel disenfranchised, and there is a strong feeling of betrayal. What are we to teach our children if not this, that their school is being closed under pretense and misleading claims? That there is no weight given to the value that the community holds in their school? That the people who will be rewarded are those who will collude in the deceit. There is a very well appointed plaque, in the entrance to Whitby hospital, commemorating the thousand local people who lost their lives in the two world wars. It is a great credit to Britain that after the second world war an effort was made to reduce inequalities. This was achievable directly as a result of the massive sacrifices borne by the less privileged. Whitby hospital has lost its surgical unit, its maternity ward, and other wards, and is now reduced to one ward. No doubt the vultures are circling there too. The present government is embarked on using public money to take public assets away from the public. This applies to Eskdale school. Schools should be seen as national treasures. As a governor I supported keeping a school open that was vulnerable to closure. It is one of my greatest pleasures to see that school continue to live on, with all its varied staff and pupils. I urge you to keep Eskdale going, and I am confident that you would never regret doing so. More than that, I am confident that it will give you great satisfaction in later life to know that you stood with the cooks, cleaners and admin staff of Eskdale school, and protected their jobs, and supported such a well-loved school. It means standing up to pressures that will you will come to realise more clearly do not serve the public good. Eskdale (even unchanged from its KS3 status) could be the quirky bit of variety that you can retain in the patch that you can point to, and say, yes we kept it and it is proof of responding to the democratic will.

Retired teacher

In Education Children Only Get One Chance! If North Yorkshire's proposals for Secondary Education in Whitby go through this could have a major impact on the future life chances of children in the Whitby area. There is going to be a period of a number of years when Secondary Education in Whitby is going to be destabilised for ALL Whitby children. At North Yorkshire's Consultation evenings on March 14th and 15th at the Whitby Spa, North Yorkshire County Council outlined their proposals for the amalgamation of Eskdale School with Whitby Caedmon College. Set out below are a number of flaws in this master plan. Firstly, the present Year 7 pupils at Caedmon School and pupils presently in Year 6 Primary Schools who have selected Caedmon School as their preferred choice of Secondary School, will find themselves at Eskdale School in September, as part of this proposed first stage of reorganisation. North Yorkshire claim this will only be for one year whilst building work to accommodate an additional three hundred pupils takes place at the small Normanby site (the old Whitby Community College) which is to be finished for September 2017 ??? If this County consultation process is only going to be completed by mid June and the outcome is the amalgamation of the two schools, then architectural plans will have to be drawn up, planning permission applied for and granted, North Yorkshire Highways to be consulted on traffic management, proposed building work has to go out to tender and finally building work to begin. It is highly unlikely that the new building work to be done on the already very restricted Normanby site, to accommodate the extra 300 pupils, will be completed by September 2017 – it is more likely to be September 2018 at the very earliest. Therefore supposedly whilst all this is going on, all Year 7 and 8 pupils in the Whitby area will be educated on the Eskdale site, then transfer to the Normanby site for Years 9 and 10 and finally the Scoresby site if they choose to go to Whitby 6th form College. This could mean that students will change school three times during their Secondary Education and have to cope with all the issues and undoubted teacher management and organisation problems there are, when students are being educated on different sites. Is this an improvement on the one change of Secondary School at 14? I doubt very much for children that it will be! Secondly, let's consider what this might look like in the future when all the work is completed. An additional 300 pupils on this already cramped Normanby Site on Mayfield Road to make a combined 11 to 16 school. Additional visitor and staff car parking needed, new building work taking up more valuable school space and of course no playground for children to play. How will all this be achieved? By taking more of the already very limited playing field space! Finally we will have the appallingly dangerous restricted access on to the A171 with all the additional coaches and car traffic that this will generate. Running alongside this we have a proposed Potash Mine Development at Sneaton and there will be large trucks coming along the same road for four years carrying waste from the digging of a new mine shaft. Mayfield Road is a major public highway and it should not be used as an even greater school transport hub!!! Has anyone at County Hall considered the bigger picture? And done a risk assessment on the impact that this might have on the Health, Safety and Welfare of our local young pupils being educated on this tiny, dangerous School Site. Meanwhile the present head teacher, XX, transfers the Sixth form to the spacious Scoresby Site (the old Caedmon School site) with its astra turf! Thirdly, in XX's presentation at Whitby Spa on the two nights and in his interview with the Whitby Gazette (XX is County Council's Corporate Director for Children and Young Peoples Service) he stated that if Eskdale was to stay open the future of the Sixth Form College in Whitby would be in doubt. This statement at the least is misleading and at the worst totally untruthful! There is a National issue with the reduction of funding for Sixth Form education. This is NOT just an issue for Whitby Sixth Form College. Whitby Sixth Form College actually has more students than Stokesley, Malton, Norton or Pickering Sixth Forms. The National funding for post 16 education is separate from the funding given to schools for students aged 11-16. As Whitby Sixth Form is one of the larger ones then it has to be a greater problem for other local Sixth Forms! If the Senior management at Whitby Caedmon College have a problem it is their results for the number of students achieving three or more A levels at A* to E grades. Whitby in 2015 had 53% of pupils achieving three pass grades, Norton 52%, Scarborough Sixth Form 68%, Pickering Lady Lumley's Sixth Form 93%, Malton Sixth Form 93% and Stokesley Sixth Form 96%. (source: Department of Education School Performance Tables 2015). The issue for Caedmon College senior management is the fact that a large number of pupils in the Whitby area, who having completed their GCSEs, continue to choose to do their A levels elsewhere. Fourthly, the LEA are stating that for Secondary Education to be viable in Whitby we need to have a combined School with a possible total future number of pupils on role of 1600 (North Yorkshire's figures). Let's consider a similar town situation in North Yorkshire. Norton and Malton, which is really one town, they have a combined population of 12,275. They have two comprehensive schools less than 1.5 miles apart. Malton School has 666 pupils, Norton College 850. Both have small Sixth Forms. Whitby has a population of 13,213 and a large school catchment area. Why is it that the parents in the Malton/Norton area have a Secondary Education choice and Whitby is expected to have just the one large Comprehensive School in the future? How have we ever got to this situation, in the Whitby area, where our two Secondary Schools could be amalgamated into one large urban style Comprehensive? There can be little doubt than when X XX (North Yorkshire's Corporate Director for Children and Young Peoples Service) met the Head of Eskdale School and two of the governors in December 2015 he exerted a large amount of pressure on them, either the school had to federate or amalgamate with Whitby Caedmon College or the LEA would intervene and take over governing of the school. Lets consider where we are now. The Government have just announced that ALL schools will become financially Independent

Retired teacher

<p>Academies by 2022. This means that in the future the responsibility of North Yorkshire County Council for Secondary Education in North Yorkshire will be very limited. Why are North Yorkshire County Council rushing through at breakneck speed the closure of Eskdale School, Whitby? Of the three Secondary school sites in Whitby the Eskdale site is the only one with surrounding open space for future development as the economy and population of Whitby grows. This is the school site the County Council wishes to close and it will be lost to the Whitby Community for ever. The present Conservative Government's education agenda is all about parental choice. If Eskdale School closes this year parents in the Whitby area won't have choice. There is still a chance for Whitby to have two financially independent Secondary School Academies in the future! To all concerned we ask you to seriously consider the option of maintaining two Secondary Schools in Whitby. Parents may have chosen Caedmon School for its excellent astra turf sports facilities, but their child could now be on the Eskdale campus for two years. Other parents may have chosen a small secondary school for a child with special needs for the care and pupil welfare that the school can offer, not now! Or parents may have chosen a school because older siblings are already there. There are many reasons why parents and pupils make their choice of Secondary School but what is very clear is in the next few years of secondary education in Whitby, without doubt, is going to be chaotic, spoiling the educational chances for children and the way the LEA are managing this consultation process is shambolic to say the least!</p>	
<p>I DO NOT AGREE WITH THIS PROPOSAL. An alternative more creative solution needs to be found. This will NOT solve the sixth form problem-attracting more students to stay in Whitby to study in the sixth form by Caedmon college achieving better results and offering a greater range of courses is what is required. Look at going into partnership with other institutions. Above all Whitby needs a choice-one size does not fit all.</p>	Retired teacher
<p>Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby should merge as this would enable the two schools to combine their strengths and values and create one excellent school. The children of the Whitby area deserve access to high quality education which is not split and divided into less stable, uneconomic and smaller units unable to attract good teachers and unable to provide the necessary resources. All the children of Whitby deserve access to an excellent Sixth Form where they live which offers the complete range of academic subjects as well as other subjects. The merge would offer greater opportunities to pupils in terms of the breadth of the curriculum, and the pupils would have greater access to well qualified specialist teachers. The extra curricular and social opportunities would also be enhanced. I write as a recently retired Primary School Headteacher who was a Headteacher in the Whitby area for 25 years. I have two children who went through Lythe, Eskdale and Whitby Schools. I know that my children would have been better served and educated by one 11-18 Secondary School. I understand that parents and staff of Eskdale School are proud of the Ethos of their School but they should be able to look at the wider educational picture in the Whitby area and see that all the children of Whitby would be better served by one school. Please let the children in the Whitby area have the same opportunities as those in the rest of North Yorkshire by creating an educational structure that is able to deliver that. (I would be happy to comment further if necessary)</p>	Retired teacher
<p>Please do NOT go ahead with this amalgamation, the 2 schools have always been rivals in a way that the pupils and staff of Eskdale school have always risen to. Eskdales real final results come 2 or 3 years after they move on from the school but the actual results have always on average been higher in terms of both grades and number of exams with pass grades both in number and number per pupil. Eskdale school has a higher participation level in extra activities as well and the school is the base for several community groups and teams. If the schools merge this rivalry which has always been productive will be lost and a valuable asset to the community lost. I was a Technician/TA in the 90s at the school and know through contact with others at the Community College that the staff there generally new the pupils moving up from Eskdale would be both better behaved and more rounded people than those from Caedmon. We must NOT LOSE this state of being and Eskdale School be allowed to continue</p>	Staff member
<p>2 schools essential. Do not agree with the closure of Eskdale School</p>	Supporter
<p>Why on earth would you close such an amazing school that is doing well and has full support of the community .</p>	Supporter
<p>This is nothing short of a betrayal of the future generations educational needs and employment prospects. It's all about money and the County Council deficit!!</p>	Supporter
<p>being a friend of one of the old Eskdale School pupils being AG, and have seen the damage that these cheapskate councillors result in, I am against the proposal 100%</p>	Supporter

<p>The following is Caedmon College Whitby's (CCW) Governing Body response to the proposed amalgamation of Caedmon College Whitby with Eskdale School: We, the Governors of Caedmon College Whitby, would like the following statement to be taken as our formal response to the proposal. Having attended the public meetings, we would like to place on record that, whilst we have no issues with the process of the Local Authority's consultation and realise how difficult the meetings were for all involved, we believe that those individuals who attended the consultation with a positive view of the proposal felt unable to articulate their views without fear of an inappropriate response and felt very intimidated by the behaviour and atmosphere created by those with an opposing view. For several years, CCW governors have believed that schools will increasingly need to work collaboratively, in order to move forward on educational matters and secure the necessary finances in challenging times, ie, lower levels of funding and a falling roll of students. After an attempt to form a three-school Federation in Whitby failed when Eskdale School withdrew from the process, the remaining two schools (Whitby Community College and Caedmon School) amalgamated. Subsequently, Caedmon College Whitby governors were strategically planning to form a Multi-Academy Trust and had held conversations with the DfE and possible local partners about this. During this process, Eskdale School's governors announced that it was their intention to extend the school's upper age limit from 14 to 16 years. After much analysis of this scenario by CCW governors, it was calculated that a potential loss of 200 students could result in a £1 million reduction from the College's annual revenue funding and this calculation was endorsed by the Local Authority. It was, therefore, the governors' view that the course set by both schools was mutually incompatible and unsustainable. After Eskdale School received a second Grade 3 judgement, 'Requires Improvement' from Ofsted, the CCW governors agreed to the Local Authority's proposal for a formal consultation on the amalgamation of Caedmon College Whitby with Eskdale School and are hoping that this goes ahead. While recognising the concerns of Eskdale School's parents, CCW governors believe that a unified school would have real benefits for all students. A merged school would: - bring about the improvements necessary at Key Stage 3 - secure excellent learning resources for all - allow post-16 students to have the environment they deserve, and be predominantly on their own site - protect the curriculum from unnecessary cuts - allow teachers to work in larger teams, providing development and challenge for them - provide excellent opportunities for all staff to teach across the 11 - 19 age range and help to retain the very best leaders and teachers for our students. CCW governors also believe that a thriving sixth form is an essential component of education in Whitby and this is in real jeopardy if the curriculum offer is reduced due to financial constraints. Eventually, this could mean that many post-16 students, particularly the most vulnerable, would have no choice other than to attend whatever would remain of post-16 education in Whitby, because having to travel to another town would be practically impossible for them. Many staff at Caedmon College Whitby have experienced a very successful merger, two years ago, and we will commit ourselves fully to ensuring that this merger is even better. We consider that an amalgamated school would offer considerable benefits for young people in the Whitby area and we are committed to a good education for everyone. We believe that we can all work together and learn from each other. We believe that we are stronger together and that the moment has come to transform education by creating a new school that offers new choices and opportunities for students in Whitby and the surrounding areas. With the determination of parents, students, staff and governors, we now are in a position to seize this opportunity. In conclusion, the Governing Body of Caedmon College Whitby fully supports the amalgamation of the two schools from September 2016.</p>	<p>The Governing Body of Caedmon College Whitby</p>
<p>To amalgamate Eskdale School and Caedmon College, Whitby would have a devastatingly detrimental effect on education in both Whitby and the surrounding area. It would remove any choice in educational ethos for the people of Whitby and District. Along with removing choice it would remove competition, with no other education facility for 11 to 19 years being available within a 21 mile radius. It would create one of the largest schools in North Yorkshire with a great many tiny feeder schools, the culture shock at ten/eleven years old would be more than some children could handle. It would create one huge split site school divided by a busy A road, which would have to manage both young people from a deprived urban area and those from a remote rural area. The size of the school and its split site nature would make it unsuitable to cater for those with health problems and those with physical impairments would find it extremely difficult to integrate fully. Educationally and socially the idea of trying to shoehorn the young people into one box is a ridiculous idea, everyone will suffer: pupils, staff and future employers. The detrimental effects would also be felt by the wider community, the facilities at Eskdale and Caedmon are extensively used out of school hours and during school holidays by the wider community to amalgamate these into one venue would inevitably lead to some leisure facilities being reduced and even lost. Educationally Whitby needs to recognize and celebrate its diversity, this can only be achieved by the provision of choice in educational styles. Whitby needs to maintain 11 to 16 education in two schools. To be clear, I totally reject the idea of amalgamating Eskdale School and Caedmon College, it has no benefits and a great many seriously detrimental consequences.</p>	<p>Town councillor</p>
<p>I Would like to register my complete opposition to the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale school with caedmon college Whitby I would like to see the education system in Whitby stay as it is without any changes</p>	<p>Town Councillor</p>

<p>I have been thinking long and hard about this not everyone understands why having the choice with schools is so important, here it is in a different context. There are two pubs one quiet,old fashioned, people talk and play dominoes! The other has loud music, different sports on tv's around the room, can't hear yourself let alone talk to a friend! Both are perfect for the people who choose to go in there. NOW one is forced to close and the people are told they must use the other one either way round no one is happy as more people are in the pub, and there is no middle ground. The options available travel further to a pub of your choice or stay at home and not see your friends. As adults we don't fit a box, we are all differentso are kids you can't force them to be the same and learn the same how much time is lost by moving kids teachers about? The main road is a nightmare at the best of times can you guarantee safety or is a child going to have to get injured or killed?</p>	Unknown
<p>Why are you even contemplating such a crazy plan? Could it be to prop up your failing pension fund? XX hasn't got a clue about the educational needs of Whitby!! The school must stay!! I gather you're trying the same offensive plan in Selby and you should be ashamed of your actions!!</p>	Unknown
<p>How can you justify by merging these schools together will be better for these children is beyond belief Have you stopped to think of their health and safety who will have to endure walking over the high level bridge in wind hail sleet and snow not to mention the Traffic which is chaos now so what will it be like then ? Having to cross a very busy road for lessons Queuing for their dinners then not having time to eat . I Find this Government very hypocritical wanting to put a tax on sugar to stop obesity in children when they are building on all the sport facilities .Sirus are to build a village for the new mine workers which will not be for local men and another housing estate ? Many sporting clubs use Eskdale school Fishburn Park run a first second and many junior teams at Broomfield Park which is on lease from the water board also they lease the road leading to the ground .My son runs football coaching in the holidays Where are these to go ? You will put my son out of business and many more out of jobs Eskdale school is the heart of that community the children of that community need a choice who will fight to save their right</p>	Unknown
<p>I do not agree to the amalgamation of Eskdale with Caedmon College. Eskdale is a very special small school that best suits many children. Some fare fine in a larger, more impersonal school, but one glove doesn't fit all and MANY benefit from the most caring approach adopted by the most caring staff at Eskdale! There must be a choice for the people of Whitby</p>	Unknown
<p>I can't believe this is even being considered. My child is due to start Eskdale school in September and is seriously worried that he will not be able to go to the school he chose. Coming from a small primary school like so many other children in this area he is worried about having to move to such a big school as Caedmon College. I will have to look into taking him out of town if this amalgamation goes ahead. So many children move from Caedmon to Eskdale and vice versa as one school can't suit every child's needs. Eskdale is walking distance from our house and the traffic going over the new bridge at 8:45 am is horrendous even before 400 extra pupils make the journey. It would be nearly as quick to drive to Scarborough as to battle with the school run traffic! Eskdale is such a popular choice this year so why on earth would that be taken away? My son's whole class chose Eskdale this year. Usually around half choose CaEdmon doesn't this tell you something? My son has been identified as being vulnerable by he's current school and steps were already in place to help him settle into Eskdale. He simply wouldn't cope with being told this wasn't the case any more. At a time when he should be focused on SATS he is stressed about this ludicrous idea of a super high school in September instead of the established family orientated middle school he choose. It is appalling that year 6 pupils are asked to make the choice only to have it snatched away. If Caedmon College was an outstanding school I maybe would have more faith but I cannot find an ofsted report since the last amalgamation? It is perhaps already failing? Why throw more children into the unknown?</p>	Unknown
<p>Here is my response to the highly biased consultation document. What concerns me is the real culprits have made quick decisions, which however you dress it up will have a detrimetal impact on the teaching and learning of this small and unique community for a number of years to come. Ths solutions are obvious as I have stated in my response. No matter what happens post 16 is unsustainable as a part of CCW and NYCC. I work all over the UK and abroad in education so I know how hard it is to recruit new, good teachers to isoated areas. Why would anyone want to come here in the next few years when their are so much better opportunities to work in dynamic schools. M Wilshaw stated only this week good schools are led by visionary leaders and it does not matter whether they are run by academy groups, LA 's or are in fact free schools. Sadly Whitby does not possess such a thing - who appointed them,and where is the accountability? We have elected you people to do the best for the communities you serve and in fact we pay your wages. Rather than put out a biased view point why don't you get out and look for yourself, engage with this community,and be accountable all the time not just around elections.. It's not feasible to suggest that the people in charge did not forsee the problem, or was it just incompetence? We have elected you people to do the best for the communities you serve and in fact we pay your wages. Rather than put out a biased view point why don't you get out and look for yourself, engage with this community,and be accountable all the time not just around elections.. It's not feasible to suggest that the people in charge did not forsee the problem, or was it just</p>	Unknown

incompetence? Clearly you have views on this, hiding behind conflict of interest (if in fact that is what you are doing) does not help me as one of the people you are paid to represent.

Consultation response

3.2 The longstanding view of the Local Authority is that it would be in the best interests of young people in the area for the schools to be working much more closely together and that a single organisational structure would be most likely to secure high quality of provision across the area. In particular the following potential benefits of collaboration have previously been stated:

- The opportunity for a joint ambitious and visionary offer of education in Whitby that would drive standards to be outstanding
- *How can you demonstrate that this amalgamation would produce any other than what is already available at the secondary schools in Whitby. 2 RFI and one good school which has been that way for 2 inspections, over 5 years, plenty of opportunities to become outstanding. The only possible way forward would be to become an academy and new leadership.*
- The potential to deliver a coherent 11-19 curriculum in Whitby.
- The potential for students to experience an uninterrupted learning experience from age 11 through to 19, in keeping with many other students nationally.
- *Both these points are the same. In line with many other 11/16 schools transition at ks5 is the norm and would still happen if 2 11/16 schools existed in Whitby*
- A coherent approach to teaching and learning, drawing on the best from staff in both schools
- *Which means some staff would be made redundant. I assume no pupils would be taught by staff who did not have QLTS as is the case at the moment*
- The opportunity to share the best from each school and develop new ideas to promote improved learning for all students
- Opportunities for enhancing the professional and career development of staff to drive improvement
- *How can you demonstrate how this will be achieved? If by this you mean opportunities to teach in a larger school and teach GCSE and A Level, it is hardly CPD which will improve anything*
- The opportunity to increase the ability to recruit and retain the very best teaching staff and school leaders.
- *How can you demonstrate that a school which has just amalgamated and is on a split site will attract anyone to a remote coastal area where the results and support from the Local Authority is mediocre to say the least*
- The opportunity to be more flexible when to start GCSE and A level courses.
- *That could still be done*

- The opportunity to make efficiencies in the use of scarce resources - to balance the books without detriment to either curriculum choice or front line teaching.
- *This is the real point. It will have a detrimental impact on both jobs and pupil progress. KS5 will still not be viable in the medium term*
- The opportunity to be more flexible with setting, curriculum choices and options
- *How*

3.4 The schools have collaborated over many years, and there have been previous moves towards closer collaboration with extensive support from the Local Authority. For example:

- 2004 - Caedmon School, Eskdale School and Whitby Community College joined together in a confederation
- 2007/2008 - Discussions took place between the three schools about the potential for federation
- 2010 - A proposal for federation of three schools went to public consultation. There were no objections from the public and some support. The governing bodies of Caedmon School and Whitby Community College agreed to federate.
- *This statement is totally incorrect? At a cost of £32,000 a consultation did take place and written objections were put forward not least by the town council, that is why after consideration Eskdale did not proceed*

The governing body of Eskdale School did not feel able to proceed, and so the proposed federation could not be created

4.3 Inspection outcomes and performance

Caedmon College, Whitby was last inspected by Ofsted in October 2013 (pre-amalgamation and as Whitby Community College) and was judged to be 'good'. All elements of the inspection were graded 'Good'. A one day LA review was carried out in September 2015 and found the school still to be good.

- *A LA review in 2005 said WCC was good 6 weeks later OFSTED placed the school in SM! The idea that you can ignore a less RFI grading because you have amalgamated is a not sustainable. Many schools in the country would be doing similar if they thought they could get away with it. The only way to test if CCW is all good is to have an unannounced OFSTED inspection.*

Eskdale School was inspected in December 2013 and was rated 'Requires Improvement'. A monitoring visit in March 2014 said that Eskdale School should be creating a formal link with a good or better school as part of its improvement plan. A local authority review of the school in October 2014 concluded that the school was likely to remain as RI. At the school's next Ofsted inspection in November 2015 it was judged to 'require improvement' for a second time. Effectiveness of leadership and management, quality of teaching, learning and assessment and outcomes for pupils were all graded as 'Requires Improvement'. Personal development, behaviour and welfare were graded 'Good'. It is likely that under new guidance on coasting schools any school with a continued pattern of 'Requires Improvement' judgements would be subject to formal intervention by the DfE/Regional Schools Commissioner.

NYCC does not hold any standards data for Eskdale School because the school does not teach pupils who are at the end of a key stage with public examinations or statutory assessment. Data for Caedmon College,

Whitby is attached at Appendix C. GCSE results in 2015 shows the school above the national benchmark although slightly below the North Yorkshire average, a small improvement on the 2014 results.

Bringing the two schools together would enable the combined expertise of the staff to be deployed more efficiently for all pupils. It would allow the implementation of a single curriculum and timetable and remove transition at age 14 which currently affects some pupils, and at age 16 which will affect Eskdale pupils in future. These measures would make improvement in standards more achievable and more practical to sustain.

7.1 Impact on school performance

Appendix D provides a detailed comparison of the opportunities presented by federation or amalgamation to drive up standards in respect of a number of factors.

