APPENDIX 8

Statutory proposals

Proposals to restructure the federation into separate infant and junior schools with Bainbridge Church of England (VC) Primary and Nursery School becoming an infant school (with an age range of 3 to 7) and Askrigg (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School becoming a junior school (with an age range of 7 to 11), and to close West Burton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School

PART 1 - Change of age range of Bainbridge Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary and Nursery School from 3-11 years to 3-7 years

AND

PART 2 - Change of age range of Askrigg Voluntary Controlled Primary School from 4-11 years to 7-11 years

School and local authority details

Proposals published by the Governing Board of BAWB (Bainbridge, Askrigg and West Burton) Schools Federation to change the age range of Bainbridge Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary and Nursery School, Bainbridge, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 3EL from 1 September 2026

Proposals published by the Governing Board of BAWB (Bainbridge, Askrigg and West Burton) Schools Federation to change the age range of Askrigg Voluntary Controlled Primary School, Yorebridge, Askrigg, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 3BJ from 4-11 years to 7-11 years from 1 September 2026.

Description of alteration and evidence of demand

It is proposed to change the age range of Bainbridge Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary and Nursery School from 3-11 years to 3-7 years from 1 September 2026 and to change the age range of Askrigg Voluntary Controlled Primary from 4-11 years to 7-11 years from 1 September 2026.

The current admission number for both schools is 12 and the proposed admission number for both schools will be 15.

Objectives

During summer 2024, the Council received legal advice that the model that had been established by the federation was not compliant with the provisions of the Education Act 1996 and the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 which govern the arrangements for school admissions and registration. The advice, which was partly informed by information provided by the Department for Education (DfE), noted that pupils are required to receive their education at the school at which they are registered.

This advice means that the current organisational arrangements within the federation are not compliant with the regulations and that the Federated Governing Board needs to implement a change so that the arrangements become compliant.

The Council advised the federated governing board of possible solutions/ restructure options, set out below, which the federated governing board has carefully considered.

Following its consideration of the options the federated governing board has submitted proposals for the closure of West Burton Church of England (VC) Primary School and for the establishment of separate infant and junior schools and believes that this option will enable to best meet the needs of the community and to continue to provide a high standard of education to pupils.

The effect on other educational institutions within the area.

There is not expected to be any effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions, other than those covered by these proposals.

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

Capital position

Capital investment is not included within the proposal.

Revenue position

School budgets are funded largely by pupil numbers so the proposal would not lead to an increase in revenue funding. The school organisation proposal of infant and junior schools provides the same level of funding across the federation as that currently received by the separate schools with the lump sum funding retained for each school. In an amalgamation of two schools (Option 3 above), one school's lump sum would cease and whilst an amalgamated school across two sites may receive split site funding, this would be a reduced funding amount compared to the lump sum funding for the two schools. Under the BAWB proposal all funding for West Burton CE (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School would cease.

Federated governing boards can request to amalgamate their individual school budgets; these arrangements could continue under the infant and junior school proposals.

Based on the proposal taking effect September 2026 and other things being equal, the federated governing board has determined the optimum funding position, based on best estimates of revenue funding for each financial year, for the individual schools within the

federation. Irrespective of this school organisation proposal, the federation governing boards are continuously required to oversee financial management and this includes considering efficiency actions where improvements are identified as being necessary in the school financial forecast.

Implementation plan

The proposals contained in Parts One, Two and Three are related.

Under the proposal, both the infant and junior schools would serve the catchment areas separately served by each of BAWB's three separate primary schools. For this reason, the catchment areas would be merged, with each extended to include the others. These arrangements would be implemented from September 2026 only in the event of the infant/ junior restructure. The shared catchment area is shown on the map accompanying this document.

Statement explaining the procedure for responses: support; objections and comments.

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 6 February 2026.

PART 3 – Discontinuance (Closure) of West Burton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School

Contact details

Proposal published by North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, to discontinue West Burton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School, West Burton, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4JY from 31 March 2026.

Implementation

It is proposed to close the school from 31 March 2026.

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

Reason for closure

In 2013 Askrigg and Bainbridge schools formed a collaboration and in 2014 West Burton joined the collaboration. In 2016 the BAWB Federation was created and "BAWB" refers to the first letter of each school name. Due to the organisation arrangements that were implemented by the federation, 22 pupils received their education at the school and the remaining pupils were transported to the other schools within the federation, where they

received their education alongside peers from other schools. West Burton Church of England (VC) Primary School was last inspected by Ofsted in June 2023 which judged the overall effectiveness of the school to be Good.

The BAWB federated governing board temporarily suspended teaching at the West Burton Church of England (VC) Primary School site with effect from 1 September 2024, and transported pupils registered at the school to either the Bainbridge or Askrigg sites, according to their age. This decision was taken because of the low numbers on the school roll, and because of issues associated with the transport of pupils between the various school sites, this included a loss of learning time within the school day. The federated governing board considered that the decision was necessary to ensure the continued provision of high-quality education within the federation.

Pupil numbers and admissions

The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is currently made at the school.

As at October 2025, there are 14 pupils on roll at the school, of which 13 are of compulsory school age. Of the 14 pupils, 6 pupils are male, and 8 pupils are female.

	Pupil numbers	PAN
Reception	1	12
Year 1	2	12
Year 2	1	12
Year 3	1	12
Year 4	2	12
Year 5	3	7
Year 6	4	7
Totals	14	

The school's age range is 4-11 years, and provision is available for boys and girls. There is no boarding provision. Information on special educational needs of pupils is not provided as this would contravene the Data Protection Act.

Displaced pupils

There are currently 3 neighbouring schools located within 10 miles of West Burton Primary School, including the two federation schools at Askrigg and Bainbridge. Across the three schools there is a combined net capacity of 163 places. There is currently a total of 65 surplus places.

As noted above, the federated governing board's proposal regarding the closure of West Burton Church of England (VC) Primary School forms part of a series of linked proposals which includes a proposal for the school's catchment area to be combined with those of Bainbridge and Askrigg.

The council will engage with the parents of all pupils who are registered on West Burton's roll to discuss the requirement for them to apply for an alternative school place should a closure be agreed, including if it is their intention to transfer to either of the proposed infant or junior schools in the federation.

Impact on the community

In some communities the school is the only meeting space. West Burton has a Village Hall with main hall, committee room, kitchen, toilets and baby changing facilities. Several groups meet there for bowls, yoga, parent and toddlers, badminton, art, dancing and monthly lunches.

The school building at West Burton would no longer be used by the federation if the proposed closure of the school was implemented. The West Burton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School site is managed but not owned by the Council. The school site is wholly owned by a charitable trust and will revert to the trust if a decision is made for it to close.

Whilst the impact on the wider economic and social sustainability of the community is an important consideration, the key consideration is to determine whether the proposal is in the best interests of children's education.

Rural primary schools

West Burton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School is a rural school. The DfE's guidance (Opening and closing maintained schools. Statutory guidance for proposers and decision makers, October 2024) notes that decision makers are expected to adopt a presumption against the closure of rural schools. However, the guidance confirms that this does not mean that a rural school will never close but that the case for closure should be strong and clearly in the best interests of educational provision in the area.

The school has a capacity for 51 pupils and there are currently 15 pupils on the school's roll.

In 2013 Askrigg and Bainbridge schools formed a collaboration and in 2014 West Burton joined the collaboration. In 2016 the BAWB Federation was created and "BAWB" refers to the first letter of each school name. Due to