In summary, the factors deemed most likely to drive improved performance are:

- Strong and secure leadership, including governance, and management
- *Neither school has leadership which is strong and secure, governance does not challenge. For instance CCW target for A to C inc maths and English was 68% for 2015. They achieved 63% a 5% shortfall. This has been the case for many years missing targets and weak governance not challenging seems to be the norm.*
- Maintaining and developing high quality teaching and learning.
- *How will this be demonstrated as it is not occurring yet.*
- The ability to recruit and retain the best staff
- From where?
- Good data analysis and tracking of student progress

8.0 OPTION APPRAISAL - CONCLUSIONS

The above evaluation has led to the following key conclusions:

The current structure of secondary education in Whitby will not lead to the rapid improvement in standards required;

It is not financially sustainable in the long term;

Doing nothing is not an appropriate option;

Some options may be feasible in the long term but do not meet the key objectives identified in section 5, particularly in terms of delivering rapid improvement in standards;

Amalgamation is considered to be a more secure option educationally;

Why

Retaining three sites is unlikely to lead to significant efficiencies given pupil forecasts and surplus places;

<p>In principle, a federation between the two schools across two sites (Eskdale and one of the Caedmon sites) or the amalgamation of the schools on two sites (Both Caedmon College sites) are both realistic options.</p> <p>In practice, a federation cannot be delivered by the local authority as it requires decisions by each governing body.</p> <p><i>The total lack of vision sums up this 'consultation'. Clearly it is about finance rather than pupils. Nothing in the document suggests a visionary approach to this real problem. Nothing in this document demonstrates how standards and effectiveness will be improved. It is about maintaining the status quo in the short term. I would question this. No matter what happens, post 16 in Whitby is not and will not be viable in its present state. It would be far more cost effective to investigate the possibility of a post 16 hub in Whitby run by GIFE who have moved Yorkshire coast College to be at least good. It is clear from both the government and Chief Inspector for schools that the way forward is via academies or free schools. So why stick in the short term to status quo again. The performance in recent years of the LA has not been good.. For instance, Filey School, Graham/Raincliffe, Scalby who had to be bailed out by Michael Wilkins and the Outwood Grange Academy trust. Much money could be saved and standards would rise if you allowed all schools to have freedom to choose to leave the LA and It would be perfectly possible to have two 11/16 schools in Whitby. Simple really, so why make it complicated? If we are investigating value for money my comments above suggest that at the moment the LEA on the East Coast does not provide good value, so rather than making the pupils, teachers and parents pay by this ill thought out proposal, you should see where the real dead wood is and cut it out.</i></p>	
<p>Removing Eskdale School will put pressure on other schools in the area. If Eskdale School was closed and the site made into a housing estate there will be more children at Caedmon. Further down Helredale Road a new estate is being developed many houses built. Where are these children who will be living here go to school? More housing in the area will put strains not only on schools but other amenities in the area. Eskdale site would generate over 200 new homes, you could say 50% of those homes could have 2 or more children. Where are 200 children from Eskdale site to go? Another 100 plus homes at Helredale site so another 50 children possibly. The area is going to have over 200 new children in the area within no time at all. Has this been considered?</p>	Unknown
<p>PLEASE DO NOT CLOSE THIS SCHOOL WHITBY AREA NEEDS THIS SCHOOL.</p>	Unknown
<p>NYCC - listen to people. Leave Caedmon (old Whitby school site) and Eskdale to run as 11-16 schools then make the best use of the old Caedmon school site as a 6th form college. Gets sponsors for this as other 6th form providers do. Do not go ahead with this proposal, I do not agree. Act now and change your plans before it is too late</p>	Unknown
<p>I don't agree with the proposal. Because we need choice in education in Whitby and if Eskdale closes everyone is going to be forced to go to Caedmon college. If Eskdale merges with college they will be 1500+ students. We won't be able to have 1 to 1 chats with teachers because they will be too busy. At Eskdale everyday I can go and have a one to one chat with the assistant head of the school and he helps me so so so much. He has spent so much time talking to me and taking care of me, I won't get that help at caedmon college. We got told last year as year 9s that we could stay at Eskdale and do our GCSEs there. I was so so so happy. Best day of my life but then in January we got told as year 9s we have got to leave Eskdale because it's at a risk of closing. I cried myself to sleep that night because now my education is ruined. I didn't go to Caedmon college because I got bullied by people there and now I'm getting forced to go there. This isn't fair on students or teachers. Teachers haven't even been guaranteed jobs. Knowing in September im leaving the wonderful caring special school Eskdale kills me. Please make the right decision and keep it open. It isn't about the money you make in this its about the education of children. That is more important than money. If I was in your position I wouldn't try to close Eskdale. Please rethink your decision and make the right one.</p>	Unknown
<p>I believe that the closure of Eskdale School will remove choice of education in this area and the lack of competition will result in a down grade in standards. The closure will remove a public facility in the East side of Whitby and is a poorly disguised land grab to erect even more unneeded houseing in the area.</p>	Unknown
<p>Having had two children through Eskdale I feel it is vital that this school remains open and managed in its current form as an independent entity rather than amalgamated. The ethos of the school, the way it values the children with every member of staff knowing every child as an individual is unique and should be preserved. This should be the model for more schools not derived and closed. The size of the school is especially important given the structure of village schools that feed into the Whitby schools. So many of the children attending Eskdale come from very small village schools, often with only 3 or 4 children in their school year. Jumping up to a school with over 300 is a huge step itself - jumping up to a school of over 1000 would be unimaginable for many and could</p>	Unknown

dis-associate them from the whole school system for the future. With regards to school choice amalgamating the schools would provide no choice at all. Again given the unique geographical locate of Whitby means that this is the only realistic choice for many children at secondary school level. Travelling to Scarborough, Pickering, Guisborough or Stokesley is, for many, simply not an option. The system has worked in Whitby for many years (many children at Eskdale are 2nd or 3rd generation) - why try to mend something that isn't broken simply because it doesn't fit with the model used elsewhere. Lets celebrate what we have in Whitby not destroy it!	
<u>Think of the children!</u> Closing Eskdale is not the best move for the children of the Dales. I couldn't cope with the move to Whitby School at the age of 14/15 let alone the age of 12/13!! What is best for some children isn't always the best for others. Eskdale was and is an amazing school. Children should have the right to choose!!	Unknown
I disagree with Eskdale School closing because there would be too many children in Caedmon College, the classes would be too large.	Unknown
Eskdale School should remain open, all the houses being built in Whitby we are going to need more schools not less. My son went to Eskdale and my daughter now they have both been very happy and my son always says he would of done better if he had remained at Eskdale instead of moving to College he said your just lost in the system, He left after year 12 and went to Teeside. My daughter has some learning issues and eskdale have been fantastice she has come on leaps and bounds. Sixth will suffer anyway as children don't want to go to College any longer than have to. I feel my daughter (yr 9 now) has suffered most in all this as of all yr9's at eskdale. Eskdale School is a very good school and could continue to be so if allowed.	Unknown
On Excellence in Education • XX repeatedly said that the closure was about providing excellent education in Whitby How are they measuring excellence? The pupils of Whitby have spoken frequently over the last two months, both scripted and off the cuff, they have often moved the room to tears, hardly the mark of the ill-educated They have organised petitions, videos etc and engaged with the diplomatic process with a maturity beyond their years, I would challenge anyone, anywhere to produce a more vibrant display of excellent education• Excellent education is achieved when children are happy and receptive Eskdale pupils are clearly enjoying their schooling, have outstanding relationships with staff and are developing remarkable life-skills• Excellent education is achieved when staff are relaxed and motivated Eskdale staff have demonstrated a commitment to the school and have created a happy learning family Those that have spoken out are not relishing the idea of being forced into an amalgamation into a school of a size they did not choose, with unfamiliar colleagues in an alien environment, their cards now marked by their courage in wearing their convictions on their sleeves• Excellent education is achieved when parents are confident their child is happy, safe and receiving the life skills they require in an environment that maximises their potential This what all parental speakers have told us is the case at Eskdale• Attractiveness to staff recruitment was another putative gain' to result from amalgamation —Teachers HATE split-site schools, recruitment would be easier with 2 x11-16 schools, each on one site, rather than in one 11-19 spit-site school• How will an eleven-year-old from any one of the very small village primaries be settled into a school of 1 600' What happens when a large school is too intimidating for a child What happens to children with disabilities/health impairments which makes a large school unsuitable for their needs (question asked by parent of haemophiliac)' • School name? Who has spent time/effort on this if it is not a 'done deal'? Whitby School loses heritage from Caedmon and Eskdale. On Safeguarding Safeguarding — Officers clearly reacted uncomfortably on this topic What happens when a child does not settle/is bullied/is expelled from the only school in a 20 mile radius? On Finance Caedmon School not in deficit prior to federation (in fact had a healthy surplus) after amalgamation deficit greater than Eskdale, points to fact that rather than saving expenditure single school will run at higher deficit • Why not close the former Whitby Community College site and establish an 11-16 school on the Eskdale School site and 11-19 school on the former Caedmon School site? This should be close to the ideal number to balance the books and would be far more attractive to staff (no split-site) This would maintain choice and address safeguarding issues (Caedmon College is plagued by reports of safeguarding issues) These two prospective schools could share good practice and provide a broadened curriculum And County could still release finance from the sale of a site Win — win! On Governance • Who are governors who having been planning the new school How were they selected? • Why were they not represented at the meeting? • OFSTED have not yet passed judgement on Caedmon College OFSTED heavily criticised governance at Eskdale and yet some of the same Governors now being trusted with developing future education.	Unknown
I think Eskdale School should stay as it is. We had three children go to that school. Two boys and a girl they all did very well, if they close the school ten to one it willend up a housing estate.	Unknown
Do what you want, I do not mind. Although it would be better to join.	Unknown
I think that it would be too busy to many students but that's the only problem I can think of. Also it would be good for the students as they could make more friends. And make more trips happen in school so I agree.	Unknown

I agree that Eskdale should shut down because more students could make more friends and we could also get more staff. Another reason is when pupils from primary join they won't have to fuss about which school to go to. Plus all students would start there GCSE's earlier.	Unknown
The proposed amalgamation of Eskdale school and Caedmon College would be great for the following reasons;- All local primary school children would move to the same high school meaning an easier transition. The pooling of resources would mean a better choice of courses for both GCSE and A'Level students. Looking at both Ofsted reports and the LA review shows that the areas where Eskdale is weak, Caedmon College is stronger, where Caedmon is weaker (pastoral) Eskdale is stronger. This just goes to show how good the amalgamation would be if both schools, play to their strengths. Having one High school would also mean that there would be no middle school this would help students as it would mean no changing of schools less than 2 years before they sit their GCSE's.	Unknown
Hello, I am a student of this wonderful establishment known as Eskdale School and I would like to have my say of the proposed amalgamation between Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby. I think your choice is wrong and I have many reasons why. Firstly what was the point of allowing Eskdale School to become a 11 - 16 secondary school? i have asked many times and my question has still not been answered. Have you not realized that two schools that were needs improvement and when they joined in your hands they turned to a special measures school, how can you be sure that , that won't happen between the two schools of Whitby, thats right you cant. You claim that a school near London has over 2000 student and we are complaining that we are going to have 1600 student but what if they have a better government. You also try to stop other students bullying eachother when actually you are bullying the governors of Eskdale . Last but not least I just want to ask how you would feel if you were in my situation right now or one of the parents of Eskdale or Caedmon College because im sure you would be sitting here right now writing to who ever shut your school down. Thank you for reading this I hope you consider what ive said into account.	Unknown
I think its terrible that you are thinking of closing this school down. It comes down to greed and not the welfare and upbringing of children in this area. Whitby has become a subplot to scarborough borough councils greed. It is and always will play second fiddle to scarborough.	Unknown
If the current financial situation continues, there will be insufficient funding to maintain sixth form provision in Whitby. Co-operation and amalgamation are the best way forward for all pupils in Whitby.	Unknown
I think that the school should not close because this school honestly means the world to me. If this school closs then i think that I will lose my education and i don't really want to lose that because i really want a good high paying job so that i can keep good for myself and others around me. At Caedmon i think that you don't get that good of a chance to achieve what you can while at Eskdale there is nice teachers and nice students that are here for you if you are feeling down or need something motivational like if you're doing sport such as cross country or football they will always say "come on you can do it" or " keep going you're doing great". if i had to choose between schools it would obviously have to be Eskdale because this school is the best school ever and no its not just a school it is our school.	Unknown
I think its a bad idea because when they close it down and build new houses more people will be moving to Whitby and they will probably have kids so when they move their kids need to go to school which will make Caedmon even more crouded. Also i think its bad because some people move school because they are getting bullied or something or to get away from people you don't like or get on with so if they join together it will probably become a lot rougher. They will also have to make break and lunch longer because it will take longer for everyone to eat which means lessons will have to be shorter. They are going to have to get more teachers to teach as well but the teachers from Eskdale might not want to work at Caedmon. They will have to build a lot more classrooms which can take a long time and Caedmon will have to but more food and make more dinners and snacks for break.	Unknown
As a Y8 Student at Eskdale, I wish to continue my secondary education uninterrupted. uninterrupted , meaning not walking miles between 3 different schools or changing teachers 3 or 4 times a year, or even having large classes where teachers don't know your name. In this scenario, I implore you, do not amalgamate our schools as our education will suffer , as will our emotions. Doing this would also remove our right to freedom of movement as the nearest secondary is around 21 miles from my home and I am already forged to leave the house at 7:50 every morning and an increased journey would reduce my attentiveness at which ever school I go to. yours sincerely XX Y8 Eskdale	Unknown
I disagree with the proposal of amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon .I think that the situation is unfair . the students should have choice. The government say we are allowed choice but we are expected to pay for our choice.	Unknown
I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School and Caedmon College as it takes away the choice from young people in Whitby. Many people like to have the choice as they feel happier at Eskdale. You cannot compare the happiness of children who attend Eskdale to money. Two schools equals choice and that's what all young people are entitled to.	Unknown

<p>Eskdale school is vital to the community here and should be protected for the sake of future generations. It is a wonderful school surrounded by grassy fields and has the space to expand in the future, while whitby school is already over developed. Whitby school is a collection of about 10 different buildings clustered around the old grammar school, with inadequate access and parking built alongside the main route into whitby where the congestion is going to get worse. This year there has been a 45 million pound investment in colleges in Scarborough offering wonderful opportunities at 16 + . The incentive of more choice at 16+ is one of the arguments put forward to erase Eskdale but in reality if a student wanted to do an unusual course and there wasn't enough interest to make it viable, it wouldn't happen anyway. Also there is strong competition for educational choices at 16+ outside the Whitby area and many children would chose to travel rather than complete all their education in the one place. I don't think it is worth sacrificing a wonderful school to offer more choice at 16 +. These are hard financial times, but looking to the future, when it is time to invest in education and expand, Eskdale is an irreplaceable gem which should benefit our children for generations to come.</p>	Unknown
<p>Hello I am a year 7 pupil at Eskdale School and I am thoroughly digusted at the idea of its closure. Can you not see that Eskdale is a much loved and cherished school? Are you oblivious to the undeniable fact that all this support is to keep it going? XX has only ever been into this school once, I have heard, and he came through my maths class with XX the headteacher of Eskdale. Judging by the look on his face at the time he was very impressed. He was talking to the students at the time, and when he left the classroom, he had a smile on his face. Does that sound like a man who wants to close a school, ruining many lives, hopes and dreams at the same time? I don't think so. But don't judge a book by its cover. By closing Eskdale, you will cause hundreds, maybe thousands of lives to become pointless. By creating one massive school, if I was to attend, I and many other students would just become another face in a crowd of thousands of people the same as me. That will happen no matter what attempts you make to prevent it. I have always wanted to come to Eskdale, and now that I am here they are threatening to prevent me from staying here for a vital part of my education. As soon as you make your decision, if you choose to go ahead with this you will regret it immediately. Thankyou for reading this as Eskdale means the world to me and many other people.</p>	Unknown
<p>i dot what eskdale school to shut down because it is a evey good school</p>	Unknown
<p>I disagree with proposal because I think we need a choice to which school we go to.</p>	Unknown
<p>I dont want Eskdale to close because most of us dont get along with people at Caedmon. It would also upset alot of people who went to Eskdale and who are here now.</p>	Unknown
<p>i disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Caedmon collage and Eskdale school because from the first time i walked into Eskdale school i felt at home all the kids were really calm and holding doors open for each other but in Caedmon there were boys jumping around on tables and the teachers were in the corner of the classroom with another student not knowing that the boys were on the table.</p>	Unknown
<p>I strongly disagree with the proposal of the amalgamation of Eskdale school and Caedmon college Whitby. Pupils need choice and so do their parents. Eskdale school is a fun caring environment and it feels like family, we really do not want to lose such an excellent school. another thing is that if the school is to big will it feel like a family with these estimated 1500 students or will we just all be a number, could we lose the caring environment that Eskdale is. Also is this planned out or is their still small pieces of the puzzle which have not been placed yet, do us civilians know all of the details or is their something else?</p>	Unknown
<p>I disagree with the proposal for amalgamation. By closing Eskdale you are leaving children in Whitby and the surrounding area with no choice, no freedom, there will only be one school that you have to go to like it or not. Your ridiculous proposal shouldn't be call a proposal at all as it is just another way for you to make more money to put into your pockets, if you close the school then it just shows your true views on the opinions of the people of Whitby, you fashest, overly right winged selfish ignorant excuse for a council.</p>	Unknown
<p>I disagree with the proposal for amalgamation x 19</p>	Unknown
<p>Don't close our school</p>	Unknown
<p>I disagree with the proposal for amalgamation x 12</p>	Unknown
<p>I think Eskdale is a great school and it should not Amalgamate with Caedmon because i wanted to go to Eskdale and that was now for nothing. It's not fair for the Caedmon either because they thought that they were going to be at Caedmon but now they won't. So I think the schools should stay the same I disagree with the plan.</p>	Unknown
<p>I don't think Eskdale school should amalgamate with CCW because it is too far from the other two sites.</p>	Unknown
<p>I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale school and caedmon collage whitby Beacause the children don't have a choice</p>	Unknown

<p>I disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale school and Caedmon collage whitby because they will be to many people in one school so i think they should be two schools in whitby. Eskdale school is a nicer place to lurn and the teachers are nicer and every person who has came to Eskdale school has said Eskdae is better then Caedmon</p>	<p>Unknown</p>
<p>i disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale school and Caedmon college Whitby because there is a lot of people who are happy the way it is with them been separate</p>	<p>Unknown</p>
<p>I categorically disagree with the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby. As an independent and objective observer working within the school I have witnessed first hand the depth of knowledge and understanding for the students and their learning requirements, who have specifically chosen Eskdale for their education. I find it incomprehensible why the NYCC deems it to be of any benefit to any of these students, and those of Caedmon College for their education to be disrupted by the poorly thought out proposal and its method of application. Financial considerations highlighted in the mandatory feasibility study do not justify the lack of provision for some or all of the SEND students who have chosen to attend Eskdale School. As an independent observer I can express serious concerns with safeguarding provision and pastoral care facilitated for SEND students in particular, at a larger school. Many of these children will simply not receive the individually bespoke support developed with them from year six. Many of these students who had the prospect of completing their education to G.C.S.E. level have expressed serious misgivings about their future educational special needs and feel they will not have access to the opportunity for an equal education. I think some if not all will either be excluded or left to fall behind and eventually not meet the national achievement targets. All children deserve an equal opportunity to fulfil their potential and by closing Eskdale School and forcing the amalgamation of these two very different but valuable approaches to children's' educational futures NYCC are not only failing the students of Eskdale school, but the whole of Whitby and the surrounding areas and communities with this poorly researched and thought out proposal.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>
<p>Student Leadership Team Statement - As the Student Leadership Team of Caedmon College Whitby and representatives of our school, we would like to address the issue of the amalgamation between Caedmon College 'and Eskdale School. Firstly, we would like to say that we recognise the great benefits of the proposed merger. The funding from the merger would enable the town to establish a successful post-16, providing a wider range of subjects and opportunities for young people without them having to travel as far away from their home town as they do now. It could also bring more trips and enrichment activities with more specialised staff and funding — something many students of Whitby are looking forward to, should the merger go ahead. Another matter we, as a collective have addressed, is that the amalgamation of the two schools would result in an all-round better performance from Whitby's school community. Eskdale's ideology of a 'caring community' would be incorporated well into Caedmon College's motto of 'striving for excellence'. Together, these ideals would help to form well rounded individuals. While understanding the benefits of the merger, we would like to ask you to consider some of the issues that have arisen during discussion. One of these issues is that with a heavily increased school population coming primarily to one site (Normanby), the safety of students on roads around school will be paramount. It may be an option to properly tarmac the under pass to allow passage from site to site, another entrance to the Normanby Site and for more crossings to be built to ensure that students are safe during their journeys to and from school. Our final concern is that should Eskdale land be built upon during the amalgamation process, the memorial trees of XX and XX-X are not disturbed. This is of prime importance to the friends and family of both boys who passed away recently. Many thanks in advance. The SLT of CCW</p>	<p>The SLT of CCW</p>
<p>Foundation learning id an alternative program for students with learning difficulties ad vulnerable young adults. Each learner are assigned a dedicated, skilled and experienced member of teaching support, mentor , keyworker to support individuals in the classroom and also a personal care service depending on the needs of the individual. Students join the Foundation Learning Program in mainstream education for Year 8 and have the choice or opportunity to progress into 6th Form, which offers a diverse range of subjects to enhance their development whilst alos completing Maths and English re-sits or functional qualifications. Learners are introduced to Independant Living, Enterprise, workskills and work experience plus other subjects to build skills for life. The amalgamation of two schools will only assist in the development of basic skills in the Whitby Community and will continue to provide a well established curriculum that was graded as good by Ofsted. If the two schools do not amalgamate, this will leave the community in a very vulnerable situation. Low numbers of students in two schools will mean reduced staffing and at worst, no 6th form provision. The outcome of this would mean students would be more vulnerable in having to travel further distances to enter suitable provision. This could mean round trips of 30/40 miles per day using specialised transport which will be at a higher cost to parents or local authority. Vulnerable learners will needs totavel to other providers which would mean longer travel times and on some occasions dangerous weather conditions. We remain hopeful in the we can protect the vulnerable learner and assist in their lifeskill development and that we can protect the jobs of the dedicated, professional and skilled staff, that currently support vulnerable learners in the community.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>

Dear Councillor having sat through the two consultation meetings and listened to all of the questions and lack of answers, I thought now was the time to write. I was not convinced at all about the proposals that XX set forward and feel there has not been much thought about the actual education of our children just a money saving deal that is in need of pushing through as quick as possible and let the town pick up the pieces when it goes wrong. My child is in year 4 now and is going to a small primary school he is one of the many who will not fit into such a large school, I am now starting to look at home schooling as this will be my only choice. Choice where will it be if this ridicules takeover goes ahead because I know that is what it is. The dangers that you will be putting in front of these children is appalling stop and have a good think. There is total disagreement through the town as the Caedmon College amalgamated only last year and there are many issues happening, with teachers being late for lessons children crossing a main road to do P.E what if there is an accident one day! Also the students have just been told the new year 7 and 8 will this year be at Eskdale and the year 8 at Eskdale now will be going to CCW in September many students are upset and confused with this decision and are going to have their education disrupted for I think the next three years this is not good. Sports clubs will also suffer as the school is used by many clubs charged with affordable prices. We as a town would be missing out on all these things. I think this needs more time ,why can't we have two secondary schools which are outstanding not worry about a sixth form. Please listen to the children and the voice of Whitby I think you will have a lot of responses on this proposal, not for it but against it I ask you again please think carefully with your decision. Thank you. XX.	Unknown
As a future parent of Eskdale, current parent (and parent governor) of Fylingdales Primary, and staff member at East Whitby Primary, I am against NYCC's proposal for the future of education in Whitby. The suggestion made tonight, for two 11-16 schools, makes much more sense as regards choice for children at 11. Currently, many Whitby children travel further afield for specialist 6 th form options. This is an acceptable situation, not least because at this age they are becoming more independent and able to travel on public transport for what can be great distances. This travel for choice is not acceptable for an 11 year old./ I would ask you in your consideration of <u>all options</u> for education in Whitby, to acknowledge that a "good" and "outstanding" education <u>is not and should not</u> be merely bound by the Ofsted definitions of these terms. Most <u>parents</u> would put a <u>happy</u> child above an increase in grades. Most <u>teachers</u> would put the <u>welfare</u> of children above their targets... Indeed, if these things don't come first, achievements do not follow. A strong argument for having two schools in Whitby is not (as Carolyn stated) so children can be sent "from pillar to post", but so that natural clashes that occur, that are often unavoidable, can be avoided <u>in the best interests</u> of that child's continuing progress.	Unknown
I believe an amalgamation is the only way forward to ensure post-16 education continues in Whitby. This is imperative and our children deserve no less. Post 16 @ CCW is excellent.	Unknown
Eskdale is a wonderful school, so is Caedmon College. But both of them together? No choice. Also, I presume a majority of the people at Eskdale will go to other schools.	Unknown
I am a sixth form student at CCW and I love it. I also attended Eskdale and enjoyed every moment. Small classes are more efficient in terms of mental health. One in 4 children are/have experienced problems. This figure is due to go up. Someone with social anxiety and depression I failed most of my GCSE due to large classes. Please don't merge. This problem will only get worse. Mental health is important, not class sizes and money. Please open your eyes.	Unknown
Where will the children from the new houses go, are you saying there can't be children in the new houses?	Unknown
It seems that very few options were considered – why no two 11-19 colleges sharing a 6 th forms – It happens in many areas. Would have the advantage of keeping a school on each side of the river, and Whitby school site would give the finance which you are most advising is particularly the object of this exercise.	Unknown
I think that we do need Eskdale because we need choice and choice is a very important thing in our lives. I chose Eskdale for a reason and that reason was because as soon as you walk through those school gates you feel welcome and happy. I was very worried about coming to Eskdale but I now realise I was worrying all about nothing. The teachers are <u>extraordinary</u> and whatever you do <u>DON'T!!!</u> close Eskdale. And why would you want to! Don't close Eskdale	Unknown
DON'T CLOSE ESKDALE!	Unknown
I knew I would love Eskdale as soon as I waked in the door I love Eskdale and hope you know how much we love it.	Unknown
We love Eskdale and don't see why Eskdale should be closed down we hope you can tell us this now because we would love an answer please don't take it away with you. Thank you for listening to this speech	Unknown

Eskdale was a place where I felt safe, secure, my decisions were my own and my opinions were heard and the teachers were friends. I did not feel the same whilst studying and Whitby Community College. Why should other children who are younger than me and my children not have the choice to choose where they go? Why do I not have a choice in where to send my children? There's no room at college...how can it be cheaper to build new buildings than to create 11-16 and an 11-19? It's appalling...and makes no sense...you know exactly what you're doing and it's a joke!	Unknown
If the 2 schools do amalgamate wouldn't there be an increase in possible bullying?	Unknown
My grandson in year 7 now faces 2 more schools if the proposal goes ahead. (Esdake and then normanby site	Unknown
Parent of year 8 + year 7 pupils at Caedmon College. Very disappointed to learn that there is a proposal that in Sept the current year 7 and year 6 pupils could be using the Eskdale site?? How shocking especially when my daughter will need to walk for at least 50 minutes to get to school and then 50 back!! We chose Caedmon for good reasons!!! Yr 6 primary, Yr 7 Caemon Scoresby, Yr 8 Eskdale site, Yr 9 Normanby site, This will affect my daughter very much.	Unknown
Caedmon College has not been inspected by Ofsted. Surely it would only be sensible to understand the current standard at the merged school before adding additional pupils. The merged working committee referred to consists of Caedmon College governors plus 2 'new' Eskdale governors and the Eskdale head teacher who is unlikely to have a role in the future. This is hardly a 'joint' committee. If the newly amalgamated school is judged as 'requires improvement' there is no choice to move children to schools over 20 miles away at parent's expense. If the parents apply to Lady Lumley's or Stokesley School which they are well within their rights to do. Particularly in the countryside where they are geographically closer & money from these pupils will then not benefit the new 'Whitby School' if this is being relied on to plug the gap of funding deficit that is a shady assumption. Split site schools are far from ideal. Teachers are likely to be late for lessons, leaving children unsupervised (safeguarding issue). The sites are also based along a busy 'A' road. The traffic is horrendous at school pickings + drop off clogging the road out of town. How would all the extra cars + buses be accommodated?	Unknown
4 sites for Caedmon College year 7's in 3 years. Appropriate – I think not. Disruption to education is immense	Unknown
4 sites for Caedmon College year 7's in 3 years. Appropriate – I think not. Disruption to education is immense	Unknown
New school? New name? Why not a new head teacher. All jobs in industry/NHS/have to be applied for when reconstruction takes place.	Unknown
Not impressed child currently in year 7 going by the proposal he will cover three sites in three years! Appropriate? I think not!	Unknown
IF WE BURN YOU BURN WITH US!!!!	Unknown
What will happen if we don't agree with a larger school?	Unknown
I have been to every meeting with regard to Eskdale School, apart from Monday night at the Spa. Also I took part in the Whitby walk, 500 people attending also 5,000 pupil's signatures. At every meeting pupils expressed how happy and settled they were at Eskdale and yet were are talking about amalgamation. Are you and your fellow committee members XX really listening to what we and the pupils are really saying!?! I don't think so.	Unknown
X X X X	Unknown
RE – Tuition child Y7 Caedmon Sir, I am shocked and surprised to discover on social media this evening that my daughter would be moving next year to Eskdale. I feel that this is in fact the closure of two schools – not just Eskdale, and this has never been presented as such to Caedmon parents.I struggle to believe that the schools are prepared for this immense change in September, with only 3 months of the current school year remaining. Moreover, I currently act as a chaperone accompanying a pupil between Scoresby + Normaby and feel it should not be overlooked how much time this takes.At no point have any feasibility studies, risk analysis or, indeed, minutes of any meetings been made available to parents. As a Caedmon parent I feel overlooked and marginalised. It is obvious to me that this decision has already been made. However, the speed with which this decision has been made and the way it has been presented, with no detail how in fact it will be realised is very worrying indeed. You're welcome to call meX or email me on info@XXs.com should you wish to dicuss this future. Yours faithfully, XXX	Unknown
One question I have not heard answered is should the amalgamation go ahead why is it written in stone that XX will become the head. If the governing body is stepping down then surely the head should and the position reapplied for	Unknown
Think of the children not the money	Unknown
In October 2012 the head teacher of Filey School stepped down and the temporary head was supported by senior leaders from Whitby Community College – including the head teacher XX. In March 2013 and again in June 2014 it was found inadequate. It is now an academy. How can you ensure that this does not happen again?	Unknown
OUR HOPE WILL NEVER DIE	Unknown

There is a negative background about the relationship between college + Eskdale. You have wisely decided to change uniform/name but decided to keep the very controversial head teacher from Caedmon College. Would it not be more beneficial any transparent to have a new head + start from scratch? Have you considered it? What are your reasons for keeping him? Thank you	Unknown
As a parent of a current year 7 pupil and a teaching assistant working closely with vulnerable year 7's at Caedmon College – my main concern is having 3 site changes in 3 years. Caedmon (Scoresby) 2) Eskdale 3) Caedmon (Normanby) This will not work. If the amalgamation does go ahead why not wait 1 year until the necessary changes have been made and start over two sites next year.	Unknown
Eskdale pupils are CHILDREN not pound signs	Unknown
Why are children in Eskdale be in limbo? Children at Caedmon are being told how they will spend the money 'when' they get it, not <u>if</u>	Unknown
I came here as a parent of a child at Caedmon College Whitby with an open view from both sides. Not once was there any concerns as to how my child would feel with the merger, it was all Eskdale views. I am disgusted how Eskdale parents could heckle at a teenager whilst expressing their opinion.	Unknown
Concerned with proposal to move yr7+8 from Caedmon to Eskdale. For many this can be a 5 mile round trip each day and a 1 hour pedestrian trip. Children will be walking in the dark. Not conducive to a good/outstanding educator	Unknown
XX is THE most patronising X I have ever came across, XX and he listened to absolutely NOTHING that was said tonight. Local people know what is best for local children and parents of both Eskdale & Caedmon pupils are telling you that amalgamation is the wrong thing for the whole of Whitby! How can XX make an impartial decision when XX and himself are obviously friends and colleagues. This is before we take into consideration that XX is also a golfing partner/friend of XX!	Unknown
I am a parent of a student at Caedmon College Whitby in Y7 I'm really not happy for my child to go through 4 different transitions. I really hope you think is proposed decision through very careful, not all students adapt to change!	Unknown
XX should be the head it's not FAIR!	Unknown
Sack the XX	Unknown
Why, from the current proposal will my daughter be made to change schools/sites 4 times in 4 years., Yr 6 – primary, Yr 7 – Caedmon, Yr 8 – Eskdale, Yr 9 – Caedmon, Not conclusive to a good, consistent, education. Following year GCSE's not a good foundation for success. Also walking from West Cliff to Eskdale – 45 mins – 1 hour each way in the dark – safety!! , Put 11-16 on college, sixth form on Eskdale for transition., My daughter <u>does not</u> want to go to Eskdale – her choice!!	Unknown
As a year 6 pupil I find this change upsetting & scary, I am worried about this. I wish Eskdale could stay! X-X X, year 6 Please I hope you listen	Unknown
1) No choice 2) Dangerous traffic 3) Loss of some brilliant Eskdale teachers. 4) Loss of a lot of pupils to other schools 5) Governors been forced between a rock and a hard place 6) Sixth form has never been any good as long as I can remember from when I went in the 70's when all my 3 children in 90's and friends children currently. If it means keeping a choice at 11yrs old then close the 6 th form, they are old enough to decide on their futures at 16 and can choose other 6 th forms in the area. 7) Unproven record at the two merged schools 8) Total upheaval for current year 7,8,9 children. Many more thoughts but will have to save them for another day.	Unknown
By moving current year 7 students from Caedmon to Eskdale not only are you unsettling them but also putting them at risk when they have to walk so much further past the school they have attended how can you put 11+12 year olds who live near Castle Park in this position? Would you do this to your kids?	Unknown
You say the 6 th form is under threat – if there were 2 schools in Whitby -11-16 on Eskdale site and 11-19 on the Normanby site, you could sell off the Caedmon site (keep back some playing fields for PE), saving on the running costs of the building, use the money to improve the other 2 sites. Then the 11-19 school would benefit (unlike other schools) from extra 6 th formers from Eskdale so improving its funding. Wouldn't this keep the best of both schools and solve the split site issue?	Unknown
As a mother of a year 6 child due to move to Whitby this year I am extremely concerned and still unsure how he will transfer. Potentially 3 transfers Primary Eskdale (until closure) Primary Current college site Then to current Caedmon site 3 moves which can't be beneficial As a member of staff at NYCC I was embarrassed and saddened at your lack of professionalism at times during the evening – I understand the challenges you faced (as I often do in my role) but I cannot react or respond in the way you did!	Unknown
Proposed merger of schools is supposed to create greater choice. I'm in year 12 my options went down after the amalgamation of Caedmon and WCC. This meant that I could not do English or Maths at A Level due to my options 'not fitting#, wont this amalgamation do the same?	Unknown

<p>If the schools join:- Will class size increase .How will children with dyslexia get included and not lost. If a child has a bad experience i.e. bullying, what then as nearest school is over 20 miles away. I would appreciate a response to XX at X@btinternet.com</p>	<p>Unknown</p>
<p>The health and wellbeing of students ensures learning and promotes aspiration. How can the ethos currently promoted at Eskdale survive an amalgamation? Happy children learn! Parents and children have made a choice and this should be respected. Eskdale provides a stimulating environment where children learn. This should be applauded and not destroyed</p>	<p>Unknown</p>
<p>Although Eskdale have been measures by OFSTED as requires improvement many improvements have been made in the 4 months thereafter and we are confident to be measured good in our next visit. You say that you have listened to people in your meetings but all of your response have been "O have listening to your point but this is what you are getting". I do not believe that you are prepared to take on anybodys views at all</p>	<p>Unknown</p>
<p>RE your presentation –Why is your model the best? The assumptions you make are flawed. In truth <u>both</u> KS3 schools are presently in need of improvement Eskdale have proved that they can deliver GCSE's and have been actively planning/preparing to do so. The schools have worked together for years in the past recruiting good staff – what have you got now. Cheapest option is not always best please consider a <u>phased closure of the Normanby site</u> – Staff do <u>not</u> like split sites and until some building is done at Scoresby it may be necessary for staff to continue to move – <u>fact</u> – in maths last year an estimated 15 minutes per lesson was lost due to late arrival and then having to get pupils into 'working' mode. Staff cannot be contacted for help because they are always moving. The teacher left because the situation was untenable. The loss of an "outstanding (OFSTED), Conscientious teacher". The kind you would hope to recruit. I and other teachers who have experiences them would not apply to a split site school the sites are geographically far apart in reality. Are you aware that the ultimate closure of the Eskdale site will deprive the town of match pitches for the largest football club and the 3rd largest tennis club in Scarborough District? Neither of these can be relocated in the town. The tennis club membership needs 4 courts and is the one used by visitors to town as they are refered there by the leisure centre. It has 20 weeks of junior coaching and the only junior club. To retain Eskdale at 11-16 develop the Scoresby site ASAP Please have the courage to listen to us and: Give us choice .Pressure our recreational facilities Keep teachers sane and less stressed Be truly democratic Close Normanby gradually Keep Eskdale and support its strengths XX, retired teacher with ex colleagues in all 3 schools. On Excellence in Education. XX repeatedly said that the closure was about providing excellent education in Whitby. How are they measuring excellence? The pupils of Whitby have spoken frequently over the last two months, both scripted and off the cuff, they have often moved the room to tears, hardly the mark of the ill-educated. They have organised petitions, videos etc. and engaged with the diplomatic process with a maturity beyond their years, I would challenge anyone, anywhere to produce a more vibrant display of excellent education. Excellent education is achieved when children are happy and receptive: Eskdale pupils are clearly enjoying their schooling, have outstanding relationships with staff and are developing remarkable life-skills. Excellent education is achieved when staff are relaxed and motivated. Eskdale staff have demonstrated a commitment to the school and have created a happy learning family. Those that have spoken out are not relishing the idea of being forced into an amalgamation into a school of a size they did not choose, with unfamiliar colleagues in an alien environment, their cards now marked by their courage in wearing their convictions on their sleeves. Excellent education is achieved when parents are confident their child is happy, safe and receiving the life skills they require in an environment that maximises their potential. This is what all parental speakers have told us in the case at Eskdale. Attractiveness to staff recruitment was another putative 'gain' to result from amalgamation – teachers HATE split site schools, recruitment would be easier with 2 x 11-16 schools, each on one site, rather than in one 11-19 split site school.How will an eleven-year-old from any one of the very small village primaries be settled into a school of 1,600? What happens when a large school is too intimidating for a child. What happens to children with disabilities/health impairments which makes a large school unsuitable for their needs (questions asked by a parent of a haemophiliac)? School name? Who has spent time/effort on this if it is not a 'done deal'? Whitby School loses heritage from Caedmon and Eskdale. On Safeguarding Safeguarding – officers clearly reacted uncomfortably on this topic. What happens when a child does not settle/is bullied/is expelled from the only school in a 20 mile radius? On Finance Caedmon School not in deficit prior to federation (in fact had a healthy surplus) after amalgamation deficit greater than Eskdale, points to fact that rather than saving expenditure single school will run at higher deficit. Why not close the former Whitby Community College site and establish an 11-16 school on the Eskdale site and 11-19 school on the former Caedmon School site? This should be close to the ideal number to balance the books and would be far more attractive to staff (no split site). This would maintain choice and address safeguarding issues (Caedmon College is plagued by reports of safeguarding issues). These two prospective schools could share good practice and provided a broadened curriculum. And County could still release finance from the sale of a site. Win – win! On Governance Who are governors who have been planning the new school? How were they selected? Why were they not represented at the meeting? OFSTED have not yet passed judgement on Caedmon College. OFSTED heavily criticised governance at Eskdale and yet some of the same Governors and now being trusted with developing future education.</p>	<p>Unknown</p>

<p>A response to the Eskdale Consultation This Consultation does not :-Address other options. Address proper choice for students. Address safeguarding and bullying issues. Address the psychological issues many students could face. Address site problems realistically. Address fully staffing issues. Address the implications for 6th Form Education going forward. What is required now is an Independent Enquiry. Mistakes were made in the early 70's when comprehensive education was introduced in Whitby but this will be nothing compared to what is currently being proposed. This consultation is seriously flawed and an independent enquiry into educational provision in the area is required. No thought has been given to other options which have been suggested nor has choice seemingly played a proper part in the deliberations so far. Issues of safeguarding and bullying raised at the Consultation Meeting and before have not been given full consideration in pushing County's preferred option of one 11-19 school. Nor has the psychological impact on some pupils moving from schools of less than 200 to one of 1600. A passing mention was made of the option of one 11-16 and one 11-19 school but no reasons given for it being ruled out. As Eskdale had already applied to become an 11-16 School before Caedmon College was set up was this permitted to happen on a false premiss in that it appears it could never have been sustainable without the closure of Eskdale. Why not consult on two 11-16 schools with no sixth provision in the town but rather give free transport to all 16 year olds to access their education in other parts of the County, or in Cleveland, where the choices and opportunities are far wider anyway. This could have huge benefits for other 6th Form facilities in Scarborough etc etc. Additionally any consultation could include two 11-16 schools with a small additional campus directly linked to Scarborough 6th Form College which would be able to deal with resits, many of the foundation courses currently on offer at Caedmon College, and maybe even some 'A' level courses. Two 11-16 Schools could also work together to cover any resits. It is untrue to say smaller schools would narrow choice as Eskdale's 11-16 Business Plan provided for all key subjects to be taught and with two schools in the town specialising or working closely together as in other parts of the County everything could be properly covered to 16. We were told that Schools with less than 7/800 pupils could not offer outstanding education. I am sure that many educationalists and other schools in and outside the County would disagree with that statement. The current proposal which has been the County's preferred option for many years is to create one 11-19 school of 1400 - 1600 pupils on two sites. The Normanby site on current numbers would need to accommodate 1100 pupils. Yes they can build another classroom block but the site will be even more cramped. Just imagine the movement in and out of the buildings before & after school, between lessons and during breaks. It will also leave 200+ empty student spaces on the Scoresby Site (Caedmon School). Maybe this suggestion has been made to prevent any argument on the basis of split site 11-16 education but once the decision is made will we see another change ? All 11-14 year olds on the Scoresby site and 14-18 year olds on the Normanby site ! XX said that 'having a larger establishment is also proven to attract more teachers, especially in coastal areas where recruitment is difficult'. How is it then currently that the larger establishment of Caedmon College has a number of vacancies whereas Eskdale is fully staffed. As an ex Chair of Governors at Eskdale I was involved in staff interviews for 6+ years. Never in that time did we have any real issues. We appointed many excellent teachers and administrative staff at all levels from headteachers down over. Many of the applicants were in fact from outside of the town but some wanted to get away from the large establishments in which they taught. Two excellent Eskdale teachers were 'poached' by Caedmon College and St Augustine's but when it was announced that Eskdale was to be an 11-16 School both couldn't wait to get back. Will all Eskdale Staff want to teach at Caedmon College and will we see larger classes and supply teachers required in 'Whitby School' from September ? We will certainly see more redundancies of teaching and non teaching staff by 2017. Getting the very best 6th Form teachers in Whitby is a problem. They have better prospects of promotion in larger 6th Form & Further Education establishments as in Cleveland or other parts of the County where sixth forms are closer together and can also work more easily in partnership. Why not accept that Whitby will never be able to offer the very best in the vocational training or for that matter the broad range of academic choices needed at A level and certainly not with the level of expertise and facilities provided elsewhere. Post 16 education has changed dramatically over the last few years as the leaving age has increased and it will become unsustainable in areas like Whitby. Why not accept the inevitable and broaden the consultation ? Unfortunately the focus of this consultation seems to be on subsidising 6th form provision rather on what is the very best outcome for our 11-16 year olds. Choice – XX admits choice is important but where else in the County would 11 year olds have to travel 20+ miles to get choice? No school will be the right fit for all pupils therefore choice should be available to ensure every child meets their full potential. What would happen to any student subjected to bullying. At present they can move from Caedmon College to Eskdale as stated at the consultation meeting by a couple of students but from September they would have to travel 20+ miles. There should be no need for this at such a young age. Up to 50% at least of our local students from 11 upwards already exercise choice at some point in their lives and do not stay in Whitby for state education. Each year there are locally approximately 300 eleven year olds and their parents deciding on educational choices. Currently they choose between Caedmon or Eskdale if they want to remain in Whitby and not pay. Some at 11 already go to Fylinghall, Pickering, Stokesley, Guisborough, Scarborough etc. At 14 others exercise a similar choice. Choice is then made again at 16 where it is even more important to get your options right for 6th form study. More leave Whitby at 17 after their Foundation Courses. Caedmon College 6th Form at present caters for</p>	<p>Unknown</p>
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<p>just over 300 pupils out of approximately 600 pupils eligible to attend. XX once said that 'Whitby was already costing the County too much money'. NYCC are about to save money but at what cost to our students !Hopefully Officers and Councillors will realise the true implications of their potential actions before it is too late. No decision of this magnitude should be rushed. A huge mistake was made in the 70's. Please don't make a similar mistake again.</p>	
<p>With all the new homes being built in Whitby it is essential the children will have a school to go to. Do not agree to closure.</p>	Unknown
<p>Children are entitled to a moderate amount of children per classroom, this proposal means more pupils per teacher, with all new houses there will be more children to find places for. This proposal to close Eskdale is very short sighted and should be scrapped. Do not agree to closure.</p>	Unknown
<p>My daughter found the transition from primary to secondary school very hard. As soon as she started year 6 she became stressed, asking lots of questions about her new school. Soon I noticed she was uncomfortable at meal times and would avoid food. She soon became very thin, her weight decreased to 25.4kg. We got some help from dieticians and the CAMs team. Even with this help she still struggled. Until she got to Eskdale where she has settled in well with the help and understanding of the teachers at Eskdale. She has started to gain weight and feels part of the Eskdale 'family'. This was an extremely hard time for my daughter and my family I don't want to have to go through it again please keep Esdkael open.</p>	Unknown
<p>I do not want this amalgamation! I am concerned about the traffic situation having witnessed an accident near the entrance to the Normanby site, and many near misses over the years. There is no pupil safeguarding at present and the coaches have no ultimate safe place to drop off or pick up children. children trying to cross the roads at home time dodging between cars and buses. I have also been told that it is not much safer at the Scoresby site. Given that is a 40mph zone and children will have to teach from all over Whitby area to one of these or both sites I feel that another option should be considered, it won't be long before a child is killed.</p>	Unknown
<p>I want to express my views on the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School Whitby with Caedmon College Whitby and my view is that both schools should NOT amalgamate. I believe there should be choice in education and that if they amalgamate, there will be no choice within at least 20 miles. This would bring up a lot of questions, the main ones for me being; 'What if my child were to suffer bullying at the newly formed 'Whitby School?' Where would they turn then? There have been incidents of bullying at Caedmon College where the children have left Caedmon College and moved to Eskdale successfully. Would they be expected to go back to the terrible situation they were put into, or travel at least 20 miles, at possibly 11 years old over the moors to either Scarborough, Guisborough or Stokesley and have to pay for the privilege of this in transport costs? Surely safeguarding issues here? 'What about the community facilities which use Eskdale's site?' There are many sports take place on the fields as well as the school children of Eskdale. Where will they move to? There are so many others who will be affected if the school were to close. 'Why are you pushing it through so quickly? There has been no transparency. The Governors of Eskdale had no real choice in this. They were told that if they did not amalgamate or federate then a Governing Body would be put in who would probably close the school anyway. They had pressure put on them from CCW Governing body also. Even though their hands were tied, a new shadow governing body has been put in anyway. 'Why not give it two more years, and let Eskdale revert to original plan and complete GCSE's?' Then you will have evidence of achievements and will be able to make a more informed decision. Three sites are surely not cost effective. XX stated that the WCC and CS sites are big enough to fit everyone so why use three sites if it's big enough now? Will it be big enough with the projected number of people in the future with all the housing etc in Whitby? I don't want my child travelling across three sites, it is dangerous over the main A171 road. How about the teachers, this can't be conducive to good teaching. How do I know my child will be going to a 'good school' CCW has never had an Ofsted inspection? You say it had a one day inspection in 2015 however this was the LEA? I question the accuracy and authenticity of this as they were aware they wanted to close Eskdale at this point so would work in NYCC's favour for it to be 'good'! Eskdale was rated as RI by Ofsted. There was not enough time between inspections to see the improvement made. Eskdale is a 'good if not outstanding' school. If parents didn't think this, they would not be sending their children to Eskdale. Why, if it is not pre-determined has XX been employed as the new Head? What about interviews? Why not XX? Will all the teachers be interviewed for the jobs, or will CCW staff keep their jobs and Eskdale have to fight for the few leftover jobs once the cuts start? What about the children who have moved out of area now i.e. to Stokesley from along the Esk Valley as they have a choice? The children who are in the catchment area so fortunately have a choice so would rather send their children to Stokesley than be forced into CCW when in fact, they wanted their children to be educated in Eskdale. Is this reduction in pupil numbers factored into your plan? The feedback states that there are more children in Ainthorpe/Castleton area who have this year and plan over the next years to send their children to be educated in Stokesley. There are parents who have paid for their children to be educated outside of Whitby rather than go to CCW through either private school education and/or paying transport costs for out of catchment area schools. Looking at the wider picture, this could potentially</p>	Unknown

<p>mean that wealthier children will be educated out of Whitby and make Whitby a poorer place educationally and job wise for the future. If Eskdale were to remain open, the likelihood is that a number of parents from the Esk Valley would bring their children back to Whitby as it is a smaller school coming from smaller feeder schools=smoother transition. You know that Eskdale school isn't really a failing school even though you keep stating this. The Ofsted report does not reflect this, it reads as a good school. If it was felt that it was a failing school, why then have over 5000 people signed a petition to keep it open? The Ofsted parentview reads that it is above average that parents strongly agree that their child is happy at Eskdale school. Surely this speaks for itself? Why won't NYCC consider the option of having two viable 11-16 schools and a sixth form college which could link in with another sixth form i.e Scarborough or Guisborough or R&C college? Eskdale had a sound business plan when they secured 11-16 status. It seems that CCW will lose money so they want to take Eskdale to ensure financial viability just because they can't balance their books. Really, closing Eskdale is about money being taken from Post 16 education nothing more nothing less. NYCC state that they will find it easier to employ staff to the new 'Whitby School'? Why, most teachers I have spoke to said they would rather work in a smaller school as it is better for the children. Why do you think it will attract more staff/good teachers if they amalgamate? You don't need to attract more staff. You will have too many staff... Many members of Eskdale's staff's (all good teachers) jobs are at risk with this amalgamation as you won't need as many staff in the new enlarged school. NYCC keep insinuating that they want 'the best teachers for a great education' Eskdale staff are not great teachers???....What an insult! There are more people for the continuation of Eskdale as a single school than there are for the amalgamation. The only real winners of the amalgamation are CCW staff, NYCC staff who will be entitled to bonuses if the school amalgamate, and other stakeholders. No one else. The losers in all of this are the children, parents and staff of Eskdale who NYCC don't really care about.</p>	
<p>I have many friends who are involved with Eskdale School. With the use of the field and it means so much to so many people within Whitby.I feel that the school should remain open</p>	Unknown
<p>As more housing is built in the area, the need for a good school like Eskdael seems obvious. It is an ideal venue for a meeting place for all sorts of groups and activities. Whitby Christian Fellowship find it an excellent place and would like to continue here.</p>	Whitby Christian Fellowship
<p>We are involved with Whitby Christian Fellowship and meet every Sunday for community service. Also we run Unity Young Children's group which meets every other Saturday afternoon. I am concerned that these activities will not be able to run if Eskdale School closes. These are valued activities which serve the local & district community.</p>	Whitby Christian Fellowship
<p>I do not agree with the proposed closure of Eskdale School.</p>	Whitby Christian Fellowship
<p>If this school closes it will affect the community as well as our church, which gathers there every Sunday, as well as @ organised event.</p>	Whitby Christian Fellowship
<p>I am against the proposed closure of Eskdale School as firstly I have a daughter currently in the school. She is incredibly happy there and is suited to a smaller school. Secondly it's a terrible thought not to give choice and amalgamate the two schools making one that is far too large. The traffic will be awful and it's already bad enough now, only a matter of time before an accident occurs. Also, one meet in the school for our church group, we've always been very happy there and the staff have been really helpful, letting us use the main hall, kitchen, dining hall, field, toilets and classrooms. The school is used for lots of community groups which will not be catered for without the school premises - I hope you take into account everyones views.</p>	Whitby Christian Fellowship
<p>I am against the proposed closure of Eskdale School because I am a member of Whitby Christian Fellowship and we meet at the school. As a church, we enjoy and make use of the wonderful facilities at Eskdale. The hall, the kitchens, the outside space. I am also a leader of the Children's group Unity and we meet at Eskdale, which is great. Not only do I disagree with the idea of closure for a school perspective, but we as a church and as 'Unity' make good use of the school. There is the potential for other community groups to use Eskdale as well, and also keeping the school open gives Whitby families greater choice as to where they send their children to be educated. Many thanks.</p>	Whitby Christian Fellowship
<p>I am against the closure of the school. The location is fantastic & all children & parents I have spoken to have been and are happy with the services/education that the school provides.</p>	Whitby Christian Fellowship
<p>I am against the closure of the school as it provides a great facility for the community.</p>	Whitby Christian Fellowship
<p>I am against the closure of the school. In regard to Whitby Christian Fellowship, we are a community based church meeting in Eskdale School hall - it is isolated from town based churches and needed to reach local families. We have a large impact in the local children /youth. I would be grateful if consideration could be given to my comments.</p>	Whitby Christian Fellowship

We want the school to stay open as we use it as a church! We also have four children due to go to Eskdale School over the coming years - the eldest due to start this September.	Whitby Christian Fellowship
We want the school to stay open as we use it as a church! We also have four children due to go to Eskdale School over the coming years - the eldest due to start this September.	Whitby Christian Fellowship
I believe that it is in the best interests of the learners in Whitby to be given an 11-16 secondary school & a sixth form. I am therefore in favour of the amalgamation between Eskdale school and Caedmon College Whitby.	Work for alternative Education & support Eskdale & College pupils
- [] Why does Eskdale have to close to fund the sixth form? Here is some pretty shocking results. Information received from the Department for Education CCW in 2015 only 53% of pupils achieved 3 A Levels at A* - E. That is pretty poor compared to other sc	Concerned member of community
The school buildings and its grounds are an asset in countless ways to Whitby, once lost they will never be replaced. They should not be squandered. Once sold, I suspect that the money will go mainly towards plugging some hole in the council pension scheme. Shame on you councillors and politicians! Please please try and see a bigger and longer term future for your lovely town!	Friend
Are you aware that planning permission has been granted at Sneaton Castle for up to 246 new homes? Section 106 agreement gives money to Stakesby School so that they can accommodate some fifty+ new students expected when the building is completed and houses occupied. This is just the tip of the iceberg, there must be at least an equal number of children over 11 years over expected, where exactly do you plan them to complete their education up to 16 if you close Eskdale. Some 100+ Family homes are well on the way to completion on Helredale Playing field, plus those being built on the Eskdale Park estate. The closest school is Eskdale, why close it when the number of students in its catchment area will increase in the very near future? Have you thought this plan through properly? I think not.	Concerned member of community
Whitby school children need choice. Eskdale school is an excellent school and should stay open. Clubs also use the site for various things, football, archery, running etc. I do not agree with having one school in Whitby!	Grandparent
Please, please reconsider what seems to be a done deal and think again about the young people of Whitby. They and their families need a real choice. I taught at East Whitby CP School for many years. This is important to the community of the whole town, but vastly more so the the East side community. The town is unique in its location. Narrowing the choice of secondary provision to one school only will pose problems for many families and could ultimately drive people out of the town. Eskdale and Caedmon Schools each have their own merits. Please keep choice in the town. One school will never be the best place for all!	Past teacher
Object. Pupils should have a choice of school. It is bad enough that Caedmon and Whitby have already amalgamated with reports that pupils and teachers are struggling with the multi site school.	Past pupil Caedmon
Children need a local education, however if Eskdale is closed the facilities within the town would not be able to cope, children will have no choice but to go to Scarborough or beyond. This is only based on the observations I had when I lived there, but with new property developments the problem will only get worse. Closing Eskdale will cause more and more children to get an education outside of Whitby. Closing Eskdale will only damage the education of Whitby's children and there will be no local benefits.	Past pupil Caedmon
I disagree with the proposed amalgamation between Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby. There are hundreds of new homes been built in Whitby and especially near Eskdale School in Whitby and although at present there is spare capacity at both secondary schools I would like to know where all these extra families children will go to secondary school. The future growth of Whitby is one factor NYCC need to consider carefully, when making the future choice of education for our children. I would like to see two secondary school in Whitby, one 11-16 and one 11-19. NYCC could then dispose of one of the Caedmon College sites, keeping the sporting facilities. Then both secondary schools could be managed separately but could work closely to ensure all children's needs	Primary parent

of Whitby are met. The video of Eskdale school showed very positive things, and the ethos in which many children want to keep whilst attending this school. As a parent I feel our views need to be listened to and the voice of the children which are Whitby's next generation. The support to keep this school open and keep the different opportunities available to children is important. Eskdale School offers a range of different opportunities for all the children who attend it, where Caedmon College are unable to due to its size. Eskdale School can offer all children to be part of a Drama production incorporating the Stephen Joseph Theatre in Scarborough, and Music opportunities for all children at different times throughout the year and many sporting trials for different sports such as Tennis, Cross Country, Hockey, Netball, Gymnastics and currently Volleyball. I would like the NYCC executive committee to consider the two school's option keeping Eskdale School and Caedmon college Separate and this would give my daughter and all of the children in Whitby Choice, Challenge and Competition.	
I disagree with the proposed Amalgamation of Eskdale School with Caedmon College Whitby. My son is in year 2 at a local primary school and I would like him to attend Eskdale School in Whitby. If Eskdale School closes I will be forced to apply for Lady Lumleys School or Scalby School due to no choice been in Whitby.	Primary parent
I disagree with the proposed Amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby. My son needs choice and I feel if you close Eskdale School this will force me to take my son out of the area to attend another secondary School when the time comes.	Primary parent
Whitby deserves choice, although I attended the old Caedmon School, I feel my daughter deserves a choice for her education in Whitby. I disagree with the Proposed Amalgamation between Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby.	Pre-school parent
My daughter will attend a small rural primary school, and I want her to have the choice to attend Eskdale School. I disagree with the proposed Amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon college Whitby. All the children of Whitby deserves a choice within their education.	Pre-school parent
My children currently attend Caedmon College Whitby and my son is due to start in September 2016. I do not want Eskdale School to Amalgamate with Caedmon College Whitby. My son was bullied at secondary and the pupil who bullied him is due to attend Eskdale and if this Amalgamation goes ahead I will have to apply for another secondary school out of the area. As I do not want this pupil to be at school with my son. Whitby needs choice of secondary School	Past pupil Eskdale
The town of Whitby needs a choice in secondary education. Both secondary schools have special qualities. it is essential both secondary schools remain open. I disagree with the proposed amalgamation of Eskdale School and Caedmon College.	Grandparent
I am strongly against this proposal for the amalgamation of Eskdale and Caedmon College Whitby. After being disappointed when being told that I could not stay at Eskdale for my GCSEs, I had no choice but to go to Caedmon College Whitby. However, having heard that my brother could stay on at Eskdale, I was relieved that at least he had the choice. Eskdale staying open means this as well as a choice, there is competition between the two schools resulting in higher standards and better education. DON'T CLOSE ESKDALE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! WE NEED CHOICE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	Past pupil Eskdale
I strongly disagree with this proposal x 3	Various
Listen to the children of Whitby. They have made it clear what their choice is. The Eskdale School needs to remain open for the present & future generations. They are happy at this school. I disagree with the amalgamation!	Grandparent
Student choice. It has taken many generations to achieve 'a right to choose school situation'. The proposed closure clearly breaks down this purpose. (Closure of Eskdale School). Also there appears to be more than a hint of political intention to identify the site for selling off for housing development. A child's education must be the ultimate priority in any society not 'capital gain'. I do not agree with this amalgamation.	Grandparent
No text supplied x 121	Various

A Future for Education in Whitby

XX

I would like this report to be considered as part of the consultation for the proposed amalgamation between Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby.

This report is intentionally brief but provides the blueprint for the future of post-11 education in Whitby

Background:

The Education Act 1988 radically changed the British approach to education policy. The establishment of the quasi-market placed parental choice and parent power at the very heart education – the most important aspect of social policy to the vast majority of British families.

‘Marketisation’, in the form of a quasi-market, has proven to be successful. Nowhere is this more the case than in Whitby. At the heart of North Yorkshire County Council’s proposed amalgamation is the argument that an expansion of Eskdale School will prove harmful to wider education in Whitby. The reason for this is because Whitby parents are choosing Eskdale School at the educational establishment for their children’s 14-16 education. Moreover, this issue seems to have been given greater prevalence as a result of Eskdale being so popular as to attract a considerable number of students for its 14-16 courses which would begin this September.

Successive governments have supported the mantra of ‘choice’ and Whitby parents have taken advantage of this. However, by enjoying a greater extent of choice, NYCC has decreed that this produces a fundamental challenge to the sustainability of education in Whitby.

The Department for Education’s recent *Educational Excellence Everywhere* espouses the virtues of freedom and choice in education (with considerable amounts dedicated to approaches for parents to establish entirely new free schools) but ironically this is being robbed from Whitby parents just as so many others will enjoy it in greater measure. This is fundamentally unfair.

This document recognises that there are financial challenges to be overcome to ensure sustainable 11-19 education in Whitby but, unlike North Yorkshire County Council, recognises the benefits of the quasi-market and parental choice. This document set out how excellent education in Whitby can be sustained whilst choice is protected.

The 1988 Education Act established the quasi-market to give power to parents. Further reforms introduced OFSTED and school league tables, these were to be the means by which parents’ choices could be guided. Sadly, NYCC fails to understand this relationship and has directly intervened to amalgamate schools in Whitby.

Many parents do not believe that the County Council are infallible with regard to this matter and it is noticeable that the Government has very recently pushed for further autonomy for schools through ‘academisation’. This ensures that local government’s role in education is severely reduced and the Government believe that this is a good thing

Unknown

'Educational Excellence Everywhere'

The Government's latest white paper published in March 2016 mentioned the term 'choice' fourteen times and did not refer to 'amalgamation' once. Ms Nicky Morgan, Secretary of State for Education, even refers to 'the importance of parental choice'.

The Government's approach: autonomy to drive up standards for all

*"This white paper sets out our approach to achieving educational excellence everywhere: putting the best leaders at the heart of the school system, **with the support to thrive; recruiting and developing great teachers wherever they are needed**; setting high expectations for all – supported by fair, stretching accountability measures; and enabling pupils, parents, and communities to demand more from their schools."*

"We believe that the fastest and most sustainable way for schools to improve is for government to trust this country's most effective education leaders, giving them freedom and power, and holding them to account for unapologetically high standards for every child, measured rigorously and fairly"

Collaboration is supported and this is stated to be a good thing. However, this is to be done through Multi-Academy Trusts. Something that NYCC seems to dismiss flippantly in its report and states that this is a 'longer term solution'.

Going further on choice, the Government **"will support the establishment of new schools to drive up standards and stimulate competition. We will build upon the success of the free school programme to open at least 500 new schools by 2020"**

"As well as taking action to transform underperforming schools, it is important to support the establishment of new schools to drive up standards, stimulate competition, and ultimately allow parents and communities to demand more for their children." – So why can't Whitby?

Two schools-Two sites:

NYCC's proposed amalgamation document was very clear in favouring a one-school solution based over two sites. The financial analysis suggested that this would be best achieved through the technical-closure of Eskdale School and establishing the new Whitby School over the Normanby and Scoresby sites (currently belonging to Caedmon College Whitby).

This approach, it is claimed, is the most cost-effective approach to ensuring Whitby can continue offering sustainably outstanding or good education. Whilst this may be the case, this approach restricts choice dramatically and creates something of a 'closed-shop' in local post-11 education.

Financial sustainability and choice can be achieved through the closure and selling-off of the Scoresby site. This would mean two separate schools each on its own site. One 11-16 provider and one 11-19 provider.

The Scoresby site is generally believed to be more valuable than the Eskdale site: given that it is on the West side of town and is surrounded by a considerable amount of land. It is certainly conceivable that the astro-turf pitches could be retained and used to a greater extent by the wider community.

Given that the pitches were constructed and located at Caedmon School with the explicit instructions that they were to be used by Caedmon School, Eskdale School and Whitby Community College, there is no reason why the pitches should automatically be associated with Caedmon College.

NYCC's proposed amalgamation is explicitly clear that the financial costs of redeveloping the Normanby site to include those displaced from the closure of the Scoresby site would be quite low: circa £160,000. It must also be remembered that this approach, whereby the Scoresby site is sold for development, would mean less students at Caedmon College as a result of Eskdale School providing 11-16 education. Regardless, this redevelopment cost would be significantly lower than the capital receipt from the sale of the Scoresby site.

The funds remaining could be employed by both Caedmon College and Eskdale School to invest sustainably in providing excellent education whilst retaining parental choice.

New Funding:

It would be particularly bitter for Eskdale School to be closed just as new funding formulas are being introduced by the Government to ensure that under-funded schools, in areas such as North Yorkshire, are given a fairer deal. Eskdale School, like Caedmon College, does have a funding deficit but this would be seriously reduced were new funding formulas in place. Using suggested figures, it would be the case that Eskdale School would be almost in surplus by 2017/18. This may not be the case for Caedmon College but it is important to remember the windfall both schools should receive from the selling of the Scoresby site.

Whilst it may be claimed that it is unfair for Eskdale to benefit from the sale of the Scoresby site, this would be incorrect given that its very existence was put in question as a result of Caedmon College being financially-unsustainable to a greater extent. Sale of the Scoresby site would also mean that Whitby no longer had a considerable excess of post-11 capacity.

F40 Funding:

NYCC give the following figures for forecast In-Year Deficits

	2016/17 Deficit	2017/18 Deficit
Caedmon College	£180,000	£320,000
Eskdale School	£134,000	£103,000
Combined	£314,000	£423,000

Using NYCC's figures for pupil rolls and applying the new F40 funding formula. North Yorkshire will benefit from the new formula and according to the Government's latest proposal released in March 2016, this is expected to be worth £191 per student.

Were the formula to apply from next year, the table would resemble:

	2016/17 Deficit	2017/18 Deficit
Caedmon College	-£2,000	£158,000
Eskdale School	£56,000	£6,000
Combined	£54,000	£164,000

There remains a deficit and it is accepted that F40 funding will not apply immediately. However, these deficits should be considered in the context of selling off Scoresby site (the old Caedmon College site). This site is anticipated to attract a higher premium than the Eskdale School site and NYCC's figures suggest what would be required to ensure that the Normanby site could be expanded to increase student capacity.

This change would mean that two sites are used for secondary education in Whitby, but two-separate schools would persist.

The funds raised from this sale could be used to increase investment in Whitby education and provide very strong financial support for both Caedmon College and Eskdale School. Such funding could ensure broader curriculum choices with the ability to retain staff whilst ensuring that choice between schools is retained.

However, it is concerning that NYCC has not provided any figures for the anticipated in-year deficits of the potential 'Whitby School'. Therefore, it is not clear that such an amalgamation will improve the financial position. A position NYCC are clear is needed if Whitby is to offer young people broad curriculum choice and possess the ability to hire and retain teachers.

Conclusion:

- The Department for Education believes that choice between schools is the key to providing successful education
- North Yorkshire County Council comprehends the financial challenges that face the future of post-11 education in Whitby

The only way to set out a plan for the future of education in Whitby which achieves these two points is by retaining two separate schools and selling off one site.

If this is to be pursued, it is obvious that Eskdale School and Caedmon College will provide the two separate schools, and the Scoresby site must be sold off to protect the financial sustainability of Whitby's post-11 education.

This is unproblematic given that:

- Parents retain choice
- The Normanby site will require little development to increase capacity to accommodate students displaced from the Scoresby site
- The Scoresby site is highly desirable and valuable for developers
- There will no longer be a large amount of 'extra capacity' in Whitby for post-11 education

<p>During the consultation meetings held in March, XX, Corporate Director for Children and Young People's Services at NYCC stated that the Council were open to suggestions proposing alternative arrangements that satisfied the 'key considerations' in the amalgamation document produced in February 2016. The approach detailed above satisfies this and provides a more than adequate blueprint for the future of post-11 education in Whitby</p> <p>The vast majority of Whitby parents are clear about what they want for our educational offering and it is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caedmon College Whitby: 11-19 provider • Eskdale School: 11-16 provider <p>I certainly believe that this is the most effective and cost-efficient way to proceed with post-11 education in Whitby and have yet to come across evidence to suggest otherwise.</p> <p><u>I would be happy to respond to any points raised concerning the above document.</u></p>	
<p>I would like you to read my letter please to think about my personal situation which I think may be important to other pupils now and in the future. I am a year 6 pupil at Lythe Church of England school I am extremely happy at my school which feels happy and full of light. I have a lot of lovely friends. I am involved in lots of activities and I feel that I am an important member of the school. In my last school report I was told that my work and progress is better than what is expected of somebody my age. I have not always been happy at school. From nursery until year 4 I went to another school in the village where I live. I enjoyed some parts of this school but I did not like a lot of it. I had one real friend at this school. There was one other person who made me laugh and that was my teacher in class 3. I wanted to be friends with people my own age but they did not make me feel happy and I felt that they did not want to be my friend. I felt very lonely and for many days my mum and dad had to force me to go to school. They spoke to school about it but it did not feel right for me. There were times that I felt trapped. When I got to the end of year 4 I was really worried about going into class 4 because I would not have the one teacher who made me feel safe. My mum and dad asked me if I wanted to look around a different school. It felt scary but I was so sad I wanted to try. It was one of the best decisions I have ever made. My school life is completely different. It was also my decision to choose which school I went to in year 7. I chose Eskdale because it has the same happy feeling that Lythe school has. It made me feel safe and happy. When I have been into Eskdale to visit, I already felt like I was part of it. The teachers are happy and the pupils all look like they are having so much fun learning. I have Type 1 diabetes so it is important that all the staff know me in case of emergency. It is a very difficult thing to deal with every day and sometimes it is hard. Some days it makes me sad. I need to know that everybody in my school understands this. My brother is in year 8 at Eskdale and he comes home happy every day telling us what he has been doing and he is doing so well in his subjects. I am really worried about the letter from Eskdale Governors which came home from my school last week. I don't know what is going to happen now. I am doing my SATS soon and I don't need any more worries. I am worried that if there is one school I might be unhappy like I was in my first primary school. I want to carry on loving my learning like I have learnt to do at Lythe. I am worried that if I am a small person in a massive school that the people who work there won't know me well enough to understand my Type 1 diabetes or me! There are probably more children like me in year 6. In a few months I will be starting secondary school and I don't know what is happening. There will be more children in year 6 now and more in the future who might need to decide to go to a different school for lots of different reasons. I have been looking forward to going to Eskdale school and now I might have my decision taken away. I am scared what I am going to do and what will happen to me. Thank you for reading my letter.</p>	Primary pupil
<p>Dear Sir/Madam, When I heard that Eskdale School might be closing, mixed thoughts came into my head. I've been to look round both Eskdale and Caedmon on all their open events in the last couple of years and for me it seemed that the teachers, the layout of the site and the atmosphere suited me better at Eskdale School than at Caedmon. I've been looking forward to moving up to secondary school ever since I got into year 5 and I'm now upset about</p>	Primary pupil

<p>what's happening. I have recently moved primary schools from Fylingdales as I had a bad experience with bullies and I didn't feel as if the teachers were helping me with this and work that I was struggling with. Since starting at Lythe School, I have regained my confidence and feel happy about the choice I made and if I don't go to the right secondary school I am scared that this could happen again but this time there will be no other choice. I have friends at both Eskdale and Caedmon and I would hate to see either school close as I can see that these are the right schools for them. There is not one type of child and this is why I think it is so important to have these 2 very different schools. I am thinking that, if Eskdale sadly closes, I would have to travel a lot further to find the right school for me, as I have already decided that it is not going to be Caedmon! Why should I have to do that? I have been getting very upset and tearful about this, as I know a lot of my friends have. The thought of not being able to go to the school of my choice is just something I don't want to think about because it gives me such a horrible feeling. No one seems to have thought about informing us children about what is truly going on and really WE are the important ones who it affects the most! Please, please do something about this to keep this happy school going for me and all my friends who have chosen to go there.</p>	
<p>My name is X & I am a year 6 pupil at Lythe CofE school. As it is a church school it is a great place to learn, laugh, care and I have a great bunch of friends & teachers. I want to continue to be respected and to achieve to the best of my ability, be able to learn, laugh and care in year 7 and above...but in the school that I want to go to not the school that other people want me to go to. All I want is for my friends to continue their learning journey at the school that they chose because they trusted and believed that Eskdale School is for them, and me. I don't want to merge with anyone or go out of the area, I wish to be happy and if I'm happy then I will learn. I want to continue achieving and I believe that Eskdale can help me do that. Why take it away...doesn't every child matter. Thank you for reading my letter.</p>	Primary pupil
<p>My name is XX, I am in year 6 at Lythe School. I was really looking forward to going to Eskdale School with my friends. If Eskdale closes I wouldn't have a choice as to which school I go to. I do not want to go to Caedmon. It has made me really sad.</p>	Primary pupil
<p>I am XX. I am a year six pupil at Lythe CE VC primary school. I chose Eskdale school because it feels really homely and the teachers and students are great. I think Eskdale should stay open because one secondary school does not give anyone a choice and if it does close what about all the pupils that are going to take their GCSEs? When I first looked around Eskdale I knew straight away it was the perfect school for me. I was so happy I had a choice but now that choice may be taken away from me. I am very worried that I will only have one choice of secondary school. Please don't close Eskdale school everyone should have a choice.</p>	Primary pupil
<p>The report and the subsequent FAQs and presentation at the Spa are riddled with inaccuracies and misleading information, produced to reach a predetermined outcome. It is clear that XX and XX have constructed this consultation together and are in cahoots when it comes to the education of Whitby. Since Eskdale decided to go 11-16 they have set out to stop this, and the events around Ofsted do not fill me with confidence as to the agenda NYCC had when giving 'support' in school to achieve a good Ofsted. It is also concerning about the safeguarding and behaviour issues at CCW and why despite considerable evidence over the last 8 or so years that XX has not been held to account by NYCC. It is apparent that XX has been fully aware of the issues but has chosen to ignore them - for what reason, (maybe his own liaisons?) but then the issue is made worse by NYCC failing in their duty of care and ignoring what are clearly serious issues - again for what reason? Therefore NYCC are letting down the children of Whitby in many key ways and the issues need to be clearly addressed as a matter of due process, in The Director of Education and his relationship with CCW, and his relationship with the Head Teacher. They are known to play golf together and to have many off the record discussions about Eskdale School. Using powers of threat to elicit the response they require is unacceptable and illegal and should be investigated forth with. I do hope that all replies to this process are going to be available to the public and that the completion of forms by CCW students in lessons with the 'support' of teaching staff is going to be highlighted and such forms counted as void due to the bias of their submission?</p>	Unknown

SAVE ESKDALE SCHOOL
CAMPAIGN GROUP



RESPONSE DOCUMENT

TO

REORGANISATION OF SECONDARY
EDUCATION IN WHITBY

(9 February 2016)

(UPDATED VERSION - ENCLOSURE 2)

Purpose of the Report

(1.0) This is in essence biased and assumes a predetermined outcome. It should be about considering all options of how to improve secondary education standards in Whitby. It should not just be the LA's long-standing view to have one secondary school in Whitby, by closing Eskdale School.

Executive Summary

(2.1) The report states that it would be in the "*best interests of children*", and "*that a single organisation would most likely secure high quality provision*". How can proposing a single school on a split site, separated by a major arterial road and by a distance of one kilometre, be their best interests?

Decision making needs to be evidence based and not on "likelihoods" as continually stated throughout the report.

If you were to take the time to listen to the students in both establishments (after all this is the message that you promote in your Young and Yorkshire 2014-17 publication) the vast majority tell you that they do not want this.

(2.2) The report states that Caedmon School and Whitby Community College successfully federated in 2010. Success cannot be claimed, when in 2014, Caedmon School went on to get Requires Improvement (RI) in all four areas, of their Ofsted report.

The statement that Eskdale School governors "had engaged positively" is misleading, and consequently at the end of the process they concluded it was not the best for Eskdale School and its pupils.

(2.3) Why is the fact that the school was judged to require improvement again a cause for "*concern regarding pupil numbers and financial viability*". Until last year when catchment areas were reorganised Caedmon School had a much larger potential intake from its feeder Primary Schools. In spite of this Eskdale has gradually increased its intake compared with Caedmon College. It is interesting to note that in 2014/15 when the catchment areas were the same for both schools Caedmon College had an intake of 119 students and Eskdale 111 students.

The County Council reservations are not about the Ofsted Report – they are about the financial issues, which will affect the numbers at Caedmon College. What evidence is there to support the claim that the proposed change of age range for Eskdale would have an impact at "*Key Stage 4 and 5, based on the ability of the school to move successfully in to Key Stage 4 teaching*"? Many of the staff have recently taught at Key Stage 4. In addition all teachers are trained at all stages of secondary teaching and with the new GCSE curriculums coming on stream in September 2016 all schools will be starting at the same point. It is our belief that if Eskdale were to be allowed to pursue its aim of becoming an 11-16 school that the results that it would achieve would be better than that of Caedmon College Whitby (CCW). This is based on past performance of Eskdale students at GCSE compared with Caedmon College's own students (See table 3). Whilst the current average of 63% for Caedmon College might be very slightly above the average for North Yorkshire and the national average, the results for Caedmon College have fluctuated over the years and it was only 59% the previous year. There is no guarantee that these results will be maintained in future years, if past performance is anything to go on. Therefore your statement that Caedmon College provides good quality teaching is not backed up by these results and statistics.

The age range change at Eskdale (after several years of constant blocking and interference by NYCC) due to be implemented September 2016 would increase its numbers in the following 2 years, from 320 currently to over 500. This would make the school up to capacity, resulting in no concerns about pupil numbers at Eskdale School and resulting in financial security. The Director of Education told Eskdale Governors that NYCC would not stand in the way of the 11-16 proposals.

(2.4) NYCC approached Eskdale School after their second Ofsted RI rating, giving them the limited options of amalgamation or federation. It was the governors' beliefs that if Eskdale School federated with Caedmon College, the newly federated school would then go on to decide to close the Eskdale School site. This would effectively be the same as amalgamation into a single school. If the governors did not agree to either of these options, the LA „threatened“ to use their powers of intervention and remove the governing body. This would then have allowed the LA to move on with its plan for a single school in Whitby. Whichever way they turned it would result in the same final result. How could these discussions be described as positive when the Eskdale School governors were threatened and given an ultimatum by NYCC?

Background

(3.1) There is no mention here of Caedmon College Whitby's plans to form a Multi Academy Trust (MAT), which they have been planning for the last three years. They announced their proposal last year and at that stage they invited, informally (not directly to the governing bodies), all the local feeder schools to join them. Not at the embryonic stages where all could input ideas and ethos, so forming a true, integrated, cohesive, multi academy trust where all are equal partners. As a result, none of the local primary schools were interested at that time. CCW discussed the MAT plans again on the 2nd December 2015, prior to seeing the Director of Education and this proposal, yet the report fails to mention it? The plans are still on the table simply waiting till after the amalgamation.

(3.2) "A single organisation is most likely to secure high quality provision across the area". Again there is no evidence to support this claim. There is however, a great deal of evidence to suggest that large institutions do exactly the opposite. For example even in North Yorkshire if you compare the average of five of the smallest schools in the county with five of the largest your evidence does not stand up to scrutiny (see table 1 below).

TABLE 1					
Schools below 650 students		5 A*-C	Larger Schools (above 1000 students)		5 A*-C
Bedale	648	68%	Graham	1200	36%
Harrogate High	567	52%	King James	1671	63%
Ryedale	600	76%	Rossett	1522	68%
St Augustine	528	61%	South Craven	1755	55%
St Francis Xavier	466	73%	Selby	1103	61%
Average		66%	Average		56%

The suggestion that "*..if Eskdale were to amalgamate that curriculum choice and options would improve and be more flexible*", is completely without foundation. Regarding options especially at Key Stage 5 Caedmon College offers one of the most limited ranges of courses in North Yorkshire; this cannot be down to any other factors than poor management and financial planning.

"The opportunity for a joint ambitious and visionary offer of education in Whitby that would drive standards to be outstanding".

No information is included as to how this would happen and with whom – the current leadership at Caedmon College do not have a proven track record. Previous involvement by WCC at Filey School made the situation worse. Is this empire building, over the needs of the future students?

"Deliver a coherent curriculum 11-19/The potential for students to experience an uninterrupted learning experience from age 11 through to 19, in keeping with many other students nationally"

Most schools have a transition point at 16; one doesn't have to look very far to see examples (Scarborough and York). There will still be a transition point at some stage due the split site set-up at CCW.

"A coherent approach to teaching and learning/the opportunity to share the best from each school/opportunities for enhancing CPD"

Staff would be made redundant – will this include non-qualified teaching staff, who, despite redundancies from the previous merger, still remain employed at CCW? Can you demonstrate how this will be achieved? CPD is not about being able to teach A Levels and non-specialist subjects

"The opportunity to increase the ability to recruit and retain the very best staff"

Eskdale has not had a problem with recruitment and with new GCSE teaching posts about to be advertised, this would have extend opportunities. Staff love Eskdale and retention is definitely not a problem. Staff movement is usually due to retirement or moving from the area. There is no evidence that a combined school would recruit or retain any more?

"The opportunity to be more flexible when to start GCSE and A level courses"

This is an irrelevant comment as Eskdale could be flexible as when to start GCSEs.

"The opportunity to make efficiencies in the use of scarce resources - to balance the books without detriment to either curriculum choice or front line teaching".

This is the reason for the proposal - to infill 6th form (KS5) finances – there is no evidence that it will solve any problems in the medium/longer term.

"The opportunity to be more flexible with setting, curriculum choices and options"

The proposal does not come up with any suggestions as to how this would occur? It doesn't take into account the new restrictions that Progress 8 and the English Baccalaureate (EBacc) impose on the curriculum and the choices available.

(3.3) States that both schools face financial challenges, however, Eskdale is more secure due to their plan of 11-16, thus increasing pupil numbers. Looking at the figures in 4.7 the financial position of Caedmon College, the deficit is nearly doubling from £180k to £320k, where as Eskdale is reducing from £134k to £108k. Also these

figures do include the age range change in September 2016, so Eskdale figures would be much stronger with an increase in pupil numbers and Caedmon College would be much worse?

(3.4) 2010 - Proposal for federation – there were objections. However in 2010 NYCC clearly stated, in said document that “a total of 20 written responses were received, expressing a variety of views. Whilst 11 were supportive of the principle of federation, 3 were neutral or provided no view and 6 were not supportive.” Furthermore the following was noted -

“An alternative proposal has been made by some consultees that one or two 11-16 schools and a sixth form college be established”

(3.5) Eskdale School-Change of Age Range and Academy Conversion

“That it would create an additional transition at age 16 for some students remaining at school for A Levels”

It is very common to have a transition point at 16 (Scarborough, York etc.) – it is a natural transition point as students choose between 6th Form, FE College and apprenticeships/training at this point. It would not be additional had Eskdale not been halted with their GCSE plans by the consultation process.

Currently about 40% of pupils leave Caedmon College after their GCSE’s to pursue other options, which is lower than the national average. However a further 10% leave after a year.

“There was no guarantee that this would lead to an improvement...”

Why and how could/can NYCC be so sure what the future will bring? There is no evidence that there would not have been an improvement in standards if Eskdale achieved their Academy conversion and age range change. Indeed there should have been more data evidence of improvements since Eskdale would be providing GCSE’s and would have a recognised testing to prove their position. The support of the David Ross Foundation, an experienced academy chain, would have provided strong impartial support to the school.

“Eskdale has no experience of offering GCSE”.

As mentioned earlier, all teaching staff have been trained and qualified for all aspects of secondary education. There has been a very conscious effort by Eskdale governors to recruit staff with Key Stage 4 experience and as a result a number of the staff that have joined Eskdale recently from other schools with previous relevant experience of teaching GCSEs. Other staff used to teach at Whitby Community College.

In addition Eskdale has provided some GCSE courses in recent years; in particular it has offered GCSE statistics to Year 9 students as an afterschool activity for a number of years with excellent results, especially when taking into account all these students are Year 9 students and therefore gaining the qualification 2 years ahead of time.

Eskdale Statistics GCSE 2011-14			
A*	A	B	C
7	28	51	25

With the new GCSE syllabus's starting in September 2106 most staff have already attended training courses. Timetabling for September and the teaching of the GCSEs would have reflected this experience.

The National Association of Small Schools tells us that up to 50% of educational outcomes reflect quality of teaching but the rest is home background. Larger numbers make it distinctly difficult to build the parent partnerships so natural in small schools and that remains the best answer to the growing concern about the very nature of childhood. It is clearly evident if you refer to recent events that Eskdale has the parents supporting them.

"Eskdale may not have specialist facilities"

Which GCSE courses are you suggesting Eskdale would not have the "specialist facilities" to teach, which were not included in Eskdale School's 11-16 plan?

With recent improvements to science labs, technology, and music rooms, together with the proposed refurbishment of the food technology room that NYCC were going to fund in August 2016. All the GCSEs that Eskdale intended to run had been accounted for and planning was well underway. This statement is speculative and unfounded.

"The proposal would have impact on the finances of Caedmon College".

Why is it therefore that schools such as Lady Lumley's Pickering, Malton and Norton all have fewer students on roll than Caedmon College, they also have a sixth form. This is clearly not down to Eskdale and is the crux of NYCC's issue with Eskdale School's proposal to become 11-16. In Eskdale School's 11-16 financial plans, all capital funding was accounted for. NYCC have chosen not to make extra capital available to Eskdale because it is not in their "longstanding and publically expressed view" to have two secondary schools in Whitby.

The decision by the Department for Education (DfE) in March 2014 not permitting Eskdale to become an Academy was also heavily influenced by NYCC's "longstanding and publically expressed view" that a single secondary school in Whitby was the best option. The viability concerns have always seemed less about Eskdale School and more about the old Whitby Community College. It was about NYCC preferentially looking after the interests of the other school. The DfE suggest that "*allowing local decision-making to continue to best decide upon a structural solution that will meet the educational needs in the area.*" The community has strongly shown its support to saving Eskdale School through coming together via social media, a petition signed by over 5000 people and a protest march through Whitby of 500 people demonstrating „Choice“. The „local decision“ is to continue the choice in Whitby and keep Eskdale School open alongside CCW.

(4.1) Numbers on roll

If the amalgamation were to go ahead in September with a net capacity of 1579 and a student population of 1387 this would mean that the school would be at about 90% capacity. This in theory sounds fine, however, in practical terms it will probably mean larger class sizes than at present, because of the financial forecast for Caedmon College. It will also mean insufficient science laboratories, art rooms, music rooms workshops food technology rooms, when Eskdale School closes and all students are taught at Caedmon College.

For the purpose of this example we will look at food technology. The only provision is one classroom/kitchen at the Scoresby site so assuming that all Year 7, 8 and 9 students continue food technology and there are at least two Year 10/11 GCSE groups as currently, there is not enough capacity (see table 2). So yet another subject would be restricted and unavailable to many students who wish to study it!

In addition the fact that food technology is only available on one of the sites means disabled students in Key Stage 4 could not access it due to the need to move between the sites.

TABLE 2								
Year 7 250 students		Year 8 220 Students		Year 9 226 students		Year 10 40 Students		Year 11 40 Students
10 Groups X 20		9 Groups x 20		9 Groups x 20		2 Groups x 20		2 Groups X 20
10 Lessons		9 Lessons		9 Lessons		8 Lessons		8 Lessons
Total Lessons Required		44 Lessons				Lessons available (per week)		30 Lessons

The DfE stated in its response to Eskdale's request to become an academy "we believe the local decision process should be allowed to continue to provide opportunity to encompass further options involving all secondary schools in the Whitby area" – that clearly includes the option for Eskdale to become 11- 16.

(4.2) Admissions

What are the admissions numbers for pupils who live within the catchment area of Caedmon College, but choose to be educated elsewhere? Anecdotally secondary pupils also choose to go to Pickering, Stokesley, Guisborough or Scarborough. There will be more movement if Eskdale is forced to close.

(4.3) Inspection

If as a result of a local authority review in October 2014 "it was thought that Eskdale would remain in RI", why was nothing done by NYCC to address the problem. Why is it that over the last few years a large number of East Coast schools have not received very positive Ofsted reports?

Clearly, Filey and Graham schools did not receive a great deal of positive intervention either. Even when Whitby Community College was in Special Measures it was not required to close down.

It should be noted that when KS3 SATS were compulsory, both Eskdale and Caedmon school were rated in the top 10% of schools in the country and for several years Eskdale was in the top 5%. This was mainly down to competition between the schools which resulted in standards rising, something that will be sadly lacking if this proposed merger were to go ahead. With regards to Caedmon College's GCSE results being above the national benchmark and North Yorkshire average, this is mainly due to the influence that Eskdale School students have on the statistics with Eskdale students outperforming Caedmon College students.

TABLE 3			
2014 GCSE results		Ex-Eskdale Students	All of CCW students
% Achieving 5 A*- C GCSE inc Eng & maths		62	59
% Achieving 5 A*- C GCSE		70	65
% A*- C in English		72	70
% A* -C in Maths		71	68

It should be noted that Caedmon College has **never** been inspected.

In the last report for Whitby Community College in 2013 (over 27 months ago) Ofsted stated " *the proportion of students achieving five or more GCSE passes at grades A* to C, including English and mathematics, increased to above average as a result of leaders' focus on improving the quality of teaching. College data indicates this improving trend will continue*". If looking at the 3 year rolling average the position is not so good. What actually happened was that in 2014 standards dropped to 58%. When compared to the rest of North Yorkshire. CCW's results do not fare well and consistently missed their target of 68% students achieving A* - C (inc. English and maths). In 2014, CCW's result was in the bottom 40% of similar schools' results. The pupils of all schools in the same similar schools group have similar prior attainment and therefore those schools are predicted to achieve similar outcomes for their pupils. The results show that Caedmon College students are underachieving.

It should also be remembered that the „old“ Caedmon School's Ofsted was poorer than Eskdale School's at the same time – an issue that NYCC seem to have forgotten for the purpose of this report (see below). The previous merger saved it from being re-inspected within the same time restrictions as Eskdale.

School report

Ofsted
raising standards
improving lives

Caedmon School

Airy Hill, Whitby, North Yorkshire, YO21 1QA

Inspection dates 15–16 January 2014

	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Overall effectiveness	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Achievement of pupils		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching		Requires improvement	3
Behaviour and safety of pupils		Requires improvement	3
Leadership and management		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents and pupils

This is a school that requires improvement. It is not good because

- The progress of students for whom the pupil premium funding provides support and those with special educational needs is not good.
- Achievement in mathematics requires improvement. Opportunities for students to practise and develop their skills in numeracy are often missed by teachers. There are weaknesses in students' mathematical skills as a consequence.
- Teaching is not good enough overall to ensure rapid progress for all students because there is too much inconsistency across the curriculum subjects.
- A small number of students behave badly in lessons. When this poor behaviour occurs, it disrupts the learning of other students.
- Teachers' marking does not always check whether students understand their work. Teachers do not insist on work being presented well.
- Leaders, including governors, have not focused sufficiently on improving teaching and on ensuring that all students make at least good progress.

The only current evidence for Caedmon College is a 'good' from the LA on the basis of a one-day inspection. This is not comparable as previous LA judgements have not been reliable – a WCC LA inspection in 2005 deemed the school to be good, and 6 weeks later Ofsted put the school into special measures. NYCC appear to have an agenda when carrying out their inspections – hence the „requires improvement“ scenario for Eskdale and the lack of support to improve – part of the closing down agenda.

Apparently after a merger a school has 2 years grace before Ofsted returns. If that happens for a second time, if this merger goes ahead, Caedmon College Whitby will not have had an Ofsted for 5 years but had absorbed two schools which had RI?

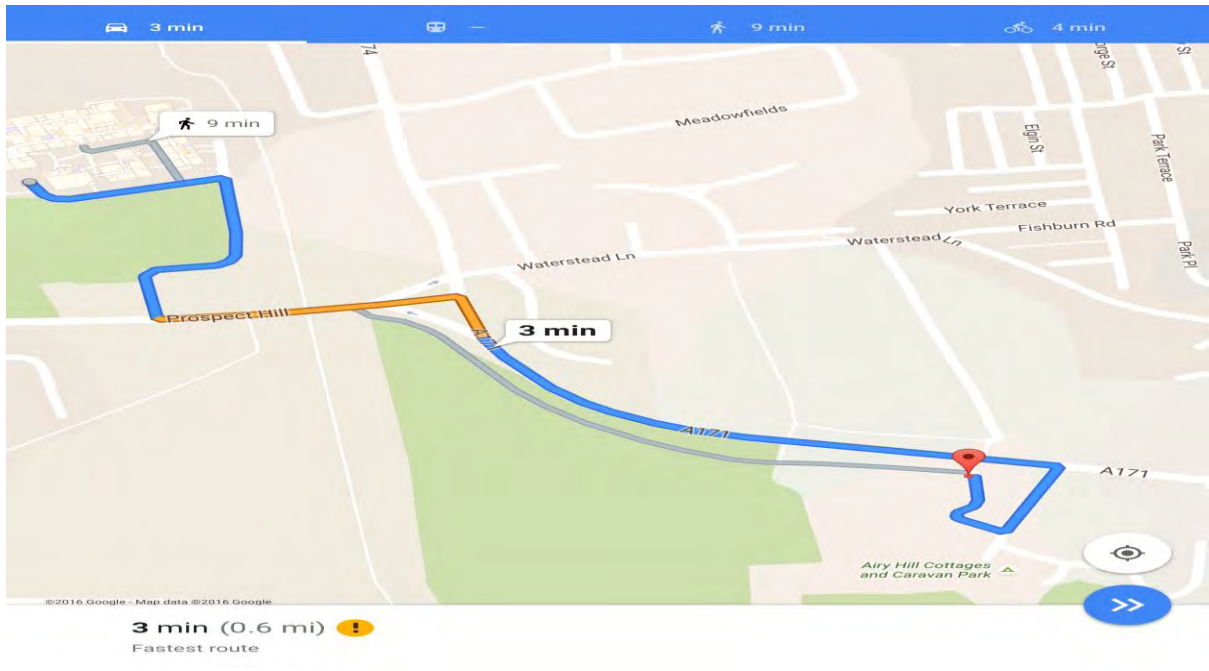
(4.4) Sites and Accommodation

With increased student and staff numbers there is also bound to be more movement between the sites – and this will involve crossing a busy road and a ten-minute journey or a similar length journey via the underpass (as quoted in the report).

The underpass is muddy and slippery at many times of the year that it is a health and safety hazard. It is accessed via an embankment path, down a single file wooden flight of steps. It is therefore definitely not suitable for wheelchairs. At the bottom of the steps is a cinder track, which used to be an old railway line. Dog walkers frequent it and do not always clean up after their dogs. It is overgrown, unlit and not visible from the road (see pictures below).

Staff must complete this journey when teaching across the two sites, which even in a car is not going to be less than five minutes, plus the time to get to their vehicle, parking etc. Students will be without their teacher for at least ten minutes at the beginning or end of a lesson. Staff will be stressed. This can only get worse with more students to be accommodated.





(4.7) Financial Position

The information on „in-year deficits“ is scaremongering to say the least. A Head Teacher has advised us, that NYCC finance staff tell their schools not to take too much notice of projected deficits.

Lots of schools have in-year deficits and the financial software cannot do anything but roll it forward into projected figures. Like a snowball running down a slope, a small deficit can appear as a large deficit in three or five years time because the programme assumes that the Leadership Team and Governing Body are going to take no action. **In reality and practice the Governing Body is obliged to take action because you have to live within your means in the medium to long term.** The LA will allow you to go into deficit temporarily provided that you have a financial plan to get back into the black. It is interesting to note that Caedmon College have a significant surplus at the present time - why is that and what is it for? Holding money back for a rainy day might not be justifiable if current students are being deprived of additional resources.

Find a school by Postcode 1 mile Schools/Colleges

England + Yorkshire and the Humber
North Yorkshire Local Authority (2015)

School Workforce

2014/15 School Workforce data (based upon November 2014 School Workforce Census)

Sorted by **Average gross salary of all teachers in a school**, in descending order.

November 2014 School Workforce Census
data published on 21 Jan 2016

1 2

Click on headings to sort figures in ascending/descending order. Schools without data will be displayed below those with data.

Displaying 1 - 50 of 77 schools.

school name	School type	Headcount of all teachers in a school	Headcount of all teaching assistants in a school	Headcount of all support (exc. auxiliary) staff in a school	Full-time equivalent number of all teachers in a school	Full-time equivalent number of all teaching assistants in a school	Full-time equivalent number of all support (exc. auxiliary) staff in a school	Ratio of pupils to teachers in a school	Average FTE gross salary of all teachers in a school
England - national (secondary state-funded)									
		228821	87828	89225	213431.5	53891.4	75488.3	15.0	38246
Local Authority - (secondary state-funded)									
		2452	723	1007	2209.4	505.3	799.8	16.7	36482
Schools (tick the box next to a school/college to select it for comparison - once you have selected all required schools/colleges click here: Compare)									
<input type="checkbox"/> Caedmon College Whitby	Community School	52	25	29	47.1	17.2	20.3	23.3	39401
<input type="checkbox"/> King James's School	Community School	118	37	44	98.6	28.8	34.7	17.3	38570
<input type="checkbox"/> The Wensleydale School & Sixth Form	Community School	33	4	5	29.0	2.5	4.9	16.2	38420
<input type="checkbox"/> Northallerton College	Voluntary Controlled School	49	11	27	44.1	6.9	22.0	15.9	38305
<input type="checkbox"/> Thirsk School & Sixth Form College	Community School	85	27	23	59.7	10.9	16.8	15.9	38283
<input type="checkbox"/> Harrogate High School	Academy - Converter Mainstream	44	20	29	38.2	15.9	23.5	14.8	38185
<input type="checkbox"/> Bedale High School	Community School	47	22	21	42.7	14.8	15.8	15.2	38152

At Caedmon College the average teacher salary of £39401 (see above) - this is the highest in North Yorkshire. An issue exacerbated by their top-heavy management/senior teacher structure.

The income is not being spent on the students as in other comparable schools. Only 95.7% of student income is spent on students compared with Lady Lumley's whose average is 97.9%. What will happen when Caedmon College's surplus runs out and when the transition funding no longer exists – will the students get a worse deal?

During the Eskdale School 11-16 consultation, ██████████ stated that KS3 and KS4 monies subsidise Caedmon College 6th form provision. Since not all children stay on to the 6th form, they are getting an even poorer deal out their education.

Key Considerations for decision Makers (5.0)

- ***“How far will the proposal contribute towards County Council's aspiration see all school being judged good or outstanding and specifically will it lead to rapid improvement and in the future, an outstanding education for Whitby”***

Much research shows that many schools that have merged/amalgamated (especially in North Yorkshire) have had a decline in standards. So this proposal is a gamble with no guarantee of any improvement in standards or curriculum choice. The L.A.'s track record on the East Coast is very poor to say the least – Filey School went into and remained in special measures despite ██████████ and his team at WCC being parachuted in to save the day, clearly not the result NYCC were hoping for? The amalgamation of Graham and Raincliffe schools in Scarborough also proved to be a disaster and put Graham into special measures as well. Why should the plan on the table be any different? A situation Whitby certainly does not want to happen. Can their help at Eskdale after the first RI Ofsted result be seen as any more positive?

NYCC have failed in their own promises to support their schools from the „Young and Yorkshire” plan where they prioritised *“School improvement – From an improving position and set of 2014 results, we have begun to implement the recommendations of the North Yorkshire Commission for School Improvement in order to support and challenge schools to be good or outstanding. A new model of sector led improvement overseen by a new North Yorkshire Education Partnership is being put in place”*. Having failed Eskdale they want to use it against them rather than working with them – one can presume the agenda behind that decision?

If an enlarged school *“will lead to rapid improvement and, in the future, an outstanding education”* why is this not already happening in all the recently merged schools?

What evidence is there that the Head and Senior Leadership Team of Caedmon College Whitby are able to raise standards to an outstanding education? As previously noted when team were involved with Filey School was their intervention led a school requiring improvement to a school in special measures. The school has now converted into an academy, to remove itself from the local authority to raise standards.

- ***Does the proposal offer the young people of Whitby the best opportunities for progression, qualifications, further education employment and training in a visionary and ambitious town?***

The answer to this is No. Firstly students at Eskdale chose the school for a reason and that is that they feel that Eskdale School gives them the best chance to fulfil their education potential, no matter what their ability background or education needs. Clearly students at Caedmon College do not enjoy their education because the absence rate is one of the highest in North Yorkshire and way above the National and North Yorkshire's average? (See below)

2013-14 Pupil Absence data

2013/14 Pupil Absence / Pupil Absence - Sorted by **Persistent absence: around 15% +**, in descending order

2013/14 Pupil Absence data last updated on 20 Mar 2015

Click on headings to sort figures in ascending/descending order. Schools without data will be displayed below those with data.

school name	School type	Overall absence	Persistent absence: 15% +
England - national (secondary state-funded)		5.2%	5.3%
Local Authority (secondary state-funded)		4.9%	4.7%
Schools (tick the box next to a school/college to select it for comparison - once you have selected all required schools/colleges click here: Compare)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Graham School	Community School	7.2%	10.1%
<input type="checkbox"/> Nidderdale High School	Community School	5.5%	7.7%
<input type="checkbox"/> Northallerton College	Voluntary Controlled School	5.0%	7.6%
<input type="checkbox"/> Caedmon College Whitby	Community School	8.4%	7.0%

A prime example of the opportunities Eskdale promotes is its use of Pupil Premium – Eskdale has always been proactive in supporting all students and students benefit from effective use of Pupil Premium.

The 2013 Eskdale Ofsted report commented – *“Pupils supported by the pupil premium achieve well. The attainment and progress of students supported by the pupil premium, including those known to be eligible for free school meals, have improved. As a result, in 2013, there was little difference in the levels that eligible students achieved compared to others within the school. The gap between the progress that these students make in English and mathematics, compared to other students in the school, has narrowed over the past three years”*

And the 2015 report – *“Pupil premium funding has been used in part to appoint an assistant head teacher whose remit is to monitor and track the progress, behaviour and attendance of disadvantaged pupils. Spending also provides for additional academic support and opportunities for disadvantaged pupils to prepare for the next stage in their education, for example thorough visits to universities. As a result of the school’s spending of pupil premium, attendance of disadvantaged pupils has improved and gaps in progress closed between disadvantaged pupils and their peers in Year 9 in 2015.”*

Are the students at Caedmon College getting the same benefit? The answer appears to be no, despite having £193,000 to spend. £98,000 is being spent on peer mentoring – a rather excessive amount to be spent on what is in essence a voluntary activity? This is in addition to £20,000 spending on additional mentoring and another £35,000 on 1-1 tuition.

However, at the last inspection Ofsted commented, *“Students eligible for the pupil premium currently make slower progress than their peers in English and mathematics but over time the gaps are closing. Additional funding has been spent on a variety of initiatives, including mentoring and counseling sessions, homework support and one-to-one booster classes in English. Nevertheless, these students are currently approximately a grade behind their peers in English and mathematics”*

Much of the Ofsted inspection and a school's „worth“ is based on data driven measurable results. There is no longer KS3 SATS in year 9 and Eskdale do not have GCSE results to be measured on. If they had the chance to do this, you would see just how fantastic the school is.

6th Form Provision

Over the years the range of subjects offered by Caedmon College has gradually declined. It is now not possible to study German, French, psychology, music, or drama. If you wish to study these you have to travel to other 6th form establishment. It is difficult to understand the reasons for this although as mentioned earlier Caedmon College has the most expensive average teacher salary in the county and which is above the national average. It should not be the case that KS3/KS4 money be used for KS5 students. NYCC should perhaps look more closely at alternative methods of funding or providing KS5 provision in the Whitby area.

It is very interesting to note that smaller 11-18 schools within North Yorkshire offer a greater range of A level subjects and a much smaller teacher pupil ratio (see table 4). If these schools can do it why can't Caedmon College?

Table 4	GCSE A*-C	No on Roll	No in 16-18	Student teacher ratio
Malton	66%	664	151	18.6:1
Lady Lumley	60%	870	192	14.5:1
Norton	64%	786	177	16.4:1
Caedmon College	63%	1100	329	23.3:1

CCW's 6th form results are very poor (as confirmed by 2015 figures below) – with the average points score per student being considerably lower than all other local 6th forms. This is about teaching not funding.

Table 5	Avg. point score per student	AAB with 2 facilitating subjects
Caedmon College Whitby	712.7	9%
Lady Lumley's School	807.6	15%
Malton School	887.8	9%
Scarborough 6 th Form	806.2	13%
Stokesley School	821.1	26%

Challenge

Competition between local schools ensures greater innovation in education and a better match between students' needs and interests. Therefore if students struggle with one school ethos they may well be more successful at a different one.

Research by the LSE concluded that „once we know how many choices pupils have, it is easy to work out which schools are more competitive: simply calculate the average number of choices that pupils have in each school. If all the pupils in a school have that school as their only option, then the school is „monopolistic“, rather than competitive. But if, on average, „pupils in a school have lots of alternatives, then the school has to compete with those other schools to attract its pupils.“

The same report found evidence that schools running their own admission systems and characterised by more autonomous governance structures have higher educational standards in more competitive markets. Pupils do seem to do better if

their secondary school is in an urban environment and not geographically isolated from other schools.

Research from the Centre for the Economics of Education supports the view that inter-school competition and innovation works in boosting pupil achievements. It also concludes that pupils do better if their secondary school is not geographically isolated from other schools.

“School choice is a tide that lifts all boats” (Caroline Hoxby)

- ***“Will the proposal reduce the potential disruption to education of children and young people through transition?”***

The simple answer to this is no and the question is irrelevant and at least misleading. If Eskdale were to be allowed to go 11-16 the current KS3/4 transition would be avoided anyway.

In considering these proposals for Eskdale, it is interesting to note that the Effective Pre-School, Primary & Secondary Education Project (EPPSE) Research Brief (September 2014) noted the following: *“students attending a secondary school where teachers were reported to have a strong focus on learning, where relationships between teachers and students were good in terms of trust, and where teachers provided more feedback were all significant predictors of better GCSE outcomes. Students GCSE attainment and progress was boosted if they attended a secondary school rated as having a more favourable overall school „behaviour climate“ in KS3. The effects were particularly noticeable for maths and English grades and the number of full GCSE entries.”*

At Caedmon College there is still a transition point between sites at Year 8 and this would continue, if amalgamation were approved, due to the split sites! The cost of supervising students across two or three sites is not factored into the proposal. Inevitably this also impacts on learning time.

- ***Does the proposal have a clear focus on overall educational arrangements across a geographic area rather than on simply protecting the current institutional status quo?***

No one is suggesting that the “institutional status quo” has to remain. Eskdale has an aspirational vision of providing education from 11-16, to provide this choice. It has a sound educational and business plan in place, which is able to provide that vision. It is up to Caedmon College to decide what is best to achieve its 11-19 education with the institutions it has at its disposal.

The option to study GCSEs at Eskdale had proved very popular. Most students wanted to stay on into Year 10 despite the unfavourable recent Ofsted. One of the best ways to raise standards is to create competition, something that will be sadly lacking if this amalgamation goes ahead.

If parents do not want their son/daughter to go to CCW, there is a large financial bill for them ahead. For travel to Scarborough it would be £684 for an Arriva pass or £480 for a NYCC pass plus the costs involved to reach the nearest pick up point en route. Due to the limited transport infrastructure this may not even be an option. Alternatively, it costs £685 for travel from Whitby (centre) to Lady Lumley’s (per

annum) plus any additional costs if the student has to travel to meet the bus. The buses for LL leave at 7.30 and return at 4.45 so it is also means a long day.

Scalby School currently starts at 8.20am so would require a similar departure time, it would not be possible to use the current schools service (384S) to Scarborough, which would be unrealistic for those living further out of Whitby.

Currently parents have been advised that St Augustine's School in Scarborough is full even for Roman Catholic families. It is also reported on the NYCC website that the St Augustine's bus from Whitby will stop from the new financial year?

Despite the issues involved, a recent survey by the group showed that parents were seriously considering leaving the Whitby area to pursue education for their children, since the start of the consultation ([appendix D](#)).

The figures for income/deprivation/unemployment etc. make it unlikely that many parents could access these costs anyway, so making alternative options unviable for them – please refer to data on www.nomisweb.co.uk. The only other local alternative is Fyling Hall School, which despite fairly reasonable fees compared with many other private schools, still remains beyond the pocket of most local parents.

The issue of choice has been highlighted in the FAQs - interestingly enough after parents raised it, prior to consultation. The FAQs talk about quality and reduction of GCSE choice and enriching activities.

1) Quality

This issue has already been addressed above – but to reiterate - the majority of subject areas this year have new syllabuses, which Eskdale staff are fully conversant with. CCW has no track record in their teaching of them and therefore start at the same point.

2) GCSE choice

Under the new Progress 8 measures - schools do not have as much choice in what they can offer as they once did. From Sept. 2017 vocational GCSEs are removed and from 2018 all students in year 9 must take the EBacc. qualification. Eskdale had already focussed its GCSE options based on the new examinations and the Progress 8 measures. Students and parents were happy with the choices on offer. CCW will have to remove the vocational GCSEs from their curriculum next year, as they will no longer exist, so these additional vocational choices are only for one year. Students who wanted to study one of them had already made the choice to go to CCW and been given advice on those options. All significant GCSEs in terms of higher education entry were to be on offer at Eskdale from this September and no students would have been disadvantaged. From September 2107 the GCSE choices at both schools would be very similar.

However, food and nutrition GCSE had proved very popular this year at Eskdale and two groups were planned – at CCW there is only provision for two groups in total so many students will not be able to have this choice satisfied (see table 2 above).

CCW are encouraging the majority of students to take the EBacc route this year. If a student also choses triple science there will be one „free choice“ for that student. If they study double science there will be two free choices. To say the amalgamation will increase choice is erroneous.

There is also real concern about the disappearing arts subjects at CCW when Eskdale has consistently promoted them. The EBacc. is likely to consolidate this position. Eskdale has strong traditions in art, music, drama, dance and crafts and is one of the reason parents choose Eskdale School.

3) Activities

Eskdale currently provides many activities – it is part of their ethos to broaden the curriculum and take part in as many opportunities as they are able without affecting their studies. Care is taken to make these trips inclusive and available to all students in terms of cost etc. These will be increased with the extended age range, including work experience opportunities, and activities to supplement the GCSE courses. All subject areas link with events that extend their curriculum, including trips abroad, participation in competitions, both local and national, sporting events and fieldwork. In addition the careers programme ensures year 9 students are able to look at all future options by visiting different providers and having employers in school regularly.

Issues when students cannot cope with study at Caedmon College – there is more use by them at outreach/inreach than by Eskdale students and other students are home tutored. This academic year ten students to date have moved into Eskdale because of „issues“ at the college. Even after this report was issued this move has continued. A recent CCW governors meeting quoted over 108 instances of bullying and another discussed that issues with Year 8 and 11 were being dealt with by using alternative educational arrangements. If issues are on-going then there needs to be alternatives other than using outreach and home tuition which cause isolation and a definite restriction of GCSE options.

What will happen to these students if the amalgamation goes ahead? Under section 19 of the 1996 Education Act, parents can consider alternatives such as withdrawing a child from school to ensure the child continues to receive a suitable full time education. This can include contacting the Local Authority and requesting they provide education as part of their duty for children out of school for other reasons such as bullying, making an in year application to another school – what other school?

In addition, under the 2002 Education Act, a Local Authority “*shall make arrangements for ensuring that the functions conferred on them in their capacity as a local education authority are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.*”

There is the same issue if a child is not fulfilling their potential? There will be no options for change and this then means that there will be no incentive for the remaining school to do anything about any issues because they know they will still get to keep their numbers, as there is no competition. More students may well end up out of the mainstream system; statistically these students are more like to end up as NEET (not in education, employment and training) in the long term.

If one looks at the number of schools in comparable populated areas and Whitby is compared to towns/areas of similar sizes (including North Yorkshire) then it can be seen that these areas are able to sustain at least two secondary schools and in the case of Skipton, three! [Appendix A](#) shows us that UK towns with a similar population to Whitby have far more access to secondary school education and how poorly catered for the local area is, even before the proposal is considered.

The additional FAQs state examples of areas with one secondary school – these are not comparable to Whitby. Thirsk, Easingwold, Tadcaster and Stokesley all have populations less than a **third** of Whitby and the surrounding areas, as well as having a number of schools within a fifteen mile radius and in most cases at least one school within a ten mile radius. Northallerton, which is the largest of the areas, has

two schools within a ten-mile radius and a further two in a fifteen-mile radius. As you can see in Table 6 below, Whitby is already seriously disadvantaged when it comes to choice in North Yorkshire.

Table 6	<u>NYCC School choices with 10 mile radius by town</u>				
Town	Population*	Maintained	Academy	Independent	Total
Hawes	1,137	1	2	0	3
Whitby	13,213	2	0	1	3
Settle	2,564	2	1	1	4
Pickering	6,830	3	1	0	4
Helmsley	1,515	3	0	2	5
Pateley Bridge	2,210	3	1	1	5
High Bentham	3,027	2	1	2	5
Malton	4,888	3	1	1	5
Middleham	825	5	1	0	6
Leyburn	2,183	5	0	1	6
Kirkbymoorside	3,040	4	0	2	6
Masham	1,205	4	1	2	7
Thirsk	4,998	4	1	2	7
Northallerton	16,832	4	2	1	7
Scarborough	108,793	5	1	1	7
Filey	6,981	7	1	1	9
Bedale	4,530	8	1	1	10
Richmond	8,413	5	3	2	10
Easingwold	4,627	6	1	6	13
Catterick Garrison	13,000	6	5	2	13
Selby	14,731	8	4	4	16
Boroughbridge	3,405	6	5	6	17
Skipton	14,623	10	6	1	17
Knaresborough	15,441	5	5	8	18
Haxby	8,428	9	2	8	19
Tadcaster	6,003	11	6	9	26
Harrogate	157,900	10	8	8	26
Stokesley	4,757	5	19	3	27

- ***“Does the proposal enable governing bodies to provide in partnership with others a depth, breadth and quality of teaching and learning through successful recruitment of the very best teachers?”***

There is nothing in this proposal which is evidence based that suggests any partnership with others. This is not going to be a partnership but a monopoly of secondary education in Whitby, which will quickly be converted to a stand-alone academy, because no other school wishes to be a part of it, unless a school is forced to become part of the chain if its Ofsted is poor.

- ***Does the proposal meet the County Council's aim for schools to be working in partnership....."***

Again there is nothing in the proposal about partnership or innovative ideas about the options

- ***"Is the proposal financially sustainable over time?"***

Judging by Whitby Community College's track record and the fact that NYCC state that Caedmon College will be in deficit by £320,000 in 17/18 and that transition funding only lasts two years the answer to this question is no. As to the high quality of physical surroundings, then apart from making additions to the current buildings there are no plans for a new school. In fact when visiting the Scoresby site, it is evident that the classrooms are small, the corridors are narrow and the staircases are tight. They will not be able to accommodate the large number of pupils expected.

There is nothing in this proposal that shows any financial sustainability. The report figures show that Caedmon College is running a forecast deficit, followed by an even larger deficit the year after. Is that the kind of financial sustainability we are looking for?

The National Association of Small Schools comment *"for decades small schools have been told they cost too much, though decision-makers are deceived by claims of educational unviability" and "the blindly-sustained rigid unit cost factor paralyses debate in a way confounding broader, more relevant economic perspectives"*.

- ***"Does the proposal recognise the significance of schools as part of the wider local community...?"***

In a 2013 report on Rural Communities, the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Select Committee said government policy *"too often fails to take account of the challenges to providing services for people living in rural communities ... Rural communities pay more in council tax, receive less government grant and have access to fewer public services than people in large towns and cities."*

East Whitby (in particular Streonshalh – the areas around St Peters Road and Abbots Road) is acknowledged as an area of high deprivation (<https://wa5.northyorks.gov.uk/JSNA/public-health/deprivation-story>). If the school was to close this area will be losing a major social hub. Social and community outcomes for schools as a centre of social activity are especially important in rural communities, as well as those of high deprivation. There is a range of groups and organisations regularly using the school and providing extensive activities for students and the community alike, as well as one off activities being hosted there. Regular users include:

<i>ABRSM music exams</i>	<i>Methodist Church group</i>	<i>Ultimate Soccer</i>
<i>Fishburn Park Football Club 1st & 2nd teams</i>	<i>Motorhome rallies (2 per year)</i>	<i>Volleyball Club</i>
<i>Fishburn Park kids football (3 teams)</i>	<i>Onomy - Young church group</i>	<i>Young Farmers Basketball</i>
<i>Football Clubs – Fylingdales, Lealholm and Whitby RC</i>	<i>Orchestra/Music club (Bob Butterfield)</i>	<i>Whitby Ladies football</i>
<i>Fylingdales netball - various times through the year</i>	<i>Tennis Club</i>	<i>Whitby Company of Archers</i>
<i>Whitby Christian Fellowship</i>	<i>Whitby Rugby Club</i>	

In addition the School has excellent links with local employers such as Sainsbury's who work in conjunction with the school on a number of community projects.

North Yorkshire County Council is not fulfilling its own promises – for example in the Equality Objectives 2012 – 2016 it clearly states as one of those objectives: - *“Maintain and where possible improve access to key services (education, employment, health and food shopping)”*

The impact of loss of facilities have not been considered at all, or the financial implications in providing these facilities elsewhere. If the site were sold would monies be reinvested to provide these new facilities? If not what happens to these groups? (Please find letters of support at [appendix B](#))

...And avoid unnecessary prolonged travel arrangements for young people

Even if every student went to the Caedmon College sites it would make very little difference to the current travel arrangements but because of the lack of choice as above, far from avoiding prolonged travel arrangements it would increase them. Students and their parents will look further afield for their education. Many Year 6 primary and Year 9 secondary parents are already considering options outside of Whitby (please refer to previous observations plus data at [appendix D](#)).

If parents can afford the transport and there are places at schools, within the 20 mile radius that includes Pickering and Scarborough then there are practical and psychological issues to consider such as: -

- Socialising - long distances divorce school from home life and friendship groups.
- Extra-curricular activities – it is hard to join in with if there is a trek to be faced afterwards or a particular coach to catch.
- Tiredness – affects family relationships and attention in school, ability to complete homework.
- Stress caused by these added issues.

...Quality affordable provision through creative partnerships –

The alternatives addressed in the proposal do not address creative partnerships – Appendix D of the report looks at no change/federation/amalgamation. These are not only, not creative but ignore the fact that Eskdale was going 11-16 from September 2015?

If Key Stage 5 is the central concept behind this decision as Cllr Barker has confirmed on his decision of 9th Feb then look at creative options and partnerships/collaborations perhaps involving successful colleges in the area – Scarborough 6th form/ Middlesbrough College/Prior Pursglove?

- ***Does the proposal prepare the area well for the projected growth in pupil numbers in the future?***

The report and FAQs accept that the numbers of pupils are set to increase over the next 10 –15 years and make a cursory reference to new housing but do not refer to the extent they are likely to increase and how that increase will be catered for: -

The Dogger Bank Wind Farm, which has also resulted in a multi-million pound large-scale development based in Whitby. This will include an offshore

renewables management and marine control centre for the support of operations in the North Sea including vessel maintenance, relaying personnel, and sale of goods and services. This project is expected to support up to **900 jobs**.

Whitby Business Park: – The North York Moors National Park Area Action Plan (November 2014) sets out the development strategy/ policy „to improve infrastructure, support new development and diversify employment opportunities in the Whitby area“. The plan has a target for **2000 jobs** to be accommodated there by 2026.

New housing developments: - More family housing already being built in the town in the locality including 150 homes on the adjacent ScoresbyPark/Phoenix Park development as well as 250+ new homes planned at Sneaton Castle and 60 homes on the old county council depot off Stakesby Road. That is **nearly 500 new homes** in total over the next few years.

York Potash: -Once at full production the York Potash Project will directly employ **over 1,000 people** and bring more families into the area.

Looking at these new developments and the rise in the current numbers that are in local primary, it is short sighted of NYCC to even consider closing a school when numbers are clearly on the increase. If Eskdale is closed, then in 10 years time much of the teaching could end up taking place in cabins/temporary classrooms at Caedmon College sites? Surely it is a better way forward to build on the investment NYCC has made to the Eskdale School site, over last few years, and to carry on as an 11-16 establishment?

- ***Does the proposal allow for the strengths of both schools to be incorporated into a single structure?***

One size does not fit all and all children have different needs. The ethos of the two schools and their Head teachers has proved to be very different. Eskdale's ethos is about:

Education for the whole person
Education for the future not just the present
Developing initiative and responsibility
Dedicated group of teachers
Broad range of extracurricular activities
Strong parental involvement
Focus on practical skills and on art/music not just academic (excellent music pods)
Broad range of extracurricular activities – (including gardening, art, drama, choir, gymnastics, trampoline, juggling)

There is a very special caring environment at Eskdale, which the school is noted for. Ofsted has also acknowledged this: - *"The school has a very caring ethos. Staff, pupils and parents value this. As a result, excellent relationships and good behaviour are the norm and pupils feel safe"* would be impossible to replicate on a much larger scale over two sites and in addition staff would be required to embrace the apparently successful system adopted by Caedmon College.

Eskdale has always been highly regarded in terms of catering extremely well for

SEN pupils. This is down to their caring ethos, small size and provisions they have put in place to deal with particular needs and accessibility. As a result it means a smooth transition for all Year 6 pupils, especially those from very small feeder schools in surrounding rural areas, for which a small school feels safer and more secure.

Students are happy at Eskdale as confirmed by the Ofsted Parent View where 82% of parents strongly agree that their children are happy and a further 13% agree, compared to the national average of 53% and Caedmon College at 46%.

As a small school, it enables teachers to know pupils well and vice versa. Especially useful for those pupils with special educational needs who benefit from a smaller nurturing environment.

As all teachers are on one site at Eskdale, all of the time, it is easy for pupils to find them at break time, before and after school to tell them anything they need to, go over homework, seek support etc.

A Graham School teacher told us, that on their amalgamation **“both sets of staff found it difficult to reconcile the cultural differences between the two schools and the transition for the students was difficult as they had lost their identity. The idea that the new amalgamated school could be a hybrid of cultures and traditions was ill conceived and in reality led to the school having no clear direction, it was like watching a car accident in slow motion and what everyone feared happened, a decline in standards followed by special measures”**

- ***Does the proposal enable the current financial challenges to be met?***

There is no evidence to suggest this. The reinvestment of monies gained by the sale of the land at Eskdale is mentioned but there is no evidence, despite statements to the contrary, on how much the land is actually worth and how much NYCC would be reinvesting in Whitby. Caedmon College received transition monies from NYCC for two years after they joined together (as confirmed by the consultation meeting minutes dated Feb 2014) and yet one year on NYCC were funding redundancies bought on by financial problems as well as still having a deficit? Caedmon College clearly have problems saving money and seem to still have a top-heavy management structure, which eats resources?

Has a realistic plan for education provision in terms of exactly what additional buildings such as art rooms, music rooms, science labs workshops etc. been carried out and calculated by anybody? Or is it simply a matter as far as NYCC are concerned that pupil numbers are lower than capacity and therefore Eskdale students can easily be absorbed within the existing resources?

In the short term whilst Eskdale remains open, staff in all three sites could be made to teach on all sites. This could prove extremely difficult and stressful for staff concerned especially in the summer months when traffic on the A171 builds up on the new bridge and would cause delays to lessons and have a detrimental impact of the standard of teaching something that obviously nobody would want to happen.

It is being suggested that this is being done in the best interests of the students in Whitby, and also as a cost saving exercise by NYCC due to spare capacity within the schools. It should be noted that an analysis from DFE says the following:

"Schools on split-sites incur additional costs through the loss of economies of scale and the need for duplication of staff and equipment.

These costs differ from school to school but may include: -

- *One-off costs relating to the need for more sophisticated or separate telephone systems, separate heating systems, additional library facilities and the unavoidable duplication of certain items of equipment;*
- *Travel costs of staff and, in some cases, pupils between the sites;*
- *Additional staff costs e.g. additional teaching staff cover, additional non-teaching staff (playground supervisors, caretakers, receptionists, clerical staff and technicians); and*
- *In some instances, smaller classes because the organisation of a larger class is not possible given the distance between sites etc.”*

So far from saving money, costs will increase, surely a better solution is to build on the investment NYCC has made to the Eskdale School site over the last few years and let it carry out the wishes of its parents, staff and students and become, as previously and more recently as planned, an 11-16 establishment?

If both schools were to co-exist then they would still be average size for North Yorkshire.

(6.0) OPTIONS CONSIDERED

(6.1) Status quo

This is not going to happen since Eskdale School was going to be an 11-16 school from September 2016. This would in turn force Caedmon College to rationalise their sites to save money. Running the school at one site would produce further economies. Educationally it would also be better for Caedmon College since there would be no split site problems, no transitions, would be able to deliver a cohesive curriculum between KS3, KS4 & KS5 (if pupils choose it stay on to KS5). Long-term relationships developed between teachers and pupils. It would be a win-win situation.

The status regarding Eskdale Schools Ofsted is overstated. Although it had „required improvement“ for the second time, the text of the report stated that there has not been enough time for the improvements put in place to show through. Indeed there was only 23 months between inspections, whereas it should be 2 years, currently the re-inspection times are running up to 30 months, which would have given plenty of time for the improvements show results.

(6.2) Informal collaboration

Has this approach failed in the past due to the schools or has it been due to the failure of the LA? The standards of education in secondary schools on the Yorkshire Coast is shockingly low in comparison to the rest of Yorkshire and nationally.

(6.3) Creation of wholly new academy (6.4) Multi Trust Academy

Within a very short period of time, if the amalgamation proceeds, Caedmon College will apply to become an academy. It has already consulted last year and Eskdale becoming 11-16 was the only thing that stopped it due to funding forecast issues. It was discussed once again at the CCW governors meeting of 2/12/15 and is clearly the way forward for them regardless of the outcome.

“Governors were unanimous in believing that the best solution for secondary education in the Whitby area was to have one, good secondary school....“

- *They considered multi-academy trust status and other options*
- *They agreed to whatever action was necessary to achieve the best solution*
- *They “believed it was appropriate to wait until the meeting had taken place with the Director of Education before taking firm decisions on the way forward”.*
- *They “agreed they felt the best route to achieve their objectives would be to form a MAT but agreed this should be subject to the outcome of the meeting with the Director of Education”.*
- *They “agreed that a second meeting was required in January to discuss this matter further once the meeting with the Director of Education had taken place”.*
- *They “agreed to complete an application form to become a sponsor, in the event that the College did wish to form a MAT in the New Year”.*

Despite details of meetings with Eskdale about possible plans for the future, no reference is made to this information or the consequent meeting/discussions with the Director of Children’s Services in the report – why? [REDACTED] has also publically said that there is likely to be a „Whitby Academy“ at some point.

(6.5) Conclusions

It is incorrect to conclude that all the above options do not meet the key criteria. To keep the „status quo“ as already discussed is a viable option and meets the key criteria. Eskdale School to remain open, continue with its plans to be an 11-16 school, with Caedmon College consolidating onto a single site.

1. Eskdale School is well on its way to become a „good“ school in the eyes of Ofsted. The second inspection was at only 23 months and the inspection report states several times that there has not been enough time to full see the results of the improvements already implemented. The Section 8 report in 2014 concluded that the „school development plan“ in place is fit for purpose. It is essential that Eskdale School remains open to allow all young people in Whitby to remain in Whitby to be educated. Without a choice in Whitby, many are considering travelling the 20+ miles to go to an alternative.
2. Eskdale School remaining open will allow diversity, choice, competition, and challenge. These are key words coming from the DfE when considering provision of education, especially different types of schools: academy, free schools. These factors will allow children to select which school meets their visions and ambitions.

(7.0) OPTIONS APPRAISAL

(7.1) Impact on school performance

Based on the above information, this section has no regard to options other than those that benefit the current Caedmon College and its needs to fund the 16-18 provision there. [REDACTED] has since said at a meeting with the unions that a large number of options were considered – what are they and why has this report only considered two?

What about the more sensible option of franchised 6th form provision which would remove the need to use KS3 & 4 funding to supplement 6th form courses, remove the debt and give students a lot more choice of courses? In addition there could be an academy application with an approved DfE sponsor or a free school application?

As a response it is biased and clearly an attempt to stop the 11-16 plans of Eskdale in their tracks and to finance the current college despite already high levels of additional funding support including recent redundancies and the consequent re-employment of the same staff. The proposal has clearly been in planning since the Governors at Eskdale decided to extend the age range, maybe even earlier and the „Ofsted“ result was simply a bonus, irrelevant to any of the arguments (see [appendix E](#)).

This section revisits comments already covered in this response however in addition it is pertinent to note that neither school has proved itself to have leadership, which is strong and secure, but they do have weak governance which does not appear to challenge? For example, as previously noted, the CCW target for A* to C (inc. maths and English) was 68% for 2015. They achieved 63% that is a 5% shortfall.

(7.2) Governance and Decision-making

Despite Eskdale governors explaining the contrary, it would appear from these statements that amalgamation would keep the CCW governors and therefore there is less opportunity that any Eskdale governors would be involved in the process. CCW could decide to reconstitute, strengthen or enlarge said body – how likely is it that that would happen?

How does a process that means „*combining or uniting*“ not actually include the governing body in that action?

The Governors told staff they had „carved out the best possible deal“ – clearly they were misunderstanding the facts and later had to send a letter of complaint regarding the discrepancies and between what they had been told and what was written in the report.

(7.3) Admissions and Transport

“Pupils would attend whichever site was appropriate to the way that the enlarged school was organised”. The fact is that the „new“ school would still be a split site school with a transition point despite this being a previous issue raised by the report.

“... there may need to be improvement in site access for buses to address any highways safety concerns”

This is a cursory comment for a major issue that has not been addressed. There is no reference to

- The poor access to the Scoresby site from the high level bridge
- The poor access to the old Whitby College site
- Managing student movement between sites
- The lack of parking for staff and visitors
- The limited bus parking at Caedmon and no parking at the old Whitby College site

Currently, the volume of traffic already creates hazards for children who make their way to school on foot as there is no crossing provided at the Scoresby site entrance (car parked in layby opposite the site is where some pupils are dropped off). Children are left with no choice other than to cross the path of traffic travelling across the new bridge if they are walking to or from the east side of the town towards Caedmon College sites.

During the dark winter months when hours of daylight are limited, children need to cross this road during poor weather conditions where there could be poor visibility for drivers

Here are examples of traffic congestion at the Scoresby entrance and the consequent backing up on the New Bridge.

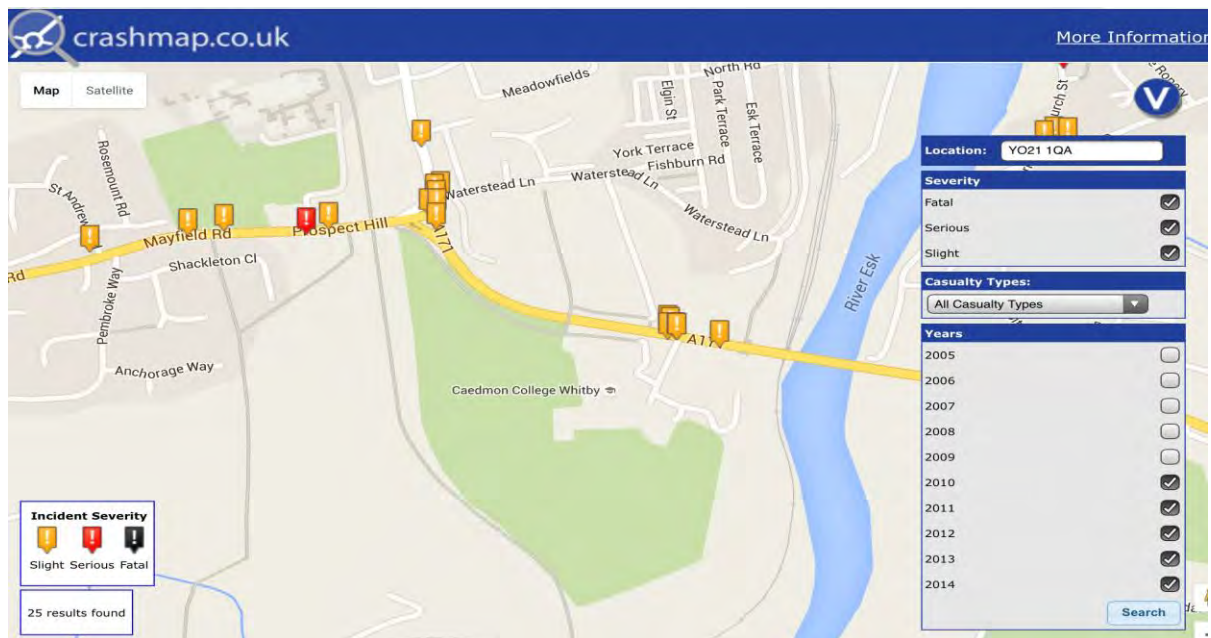
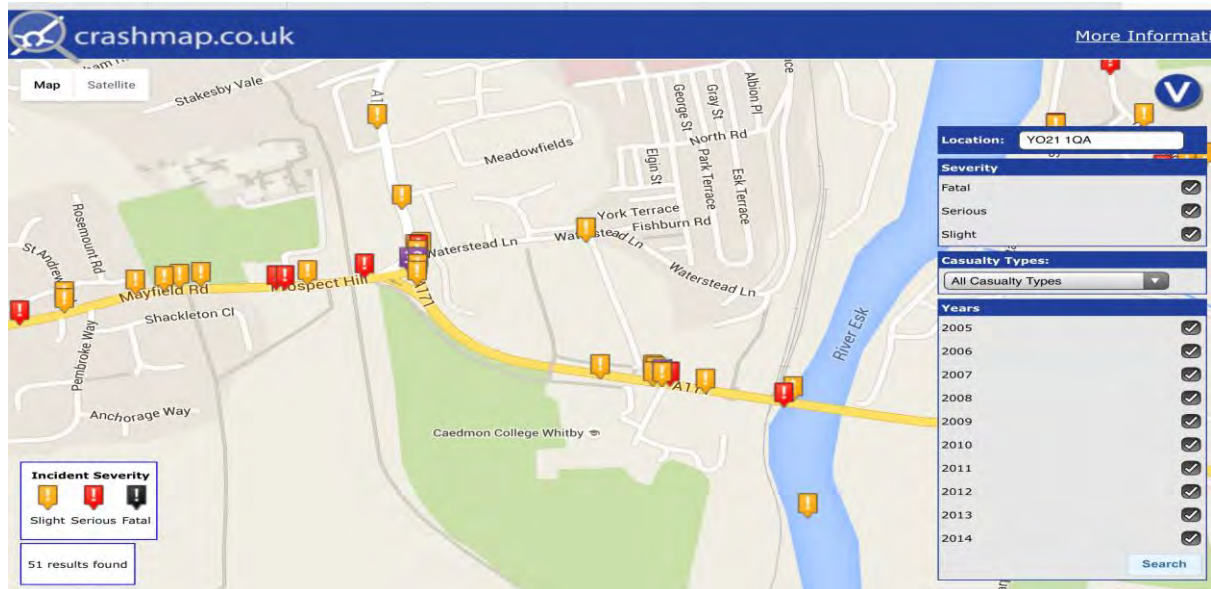


If the proposed amalgamation were to go ahead it will mean a substantial increase in the numbers of buses, cars and pedestrians on Prospect Hill, Mayfield Road and the New Bridge. How safe will it be? The area is already a congestion nightmare morning and afternoon. Vehicles will start to divert to other routes through town and possibly using the old bridge? The swing bridge is unsuitable for some larger

vehicles, which the new bridge was designed to withstand.

As a result there would be serious traffic implications on a split site school with a combined population of 1400 to 1500 pupils. Both sites are adjacent to main arterial route through Whitby. The Scoresby site is on a 40 mph route.

As evidenced in the maps below it has been an accident hotspot and this situation can only get worse if the numbers using the site increase. It is also interesting to note that the only two areas to witness pedestrian casualties in the last five years are the entrances to the two secondary school sites. In addition the area between the two CCW sites is shared with two primary schools so there would be nearly 2000 people in this vicinity at the beginning and end of the school day.



When the York Potash site opens up they have stated that there will be five/six lorries in and out as well as park and ride buses for the workers. This will amount to 10/12 HGVs per hour, directly past the two CCW sites. This can only add to the chaos on this stretch of road and increase the health and safety issues in the vicinity.

Combined material delivery and spoil export

The combined HGV demand has been consolidated to the programme to understand the total HGV demand. **Chart 1** illustrates the monthly HGV demand for the Mine and Intermediate MTS sites for the duration of the construction programme.

Chart 1 Monthly HGV flows, Mine and Intermediate MTS Shaft Sites, combined material delivery and export



If the amalgamation went ahead Stainsacre students would have to walk twice the distance that they do now. This would increase their travel to school time, which in winter would mean it would be dark for the return journey. In addition there would be an increase in the number of students walking from the train station to the Normanby site via „un-adopted“ Stakesby Vale, which has no footpath under the single lane bridge.

(7.4) Leadership

It is interesting to note, that teachers and all other staff will have to compete for their jobs, but the Headship, should the proposal go ahead, is already decided?

(7.5) Financial Issues

The issues of deficits have been covered in 4.7 so the report is going over old ground here. Lots of schools have in-year deficits and the financial software cannot do anything but roll it forward into projected figures. The figures show that predicted Eskdale’s deficit is much lower than Caedmon College’s. CCW are only in surplus currently because of the transition funding from the previous merger of the two schools. The deficit figures do not take into account Eskdale’s move to 11-16, which would increase their funding by up to a £1,000,000 per year. Eskdale’s cost for teaching staff has already been shown to be far less expensive than CCW’s and this would continue going forward.

(7.6) Rationalisation of sites

Are the three sites really only worth £6 million? How can three very different sites in such different positions and proportions be valued equally at £2 million each? Who has done the NYCC valuation?

A recent FOI request asking for „details of any valuations of the secondary school sites, Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby (Scoresby and Normanby Site separately)” has confirmed “The Local Authority does not hold current valuations for the sites mentioned”. This information has therefore been proved to be without substance. Can we rely on any of the information given in the report?

A national house builder gave provisional values that varied considerably from site to site with the Scoresby site being the most valuable, and even this site was valued under the £2 million indicated.

Even taking into account that this is a „rough“ estimate (not having regard for local planning policy requirements) but using the average house prices for Whitby – the amounts are nowhere near NYCC quoted amounts.

It is unclear whether NYCC have developed a full business case for the proposal, which has been constructed according to government best practice, and taking into account the monetary and non-monetary costs and benefits.

By over-inflating the value of the Eskdale site this falsely creates the impression of a higher net present value of the proposal than is realistically achievable. A more accurate valuation would reduce the financial rationale for the combination of the sites, as the initial sale proceeds will contribute less to the additional cost endured through amalgamation. Even if the Eskdale site did achieve the hypothetical figure quoted and the cost of remodelling the Caedmon College site was quoted at £100 K - how are they going to use the rest of it? To shore up the failing CCW 6th form or worse not use it for education at all in Whitby? FAQs “A *strong recommendation would be to reinvest a proportion or all of any capital receipt in school facilities in Whitby*”

Whilst all options have been considered, option 4 does not seem to have been given a great deal of consideration. The option to keep Eskdale School open and allow it to become an 11-16 school and close part of Scoresby site is not mentioned.

Surely this would be an opportunity to minimise congestion in Whitby? Student movement could be minimised if they sold the Scoresby buildings but retained the AstroTurf and some of the playing fields and used the current field at the old Whitby Community College for better access, parking and remodelled new buildings. They have already built in front of the old Grammar School facade. It is not uncommon for secondary students to have to walk to their playing fields and this would significantly reduce student movement and staff supervision.

The cost for this is initially very small and quotes obtained by Eskdale for a new science laboratory/food technology room and some temporary classrooms were less than £200,000. This would allow the school to accommodate 550 students and with minimal investment into Normanby site as you have suggested and we have pointed out above, they would easily be able to accommodate the remaining students.

Your published figures (see table 8) indicate the following number of students could then be accommodated on the Normanby site (This also allows for surplus places should numbers increase as predicted and for students who do not wish to study at Eskdale)

School Year	Caedmon College Places
16/17	958
17/18	851
18/19	849

As noted in 7.3 – the other two sites have real issues with access and safety and increased numbers will only make the situation worse. The current Eskdale site is far more accessible for students. There is a good safe access for buses dropping off and picking up.

APPENDIX E

Most of the issues raised in this addition to the report have been covered previously. It also contains and repeats serious errors and untruths.

The Eskdale Governors have raised their own concerns (in their letter of 9th Feb to [REDACTED]) over various inaccuracies in it. Namely: -

"We, the Governors of Eskdale School, are writing to you as the report on the reorganisation of secondary education in Whitby contains a misrepresentation of our position. On sight of the draft proposal we registered our objections to paragraph 3 of appendix E; however we have been given to understand by North Yorkshire County Council that it is not legally possible for the draft to be amended. We have therefore decided that the proper course of action is to write to you in order to clarify our position.

The paragraph in question states that:

'Eskdale School's Ofsted inspection in November 2015 deemed the school, for the second time, to require improvement and this requires a decisive and rapid response. Eskdale governors have explored a range of options including academy conversion and a change of age range but now acknowledge there are no other options which could be in place quickly or securely enough to address the pressing need for improvement. It is unlikely to be able to secure the necessary improvement without the support of another educational provider.'

The Governor's position was and is that an 11-16 age range is an option that could drive forward school improvement and the Governors stand by the detailed business case that they produced to this end. This option may have been discounted by NYCC but the Governors believe that it was a viable alternative. We feel that the following amended paragraph would be factually correct:

'Eskdale School's Ofsted inspection in November 2015 deemed the school, for the second time, to require improvement and this requires a decisive and rapid response from the local authority. The report notes that there have been improvements in both leadership and governance since the last inspection. The decision to change the age range of the school is the principal way in which the governors hoped to bring about improvement, but it is the local authority's view that this is unlikely to be able to secure the rapid improvement without the support of another educational provider.'

We also wish to make the following comments to be noted:

1. Under Financial Issues 7.5 in the section in bold - after the words '..this being the specific proposal that the Eskdale Governors asked the local authority to consult on.' we feel that our position would be more clearly stated with the addition of the words 'following the limited options that were presented to them by the Local Authority in their Secondary School Provision in Whitby Options Appraisal document of December 2015.'

2. Eskdale School pupil numbers have been increasing – and this would be further increased by a change to 11-16."

The savings quoted in this appendix (under *How would the enlarged school be organised?*) seem fairly minor compared to the many other factors and issues raised in this response? Since transitional funding would be available for two years during which time staffing will no doubt have been cut (restructured) we fail to see how further significant savings can be made and continued in the medium and long term?

OMISSIONS/ISSUES NOT ADDRESSED in the report

Human Rights/Equality Acts

The United Nations Declaration of Human Rights allows parents the 'prior right to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children.' The European

Convention on Human Rights is more explicit: it gives parents the right to have their children educated 'in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions.' Parliament incorporated the European Convention into British law in the Human Rights Act 1998, where it is agreed that: '...the State shall respect the right of parents to ensure such education and teaching in conformity with their own religious and philosophical convictions.'

The Equality Act 2010 offers individuals "protection against discrimination "*Disadvantage*" could include denial of an opportunity or choice, deterrence, rejection or exclusion. The courts have found that „detriment“; a similar concept, is something about which a reasonable person would complain – so an unjustified sense of grievance would not amount to a disadvantage. A disadvantage does not have to be quantifiable and the pupil does not have to experience actual loss. **It is enough that the pupil can reasonably say that he or she would have preferred to be treated differently.**

A significant factor in determining whether a public authority is able to justify what may otherwise be unlawful indirect discrimination is the extent to which the public authority has complied with its public sector equality duty."

Psychological perspectives

„Happiness“ factor from Ofsted parent view (as above) is a very important aspect of achieving aspirations but this has been completely overlooked by the executive.

Neurologically, the teenage brain is at its peak of its development and undergoing rapid changes (synaptic pruning). Therefore adolescence is a very vulnerable time for the child in terms of their future outcomes. Environment, appropriate nurturing and stimulation have been found to be critical in this development. Children need to be empowered to develop aspirations. In a larger school there is less opportunity to „stand out“ and more chance to be „average“, children will not be empowered and emotional development hindered.

We are being told that the amalgamation will improve standards of education and quality of teaching; however evidence suggests that the most effective environments for engaging children in learning are those where there is individual attention and knowledge of students learning styles (Blatchford, Bassett & Brown, 2011). It could be argued that students may develop a greater sense of belonging in smaller sized schools than in larger sized schools. Specifically, when schools are small in size, students are more likely to get to know their teachers and their classmates on a more interpersonal level and therefore outcomes are improved.

Sense of belonging has long been regarded as fundamental to human motivation and learning (Baumeister & Leary, 1995). Anderman (2002) found that a perceived sense of belonging and connectedness to school had a significant in psychological and behavioural outcomes in addition to positive academic achievement. Sense of belonging comes from being heard, listened to and needs met - how can one large school provide this? It is not just about the attainment measure but we must not ignore the mental health implications over such a decision.

Educational environment can have profound effects on mental health and the impact of being in a large school has been proven to cause stress for many students. Having to leave the local community to access education can also prove stressful for many, so once again the issue of alternative provision is problematic and detrimental to a student's success. According to the Director of Children's Services he is committed to improving children's mental health and his twitter feed states "Change is at last coming" – unfortunately not in Whitby if this proposal is successful?

Relationship between school size and learning

There is:

- A greater sense of community in a smaller school, among students and teachers.
- A greater sense of identification with the school.
- More personalised relationships - teachers knowing their students well.

Size affects learning, behaviour, truancy and outcomes. It helps pupils to feel safe. One small school is better for many pupils rather than a large school on split sites in terms of them „feeling at home“ and well prepared for learning. SEN pupils cope much better in a smaller school.

Research supports this:

- (Newman et al -2006) Smaller schools create a more personalised learning environment, and greater interaction and participation by students and teachers.
- Hargreaves et al. (2009) provide a comprehensive overview of the challenges surrounding small schools in rural areas. Information used in the NYCC report highlighting the negative side of small schools - high costs, doubts about the quality of education are considered in this review. The authors say that these doubts are persistent but not always supported by the facts, and they go on to conclude that „there is little research on teaching and learning processes that might account for differential levels of performance, or on how or whether rural schools optimize the resources they have available to them“¹. The review confirms the generally accepted advantages of small schools, such as people knowing each other better, more personalised relationships, and easier connections with the local environment. They also highlight the social benefits for the local community, as the school is sometimes seen as the heart of small rural communities.
- In a subsequent review of mostly British studies on small rural schools, Hargreaves et al. (2009) provide further details about benefits and challenges of small rural schools. On the positive side they refer to high levels of mutual involvement and collegiality among staff, strong parental involvement and „voice“² and the positive esteem for teachers as professionals in rural communities. In the British studies small schools generally came out as being innovative, and show examples of positive effects of multiage classes. Despite this general innovativeness, small schools were somewhat behind in making good benefit of ICT provisions, and showed slow take-up of participation in national headship courses. All in all the review studies by Hargreaves et al. indicate more benefits for small schools than problems. Yet, negative scale effects on costs of very small schools are hard to neglect. Far less convincing is the criticism of lower school organizational and teaching quality in small rural schools. What one might expect is more variance in performance among small schools, as the quality would depend on fewer individuals, offering less opportunity for the leveling out of outlying cases (either very good or very bad teachers) than is the case in larger schools.

SUMMARY

“Choice and competition in markets can be thought of as two sides of the same coin: firms only compete for business when consumers are able to choose where to buy from, and schools only compete for pupils when there is more than one school they could go to” (Luke Sibieta, Research Economist at IFS)

This proposal for amalgamation appears to have been forced by the Governors of CCW pre-empted by a series of meetings, including one with Mr Dwyer in August. These were clearly held in reaction to the loss of funding that Eskdale’s 11-16 plans would have meant to them financially and not as part of a considered and thorough process.

The CCW Governors minutes of 2/12/15 (referred to on page 24) clearly give the Director of Children and Young People’s Services a choice – sort out an amalgamation or federation with Eskdale or we will go for academy status? This meeting was in addition to the previous planned Governor meetings, called prior to yet another meeting with Mr Dwyer, which was then very quickly followed up by the proposal to the Eskdale governors, giving them the consequent ultimatum.

There would undoubtedly be a monetary implication for NYCC but if the amalgamation were to go ahead and then CCW continued with their academy plans, it would ensure NYCC had the Eskdale land to sell so the loss would be lessened for them? Mr. Dwyer has already confirmed the „likelihood“ of a „Whitby Academy“.

Drawn up with a specific agenda, the report is in essence totally biased. If you compare it to the letter sent by CCW to the Eskdale Chair of Governors ([appendix E](#)) in June 2014, after Eskdale’s decision to go 11 -16, then the pattern of the argument is virtually identical and has clearly been the basis of his report. As previously noted, **there is no business case for the proposal**, which should have been constructed according to government best practice, and taking into account the monetary and non-monetary costs and benefits.

The majority of the statements in the report are made with **no evidence** and at best „likelihoods“ intended to satisfy a **predetermined outcome**. The statement about the value of the land has proved to be an outright lie. As a result we cannot trust any of the comments? We believe that the key issues raised in the report document (Reorganisation of Secondary Education in Whitby) are full of errors and misleading information, as highlighted in this response which is backed up by facts, not smoke and mirrors.

The following concerns are paramount in rejecting this proposal: -

- No choice for students and their parents and the consequent lack of competition. One size does not fit all.
- Comparable towns with a similar population, all have alternative options within a reasonable travelling distance (10/15 miles).
- Highways issues including traffic management, safety concerns and movement between sites

- Split site with a transition point; no different from the proposed 11 -16 plans for Eskdale
- Most evidence in report based Eskdale’s Ofsted report – no current report for CCW
- The proposal exists purely to fund a failing 6th form – no other options/partnerships have been considered to help solve this problem
- Loss to the community and many organisations based there
- NYCC very poor track record on amalgamations
- Breach of Human Rights and Equality Act
- Eskdale School is not a failing school

The proposal has paid only a token gesture to the **rising pupil numbers** - NYCC has confirmed that numbers will rise to 1,600 over next 10 years and this number has not included any of the new initiatives and developments coming to the area over the next 20 years (see page 20). These students could not be catered for on one split site, that will already be heaving at the seams.

The notion that closing Eskdale and moving students to Caedmon College is going to raise standards and save money is only an **interim measure**. It is based purely on ensuring that Caedmon College is failing to provide the 6th form that Whitby students truly deserve. The answer to the issue of providing quality 6th form provision in Whitby is therefore not to be found in the closure of Eskdale. All it will do is to deny students a choice for the future and the community an important hub. Students and parents of Whitby need choice and a long-term strategic plan that improves the education provision in the area, which is what a second 11-16 school would have done.

As previously noted and confirmed in Table 5, CCW’s A Level results do not compare favourably to other local North Yorkshire schools. In 2015 only 53% of students in CCW 6th form achieved 3 A Levels (A*- E) against 68% of students at Scarborough 6th Form (DfE Performance Tables). Therefore it is clearly not just about the subjects available – it is about quality and as the report points out teachers at Eskdale do not have A Level experience so clearly amalgamation is not going to help that problem.

In addition to the biased information contained in it, the proposal also contravenes the following NYCC policies: -

1. The North Yorkshire Community Plan 2014/17

One of the three priorities in this plan is: - *“Supporting and enabling North Yorkshire communities to have greater capacity to shape and deliver the services they need and to enhance their resilience in a changing world”*. Losing an important and well-used community hub is not support.

2. The Equality and Diversity Policy Statement (2012) states

“North Yorkshire County Council welcomes and celebrates diversity and the strengths this brings to our communities and workforce. The council aims to provide excellent and efficient local services enabling everyone to fulfil their potential. Treating everyone the same does not necessarily give people equality of opportunity. Sometimes we need to treat different people in a different way to give them equal access to a service or job”

One size does not fit all Whitby students and parents and therefore they must be treated differently to give them that equal access.

3. Council Plan 2020

This plan talks about NYCC’s vision for the future -

“That vision is about more than just dealing with cuts, and we are determined to take this opportunity to be more efficient and develop ways of working that are better for our customers.”

This proposal has no regard for the „customer“ and it is not efficient – the cost of the consultation alone could have been used to better to support Eskdale’s future?

4. „Young and Yorkshire“ (2014-2017)

In this plan for **all children, young people and their families living in North Yorkshire** [redacted] promises students **„to ensure the politicians of North Yorkshire continue to listen to you at all times and to prioritise your needs even in these challenging times”** and [redacted] confirms **“our priorities are based on clear evidence about what is needed and what works and –crucially –are driven by children and young people themselves have told us”**

The young people of Eskdale have clearly showed you how they feel

- Witness their wonderful speeches at the two Whitby Town Council meetings
- Watch their march on 13th February at which they were joined by students from CCW
- Their song, which is now on YouTube for all to see.

Their message could not be clearer – please refer to the section in this response on the Equality Act and in particular **“the pupil does not have to experience actual loss. It is enough that the pupil can reasonably say that he or she would have preferred to be treated differently”**

So NYCC, despite promoting children's rights, fails to fulfill this promise and consequently completely ignores parental rights. Parents are very worried and feel let down by NYCC promises – see [appendix C](#).

By trying to deny Eskdale the right to go 11-16 at the very last minute (the week GCSE option information went out to students and parents) you are stopping any form of competition, which might produce invidious comparisons. Without such choices – and competition between schools and between school systems – standards in North Yorkshire will continue to deteriorate.

Eskdale School is about: -

Education for the whole student

Choice

Developing initiative and responsibility

Accessibility

Strong relationships

Every child matters

The School has: -

Community woven into it

A focus on practical skills and on the creative arts

A dedicated group of teachers

A broad range of extracurricular activities

Strong parental involvement

On Question Time (18th Feb 2016) Justine Greening, a member of the current Cabinet stated that the Government wanted to give parents more choice when making decisions about schools and Nicky Morgan introduces the March 2016 White Paper by saying “***Children only get one chance at education and every child deserves the opportunity to reach their full potential***”

Finally we refer you to the Schools Organisation of Maintained Schools Guidance (Jan 2014) (appendix F), which states that decision makers must have regard to the following: -

- The decision-maker should consider the views of those affected by a proposal or who have an interest in it, including cross (LA) border interests. The decision-maker 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 directly affected by a proposal – especially parents of children at the affected school(s)**.
- Decision-makers should consider the quality and diversity of schools in the relevant area and **whether the proposal will meet or affect the aspirations of parents**; raise local standards and narrow attainment gaps.
- In assessing the demand for new school places the decision-maker should **consider the evidence presented for any projected increase in pupil population (such as planned housing developments)** and any new provision opening in the area (including free schools).
- The decision-maker should take into account the quality and **popularity of the schools in which spare capacity exists and evidence of parents’ aspirations for a new school or for places in a school proposed for expansion**. The existence of surplus capacity in neighbouring less popular schools should not in itself prevent the addition of new places.
- **Reducing surplus places is not a priority** (unless running at very high levels). For parental choice to work effectively there may be some surplus capacity in the system as a whole. **Competition from additional schools and places in the system will lead to pressure on existing schools to improve standards**.
- Closure proposals (under s15 EIA 2006)-The decision-maker should be satisfied that there is sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils in the area, taking into account the overall quality of provision, **the likely supply and future demand for places**. The decision-maker should consider **the popularity with parents of the schools in which spare capacity exists and evidence of parents’ aspirations for those schools**.

The Fight to Save Eskdale School campaign and the issues raised in this report have highlighted the strength of feeling in the community for Eskdale School – if it were to close there would be no going back and the decision would severely impact future generations and the options open to them.

Change is required, but this consultation has opened up the opportunity for change – to learn from the mistakes of the previous two Ofsted reports, to strengthen the Governing Body and to move the school forward from strength to strength. The parents on the campaign group have proved that they could be part of a pro-active group including joining the Governing Body to fill the gaps left by recent departures. The school has promised to take up the gauntlet and look for support from an outstanding school beyond Whitby, which can move Eskdale forward.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

The report does not raise alternatives, or look at the option of the retention of two schools (11-16 and 11-19). This clearly needs more investigation.

If NYCC were to sell part of CCW's Scoresby site, retaining the area of the Astro turf/adjacent building and the tennis courts as below



This solution would ease congestion in Whitby, as student movement could be minimised and some of the current field at the Normanby site could be used for better access, parking and remodelled new buildings. They have already built in front of the old Grammar School facade. It is not uncommon for secondary students to have to walk to their playing fields and this would significantly reduce student movement and staff supervision.

The remaining land can be sold to a developer- the area remaining is approximately the same size as the Eskdale site and would raise similar monies, if not more than Eskdale, due to its closer proximity to the centre.

How much would this cost?

Eskdale site

The cost to converting Eskdale to 11-16 is initially very small and quotes obtained by Eskdale for a new science laboratory/food technology room and some temporary

classrooms were less than £200,000. This would allow the school to accommodate 550 students.

Normanby Site

Minimal investment into Normanby site as you have suggested, and we have pointed out above, they would easily be able to accommodate the remaining students.

LAND VALUATIONS

LAND VALUES TO BUILDERS	Building Information							
	Area m ²	Average house plot m ²	Minimum number of houses	Build cost per typical 3 bed house	Selling price	Total expenditure cost	Total income	Profit
Retain area around Astro turf	45000	100	200	£160,000.00	£250,000.00	£32,000,000.00	£50,000,000.00	£18,000,000.00
Entire Scoresby site	71000	100	350	£160,000.00	£250,000.00	£56,000,000.00	£87,500,000.00	£31,500,000.00
Eskdale Site								
Entire site	43700	100	180	£160,000.00	£250,000.00	£28,800,000.00	£45,000,000.00	£16,200,000.00

(The above table gives a rough guide as to the potential value to a builder of the land - Source Spoons book - clearly this is the most lucrative financially)

The monies raised by the sale of the Scoresby land could then be also used for the CCW 6th form. The 6th form, however, is not just about the money so it may be time to also consider other options there as well.

NYCC need to look at alternatives for improving the 6th Form issues e.g. franchising with a local Further Education College (such as Grimsby Institute or Middlesbrough College) or a successful 6th form college (Scarborough) and/or a successful training provider like the Fishing School? Locally, Prior Pursglove and Stockton 6th Form are merging but keeping both campuses to provide choice for students.

Finally the new Government White Paper says that “**Achieving educational excellence everywhere relies on the commitment and dedication of everyone involved in our education system – leaders, teachers, sponsors, members of governing boards, and parents**” The Eskdale campaign has proved that commitment, the consultation process has shown the level of support for the school. Please do not let this important educational and community resource be lost to Whitby – **one option is no option**. Halt the proposal, stop the amalgamation and support Eskdale School in becoming an outstanding local 11-16 school for the local community.

We feel that the decision to even consider closing Eskdale School is “**so unreasonable that no reasonable authority could ever have come to it**”; therefore if the decision to close goes forward, we will have to pursue a judicial review.

APPENDIX A

Town	Number of Secondary Schools within 10 mile radius of towns in the UK with Population 13,000 – 14,000 (2011 Census)			
	Maintained	Academy	Independent	Total
Knottingley	7	17	2	26
Bourne	1	9	3	13
Ringwood	1	18	8	27
Ashtead	3	11	15	29
Beccles	3	10	2	15
Houghton-le-Spring	7	21	2	30
Beaconsfield	4	22	7	33
Enniskillen	4	4	1	9
Church Village	14	0	3	17
Chertsey	5	16	10	31
Bridport	3	1	1	5
Blackfield	11	10	7	28
Pyle	3	5	2	10
Standish	4	16	8	28
Middlewich	8	17	2	27
Wymondham	5	14	6	25
Milford Haven	5	0	2	7
Carlisle	7	8	2	17
Market Deeping	4	16	5	25
New Rossington	0	21	2	23
Womburne	9	11	3	23
Shepshed	2	21	4	27
Rhollanerchrugog	10	2	5	17
Chard	4	2	2	8
Lees	8	13	5	26
Linlithgow	10	11	2	23
Innsworth	2	18	9	29
Oxted	6	8	11	25
Uppermill	10	14	5	29
Rosyth	17	2	0	19
Corsham	2	18	11	31
Abergavenny	7	0	1	8
Milden Hall	2	6	2	10
Verwood	3	20	6	29
Alsager	13	6	2	21
Rhondda	15	1	1	17
Bacup	16	3	3	22
Mayfield	6	6	8	20

Bishops Cleeve	13	4	3	20
Berwick upon Tweed	6	0	1	6
Llantrisant	16	0	2	18
Newhaven	6	1	0	7
Knutsford	5	19	4	28
Strabane	4	1	1	6
Haslemere	4	7	13	24
Fraserburgh	2	2	0	4
Uttoxeter	2	5	4	11
Driffield	3	0	0	3
Stocksbridge	5	19	4	28
Alexandria	15	6	0	21
Bracklesham	6	12	4	22

APPENDIX B

Letters of support from users of the school

1) Fishburn Park Football Club

22nd March 2016

Re: Fishburn Park Football Club

The Club has been established for 75 years and we now have the most teams we have ever had. Longest serving team in the Teesside league.

We have a lease on the access to Broomfield Park for 25 years, we are 6 years into the lease. There is a Portacabin on site for changing rooms and the track is the only access for emergency vehicles.

If the pitches disappear there will be no where else to accommodate the Club in Whitby.

There are under 10, 2 x under 11, under 13, under 14 and under 15 teams plus 2 senior teams and a ladies team. We have enough interest to set up two under 8 teams but because of the uncertainty surrounding the playing fields the Club does not feel it can make the move at the moment.

We were not informed of this proposal by the council and feel we should have been.

This proposal is not just going to effect the pupils at Eskdale School but other users as well.

The Committee voted strongly against the amalgamation going ahead and will, if needed, seek legal action if they (NYCC) take away the access road during our lease.



Adam Bell (Coach) Fishburn Park FC

2) Eskdale School Tennis Club

Sixteen years ago, feeling that the School was a community facility, Dave Bradley (Head) and myself (Head of PE), decided that the formation of a Tennis Club would encourage the local community to play more tennis, use the facility to its full potential, and encourage responsible use. The initiative has been fully supported by subsequent Heads and continues to thrive.

The club has an average of 100 members, making it consistently, the second largest in the Borough of Scarborough. It has regular coaching sessions and supervised club sessions for juniors. (In bad weather the school gym is made available at no extra charge). It is the only club in Whitby providing club play and coaching for young people aged 6 to 16 years. It is in an area of social deprivation. It has offered free tennis to young people supported by social services and outside of recognised schooling. We are affiliated to the Lawn Tennis Association (the fee subsidised by the School) and that has financial and other benefits for our members. The courts are available all year outside of school sessions and many family groups play as it is generally non-competitive. The courts are not locked so it provides a place for local people to get fresh air and exercise, as there is a pay to play option.

Because of the realistic annual membership fee (£5), and easy access, it has become the place for visitors to the town to play tennis while on holiday. In 2015 the Leisure Centre courts became unusable so their staff frequently refer active families to Eskdale School Tennis Club. Having played, those families have expressed a desire to join us again when they revisit the town.

The implications of closure would be the loss of a facility to the local community and the town as a whole, as evidenced above.

Eskdale School has the largest number of courts in the town (4) and no other site could accommodate the extra number of members. The LTA ratio is 40 members per court. Closure of facilities without replacement is not encouraged by Sport England and within the town space is at a premium. The recent SBC analysis identified Eskdale School Tennis club as one of the few growing clubs.

Wendy Hurworth.
Secretary Eskdale School TC.

3) Whitby Company of Archers



12, Westbourne Grove
Whitby
North Yorks.
YO21 3NG.

Tel. 01947 821125

E. mail ian.thomson@fsmail.net

To whom it may concern,

We, The Whitby Company of Archers, would like to register our strongest objections to the possible closure of Eskdale School and the development of the playing fields. It would not only have a devastating impact on sport and leisure in Whitby but in the surrounding areas as well


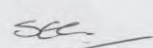
Archery is a unique sport that everyone can compete in together regardless of age, sex or disability. We have members aged from eight to eighty some with disabilities, and we all shoot together with no restrictions.

Whitby Company of Archers are a long established archery club who pride themselves as being a community club. We have a large catchment area with members travelling from Marske, Guisborough, Pickering and the North York Moors as there are no other similar clubs in the area. We work with the community whenever we can, offering the experience of the sport of archery to many varied groups. We offer "have a go" sessions at Danby Moors Centre, Guisborough Forest and Rydale Folk Museum to name but three. We also work with Whitby DAG and have had great success in their "Friendship Through Sport" program where we have encouraged many people with various forms of disability to progress with the sport. We also work closely with Yorkshire MIRT an institution designed to help the rehabilitation of wounded service personnel. Our proudest moment was when a Marine we introduced to archery won a medal at the Invictus Games.

Our achievements are only possible because we have the use of the sports field at Eskdale and the support of its staff. Archery is a sport that requires a large area of flat land to safely practice, land that is scarce in Whitby. With the loss of Eskdale School, sports in Whitby would be concentrated into a small area, competition to use that land would be fierce. The cost of either buying or renting suitable land would be prohibitive, we are after all, a small club and our finances are limited.

We would ask you to deeply consider the long term effect that this proposal would have, not only with the education of the children of Whitby, but with the health and recreation of the whole community of Whitby.

Yours sincerely

4) Whitby Music Centre

To whom it may concern,

I write to demonstrate the importance of Eskdale School to music making and music education in our community.

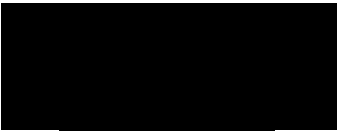
Eskdale School plays an important role in supporting music making in our community. As Manager of Whitby Music Centre I am indebted to the school for opening its doors to us as a rehearsal venue for half the year and as a concert venue all the year round. The school even had storage facilities built for Music Centre equipment.

As well as acting as a concert venue for the Music Centre the school has worked with us on many major projects over the years. Two recent examples would be our "Open Day" and our "Wider opportunities" workshop. The first being our Music Centre "Open Day". For our "Open Day" the school were happy to allow us use of most of the whole school premises to make the event a success. The workshop involved 200 children from many of our primary schools playing Brass, String and woodwind instruments as a show case for the "Wider Opportunities" programme. The school did not hesitate to accommodate us for this when - at short notice - we asked them if they would host the event.

In addition to hosting a whole range of musical events, for many years the school has also acted as the venue for all practical and theoretical music exams for both the Associated Board and Trinity examination boards. In this role it has provided all examination candidates with an excellent service from efficient stewarding to warming up rooms, waiting rooms and the all-important isolated exam room.

Eskdale school is and always has been a corner stone for music making in Whitby.

Bob Butterfield



Whitby Music Centre Manager

5) Ultimate Soccer

- I REPRESENT ALLAN PRICE, MY BROTHER. THE OWNER & MANAGING DIRECTOR OF ULTIMATE SOCCER SCHOOL.
- HE HAS SUCCESSFULLY RUN HIS HOLIDAY COACHING COURSES FOR 11 YEARS FROM ESKDALE'S PREMISES WITH USE OF THE FIELDS, HALL & CHANGING ROOMS.
- ESKDALE HAVE ENABLED HIM TO MAKE A SUCCESS OF HIS VENTURE TO DATE DUE TO OFFERING THE ONLY AFFORDABLE RATES AVAILABLE IN THIS AREA FOR SUCH FACILITIES.
- WITHOUT THEM HIS BUSINESS MAY NO LONGER SURVIVE, MORE EXPENSIVE PREMISES MEANS HAVING TO CHARGE PARENTS MUCH MORE FOR HIM TO MAKE ENDS MEET.
- HE IS A LOCAL LAD OFFERING AN EXCELLENT SERVICE TO CHILDREN OF THE AREA.

Signed

Emily Price

6) Scarborough Borough Council Sports Development

Service Delivery
Town Hall
St Nicholas Street
Scarborough
YO11 2HG
Tel: 01723 232323



DO IT ONLINE
SCARBOROUGH.GOV.UK

SCARBOROUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

Your Ref:
Our Ref:

4 March 2016

Dear To Whom It May Concern

Playing Pitches – Whitby

I am writing to you with regard to the situation regarding formal playing pitches in the town area of Whitby, in terms of provision, latent demand and also future strategic development. All the information contained in this letter is taken from our Playing Pitch Strategy that was published in October 2013, after an extensive research and consultation period. The following five paragraphs summarise the findings with regard to provision;

- Based on current levels of play there is currently a small amount of spare capacity (-1 match equivalent sessions) on senior pitches during the peak period. Spare capacity also exists elsewhere during the week.
- There is a small amount of overuse (+1 match equivalent session) on the junior 11-a-side pitches at Eskdale School. This is due to the many sources of demand placed on the pitches; they are used by the school and by Fishburn Park FC for competitive junior matches and for training purposes.
- There is currently no spare capacity on mini-soccer (7v7) pitches during the peak period. However, there is spare capacity (-7 match equivalent sessions) elsewhere during the week.
- There is only a very small amount of latent and displaced demand within the Whitby analysis area; 1 match equivalent per week in total. This will reduce the amount of spare capacity available on senior pitches; from 2 sessions to 1 session.
- The impact of future demand will be limited; there will be a lesser amount of spare capacity during and outside of the peak period for senior pitches.

The following statements refer to strategic recommendations within the Playing Pitch Strategy;



do it online www.scarborough.gov.uk

F14: Seek to address the existing overuse at Eskdale School, Whitby. The junior 11 pitches on this site are currently being overused by +1 match equivalent session per week. In addition to use by the school during term time, the pitches are heavily used by Fishburn Park FC, both for competitive fixtures and training purposes. It is anticipated that the capacity and quality issues at Eskdale School may deteriorate over time and will need to be addressed by engaging with the club to discuss club development and explore the possibilities of them utilising other facilities within the area for training or playing.

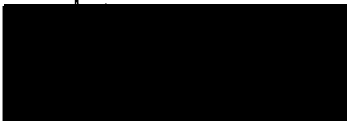
F15: Engage with effected clubs to consider the potential replacement of the 11v11 football pitch at White Leys with a rugby union pitch. The existing 2 rugby union pitches at White Leys are currently being overused by half a session per week. Given that Whitby RUFC have plans to increase its number of teams, additional pitch capacity will be required. The most effective way of creating additional capacity would be to replace the existing 11v11 football pitch on the site with an additional rugby union pitch. There is sufficient capacity on senior 11v11 pitches elsewhere in the town to accommodate the teams (Whitby Wanderers and Whitby RFC) who will be displaced as a result of the redevelopment.

F16: Identify a site for the potential development of a 3G pitch. Although Whitby has a full size sand-based AGP, the addition of a 3G pitch would ease the usage of existing pitches in the area, create a high quality training facility and provide a key location for the delivery of junior fixtures. An appropriate site needs to be identified for such a facility. Expressions of interest have been submitted to the FA Facility Enquiry Form by Eskdale School for the 3G and also by Caedmon College Whitby for re – surfacing their current facility.

F17: Work with Eskdale School and Fishburn Park FC to develop a new changing facility at the Eskdale School site. Fishburn Park FC has been actively seeking the development of modern changing facilities on the Eskdale School site. This is viewed as the main priority for the club and they should be supported. The Eskdale School site as a whole would also benefit from a robust pitch management system.

If you require any further information on any of the points above please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Yours faithfully



Matt Hewison
Sports Development Officer

 email.matt.hewison@scarborough.gov.uk
 www.scarborough.gov.uk
 [@scarborocouncil](https://twitter.com/scarborocouncil)
 [/scarboroughcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/scarboroughcouncil)
 01723 232551 | 07967 465328

APPENDIX C

Young and Yorkshire.... Are our young people actually being listened to?

When it comes to the proposal to amalgamate Eskdale School and Caedmon College Whitby, I fear that our young people aren't even being considered, 'One size does not fit all' after all! They want to feel **that what they want matters**, this whole proposal contradicts what the Young and Yorkshire plan is telling us!

Young and Yorkshire is a new three-year plan from North Yorkshire Children's Trust for all children, young people and their families living in North Yorkshire. It asked our young people what they wanted...

Having read through this impressive piece of literature on how everything is being done to improve the lives of the young people in Yorkshire, I thought I'd look and see how this will actually **work**. All too often people sat in an office, who have no real idea of what is needed, decide these things. Number crunching, balancing books, yes, this is part of it, but it should never be the priority when decisions are being made. I feel we need to keep sight of what is **best** for the children at all times.

'Our priorities are based on clear evidence about what is needed and what works, and crucially are driven by what children and young people themselves have asked for.' - Young and Yorkshire.

*What evidence is this based on? Where? Can you elaborate? When the young people have asked for more things to do, have you **actually** listened? Or fobbed them off with saying there had to be a compromise? You are proposing to take away more than you are giving! Losing Tennis, Football, Archery and a Christian Fellowship group. How is this listening to what young people have asked for? If you are taking these facilities away, what exactly are you proposing to replace them with?*

'We will not rest until we can confidently say that all North Yorkshire children's life chances are in their own hands, rather than being determined by geography or family circumstances.' -Young and Yorkshire.

How is the amalgamation proposal putting life chances in their own hands? They are being deprived of a choice... and being punished because they live in a geographically isolated place, surely choosing your own path is a very important life skill? The children whose parents can't afford the added cost of transport for schooling out of town, will be forced to attend a school they didn't choose!

Your principles state....

These principles underpin everything we do, for all the children and families, all of the time:

- Involve children, young people and their families at all stages of planning, delivering and evaluating services;

*How have you involved people in **all** stages of planning? This has been discussed behind closed doors for far too long, where is the transparency there? This feels like a decision has already been made, prior to all this being made public.*

- Resolve families' problems before they escalate by offering early help that develops resilience and self-reliance;
- Ensure that the safety and protection of children and young people is everybody's business;
- Strive for excellence in everything we do;
- Work in close partnerships, in the best interests of children, young people and families'.

Supporting Outcomes

Children feel safe and are safe.

'We will work together across the Children's Trust to ensure the children feel safe and are safe at all stages of their lives. This work will include further measures to promote safety on our roads and to reduce deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.' - Young and Yorkshire.

Having looked at the site at Caedmon, (it being on a main road that has a speed limit of 40mph) I worry that the safety and protection of our children is not your priority! How will the pathways and roads cope with the extra children? The amount of traffic here, will undoubtedly increase? There is only one road in and out, has this been

properly thought about? What measures are being put in to ensure this doesn't create real problems? I want to feel assured that this has been looked at, I aren't filled with much hope!

You say that you;

“Recognise that fun, happiness and enjoyment of life are also important.”

Sometimes in drawing up Plan like this, we can get diverted into graphs, percentages and performance measures- and lose sight of the fact that we are dealing with young people in all their marvellous unpredictability. This principle exists to remind us of this, and that not everything that is important to children and young people can be measured in conventional ways.

Firstly, and most importantly, we will regularly listen to what children and young people are saying. In the past, this so called “soft” intelligence was not necessarily given as a high priority as numerical data or information about processes. For this new Plan, we will place the “voice of the child” at the top of our methods for checking our performances.

Through your consultations some clear themes have emerged. 94% of 10 year olds believe it is important to attend school regularly. However, one in four secondary pupils enjoys fewer than half of their lessons. You contradict yourselves enormously here, the “voice of the child” will only be listened to if it fits in with your grand plans, this is the voice of our next generation, do they not deserve a little more respect?!

Eskdale School is extremely proud of how happy our children actually are, doesn't this count for anything?

In our Parent View, 95% of parents who answered (67) said their child was happy at school, in comparison to 80% (25 answered) at Caedmon College Whitby, with 16% of those 25 saying they strongly disagreed. Out of 67 parents at Eskdale, 91% would recommend the school to another parent, comparatively Caedmon College Whitby, only 84% (out of 25) would recommend their school.

Do these views even get considered? I fear not!

Growing up in North Yorkshire

‘As England’s largest county, North Yorkshire is a place of contrasts. For many of our children and young people, their upbringing will essentially be a rural one, with farming the main industry. Others will grow up in one of our many market towns. Most will develop a deep love for the beautiful countryside that surrounds them, including two large National Parks. However, for some, there may sometimes be a sense of isolation, with long distances to the amenities that many of their contemporaries take for granted.’ – Young and Yorkshire.

Other findings were concerns about self-esteem, body image and bullying, with one in five secondary pupils worried that they will be bullied because of the way they look. There are concerns about rural isolation, with hopes for more local amenities, health and other public services, and better transport links. There is also a desire to be readily able to access organized sports and leisure facilities, and many young people expressed the wish to have more places to simply ‘hang out’ with their mates. – Young and Yorkshire.

*So when the children can perhaps feel vulnerable and isolated, let's not take away the safety and security of a caring, nurturing school, and leisure activities they enjoy and then take away a choice when it comes to their education. There is a massive push at the moment to promote active lives, especially in children. If you are proposing to take the few facilities away they do have, how, with the diminishing services on transport, are they supposed to access activities?! They simply cannot! Think about this, It's not too late to admit it isn't the right thing to do! We need **MORE** not less! You have researched this, (at great expense no doubt) don't ignore what is being asked for, otherwise all this research is a huge waste of taxpayers' money!*

In section 7.2 you say;

‘We are also conscious that it has not been possible to respond directly to every point made to us in the consultation. The expressed wish for “more things to do” and “transport” will present particular difficulties at a time of diminishing public funding; however, we will ensure that young people’s views are built into the plans to develop more self-reliant local communities and will keep them in mind when suitable funding becomes available.’

This is a convenient cop out, if ever I saw one, we want your opinions young people, but we won't necessarily do anything to deliver what you want! The request of more things to do is very quickly making its way down the list of priorities! So let us keep the few things we do have! You clearly have no plans in the near future for more; let's not offer less!!

In section 8.12 you also say;

The proposals in this Plan will shift the focus from direct delivery of universal provision to one, which is targeted, on those greatest levels of need whilst retaining our shared recognition of the importance of early intervention. In developing these proposals, we have given priority to those children and young people who are at risk or harm or are in need of care and protection. We recognize that this means it will be difficult to achieve everything that children and young people have asked of us (for example, the wish for more "things to do") through conventional funding routes and will therefore explore ways to approach this more creatively, for example by helping communities to develop local solutions.

Once again, another cop out, we listen to young people, but will find an excuse to not give you what you REALLY want! We will in fact take groups away. Where are you proposing our local community groups go, to provide our children and young people with things to do? They cannot magic up places with no funding available! Don't regret taking away these facilities!

Another little nugget, approximately 260 children are home schooled in North Yorkshire, I have personally heard much talk of this being the only viable option for some, so this figure is set to increase! How will this affect budgets and money that goes into schools? To lose just a few children out of a school is surely something to consider, teachers don't work for free, bums on seats pays the wages, it's as simple as that! The biggest outgoing is the wage bill, quite rightly, as the teaching of the children is the most important part in all this!

68% of secondary schools in North Yorkshire (under the national average) are considered good or outstanding, 70 schools are classed as Requires Improvement, why are we below when we excel in other areas? What have the Local Authority done to rectify this, helping with solutions? Or highlighting problems with no real plan to improve things? **In Eskdale's latest section 8 inspection report (4th March 2014) this was said, "Scrutiny of Local Authority notes of visit and reviews indicate that they have been more pointed in highlighting the school's short comings and more forthright in determining the nature of support and guidance to provide."**

Why are so many schools in North Yorkshire requiring improvement? Clearly there is a failing by those county officials brought in to support the schools – surely these people should be held to account, not just the school themselves, surely the schools are following the directives of these people who are supposedly here to help and move all these schools into good.

This tells me that they haven't necessarily helped with *actual* solutions, rather going over what the problems were.

There is a real surge in schools amalgamating, but taking an RI school (Caedmon's last Ofsted said this is where they were at) and putting it with a good school, surely this is just juggling/hiding figures, so I think the true figure will be a lot lower than 68% if it was looked into closely.

What evidence is there that the amalgamation was even a success? The newly formed school may not even get a 'good' in its next Ofsted, how can we be assured that this will be the outcome? They haven't had an external verifier say what the school now is, yes, a Local Authority judgement of 'good' but this isn't always the same outcome as an Ofsted! Surely taking yet another school in, can only cause transitional problems in the near future, not make the path any easier!

The merger at Raincliffe and Graham School went disastrously wrong, with them ending up in special measures! How can we as parents feel confident this won't happen here?! And that only involved 2 schools, this is talking about taking a newly amalgamated school and adding another, with absolutely no evidence that the previous one has been successful!

So in conclusion,

Young and Yorkshire, in my opinion, is lovely, if you take into account it is just fancy words with no conviction, it doesn't actually offer solutions, just a play on words.

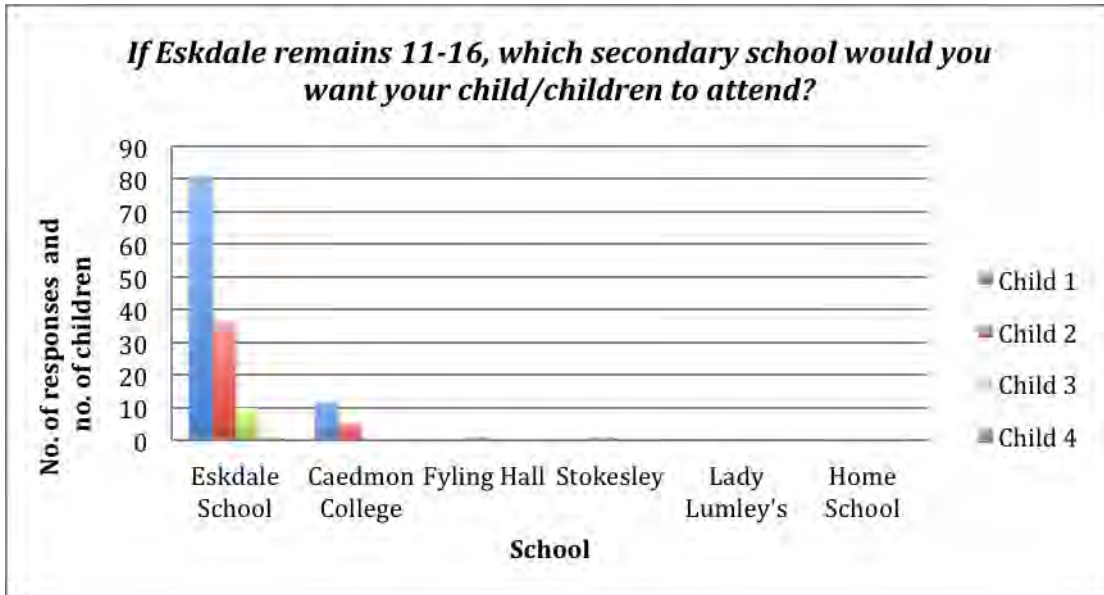
Our young people, our next generation, deserve a voice, otherwise we are at risk of them becoming disengaged and not interested, as they are told what they are able to do, and the list of what they can't do becomes ever longer!

Paula Poole
Concerned Parent and resident of Whitby.

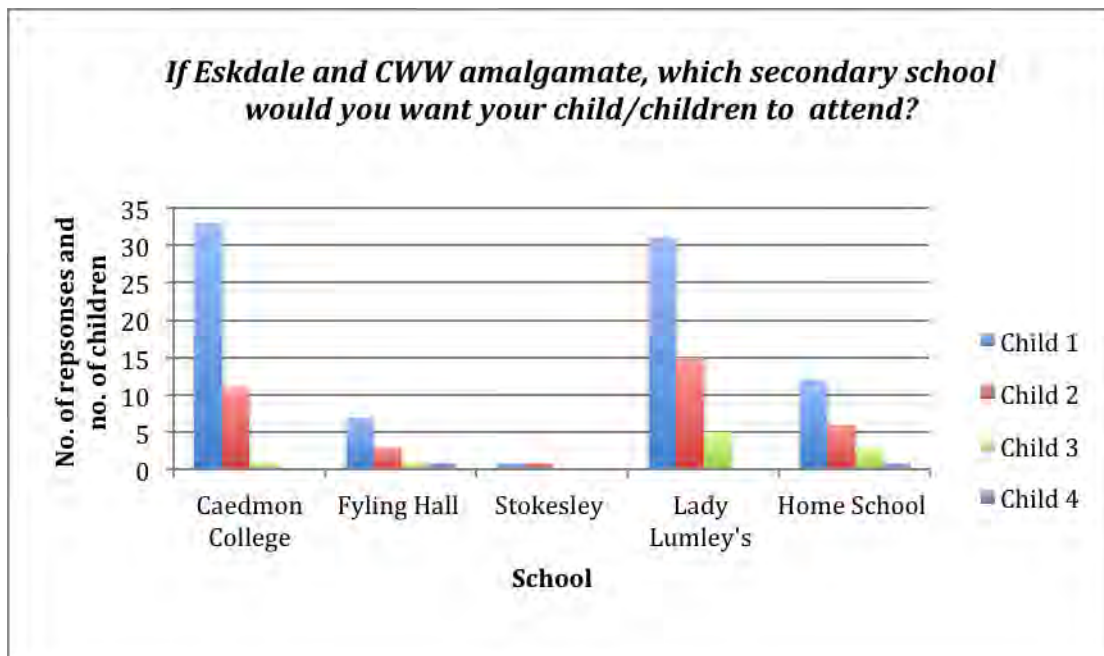
APPENDIX D

Results of parent's survey

Survey of parents of students in years 1 to 11



The figure shows that of parents who participated in the survey, the majority would wish for their child(ren) to attend Eskdale School, if this were an option.



The figure shows that of parents who participated in the survey, that is CCW and Eskdale were to amalgamate, approximately 50% of students from the local area would be lost to Lady Lumley's and a further 30% would consider home education.

APPENDIX E (obtained via FOI request)

Scoresby Site
Airy Hill
Whitby
North Yorkshire
YO21 1QA



Normanby Site
Prospect Hill
Whitby
North Yorkshire
YO21 1LA

Tel: 01947 602406 | **Fax:** 01947 821169 | **Web:** www.ccwhitby.co.uk | **Email:** post@ccwhitby.co.uk

19 June 2015

Mrs S Verrill
Chair of the Governing Body
Eskdale School

Dear Mrs Verrill

Response by the Governors of Caedmon College Whitby to the Consultation regarding Eskdale School's proposal to extend its Age Range

I am writing this letter as part of the consultation process and therefore would like it to be considered alongside the responses of other key stakeholders, such as the local authority. I would also ask that these responses be published.

It is our opinion that the status quo is no longer tenable and that both schools, in their different ways, are attempting to deal with this. We feel that this is a decisive moment for education in Whitby and it is incumbent on the Governors of both Eskdale and CCW to find the best possible outcome for all young people in the Whitby area.

Our principle comments relating to the proposed changes at Eskdale are as follows:

Consultation

The statement in the consultation that the wider public supports this proposal is not evidenced. It is not clear who supports the proposal outside the parents of pupils at Eskdale School.

Although governing bodies are no longer required to follow a statutory process for such changes, they are nevertheless required to adhere to the usual principles of public law: they must act rationally; they must take into account all relevant considerations; and they must follow a fair procedure. Governing bodies must ensure effective consultation with interested parties, to gauge the demand for their proposed changes and to provide them with sufficient opportunity to give their views.

We consider that a full and comprehensive consultation should have been undertaken in order that all parents might have a say in the future of education in Whitby. We feel that people across the Whitby area have a right to know the 'bigger picture', that is to know the effect the proposal will have on Whitby education as a whole. For this reason we will inform our parents as to how we expect the Eskdale proposal will impact on CCW.

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Associate Principal:
Tony Hewitt, BEd (Hons), MA

Principal:
Keith Prytherch, BEd, MBA

Academic considerations

We consider that the extension of the age range at Eskdale will not offer a real alternative for most pupils, since, according to the consultation document, there is no intention to create a substantially different educational offer. Furthermore, it cannot make sense to further stretch resources - particularly in a time of falling rolls and impending funding cuts - when both schools are already under considerable pressure in terms of finances and recruitment. Indeed, the move will intensify the difficulties of recruiting teaching staff to the area.

We also consider that, at Key Stage 4, students can particularly benefit from bigger year groups, more specialist teachers, enriched activities and better resources - this proposal limits the opportunity for either school to achieve this.

Eskdale School consistently presents itself as offering a choice. In reality it does not represent a true choice given its limited capacity and the fact that most students therefore have to go to CCW. Eskdale School now proposes to reduce this 'choice' further by reducing its Pupil Admissions Number: this could adversely affect the Esk Valley schools who traditionally have had links with the school and whose children might no longer obtain their first choice of secondary school.

Furthermore, we would argue that choice is not as important a factor as quality. In the case of Whitby, the existence of a 'choice' over the last 30 years has not resulted in any significant academic advantage. It has, it could be argued, led to two weaker and under-resourced schools. Eskdale School's proposal will further weaken both schools and further intensify competition for scarce resources, including qualified, specialist teaching staff.

Financial considerations

In the opinion of the Local Authority, the impact of Eskdale School's proposal on CCW will be the loss of around 220 pupils from the roll and about £1m from the budget. This will obviously have a number of serious consequences given that the budget is already stretched and given the projected cuts in public spending.

The proposal would also mean that CCW will no longer be able to form a Multi-Academy Trust because of the adverse impact on its budget. We therefore consider that the proposal constitutes a serious waste of public resources through duplication - especially given the good resources and the spare capacity at CCW.

Sixth Form

The Local Authority has supported our view that one of the main effects of Eskdale School's proposal will be the impact on the Sixth Form educational offer in Whitby. The teaching of certain sixth form subjects is subsidised by Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 funding. Therefore, the educational offer at sixth form level will be greatly reduced - less well attended 'minority' subjects, such as MFL, art and music, etc, may have to cease. Unlike in more populated areas, we are unable to complement subjects with offers at other further education institutions nearby. This will mean that many sixth form students will be forced to travel to other colleges which will, in turn, cause further falls in the number of students on roll and the resources available for Whitby students.

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Scoresby Site
Airy Hill
Whitby
North Yorkshire
YO21 1QA



Normanby Site
Prospect Hill
Whitby
North Yorkshire
YO21 1LA

Tel: 01947 602406 | **Fax:** 01947 821169 | **Web:** www.ccwhitby.co.uk | **Email:** post@ccwhitby.co.uk

Furthermore, at a cost of around £500 a year, the option to travel will not be open to all. We feel that everyone needs a strong sixth form in Whitby – Eskdale School pupils included - and that, in considering Eskdale School's proposal, it is the duty of Eskdale School's Governing Body to be very mindful of this.

CCW therefore proposes a range of possible solutions

1) In the first instance CCW concurs with the long standing view of the Local Authority that, in the interest of the whole community, Eskdale School Governors should follow Caedmon School's example and merge with CCW. This would allow teaching resources to be properly concentrated and maximised, enormous savings through economies of scale and a proper focus on building a much better educational offer for all young people in the area. We believe that a school such as Eskdale, which has the trust and respect of its parents, can lead them through whatever process it perceives as in the best interests of their children.

2) It is evident that the two schools are now on two mutually incompatible courses which, if not resolved in a considered and impartial way, will lead to considerable damage to education and to the local community as a whole. We therefore propose that both schools should approach the DfE for an independent review of the situation.

3) Informal working arrangements have not worked sufficiently well.

- CCW understands Eskdale School's unhappiness at the extension in Key Stage 4. However, as you will know, this change is not only happening at CCW but is part of a wider change across the country. We consider that a more positive response would be to implement greater and better collaboration between the schools at Year 9.
- CCW has consistently argued for a structurally closer relationship with Eskdale School - be it through attempts to bring Eskdale School into a federation or through the recent offer to co-found a Multi-Academy Trust.
- CCW once again asks that Eskdale School enters into some kind of formal structural agreement with CCW that will allow for proper collaboration in Year 9 and enable us all to work together for a better educational future for the young people in the Whitby area.

In conclusion, CCW urges Eskdale School Governors to reconsider their proposal, which might benefit Eskdale pupils but which is highly detrimental to the majority of pupils in the area. CCW considers that, in a small, isolated community, the Governors of Eskdale School have a responsibility to act in the best interests of all pupils in the area. The most important factor, surely, is to provide the very best education possible for all the pupils in the Whitby area.

Yours sincerely

The Full Governing Body
Caedmon College Whitby

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Associate Principal:
Tony Hewitt, BEd (Hons), MA

Principal:
Keith Prytherch, BEd, MBA

School Organisation Maintained Schools
Annex B: Guidance for Decision-makers - January 2014

Key points

1. This Annex is for local authorities, the Schools Adjudicator and governing bodies in their roles as decision-makers. It is relevant to the 2013 School Organisation Regulations¹. Decisions on proposals published before 28 January 2014 must be made with regard to the previous Decision-makers Guidance.

2. The table in Annex A.5 sets out the decision-maker for each type of school organisation proposal. The department does not prescribe the exact process by which a decision-maker carries out their decision-making function; however, decision-makers must have regard to this guidance when making a decision.

3. The decision-maker should consider the views of those affected by a proposal or who have an interest in it, including cross-LA border interests. The decision-maker 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 directly affected by a proposal – especially parents of children at the affected school(s).

Education standards and diversity of provision

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

12. The decision-maker should also take into account the extent to which the proposal is consistent with the government's policy on academies as set out on the department's website.

Demand

13. In assessing the demand for new school places the decision-maker should consider the evidence presented for any projected increase in pupil population (such as planned housing developments) and any new provision opening in the area (including free schools).

14. The decision-maker should take into account the quality and popularity of the schools in which spare capacity exists and evidence of parents' aspirations for a new school or for places in a school proposed for expansion. The existence of surplus capacity in neighbouring less popular schools should not in itself prevent the addition of new places.

15. Reducing surplus places is not a priority (unless running at very high levels). For parental choice to work effectively there may be some surplus capacity in the system as a whole. Competition from additional schools and places in the system will lead to pressure on existing schools to improve standards.

Closure proposals (under s15 EIA 2006)

54. The decision-maker should be satisfied that there is sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils in the area, taking into account the overall quality of provision, the likely supply and future demand for places. The decision-maker should consider the popularity with parents of the schools in which spare capacity exists and evidence of parents' aspirations for those schools.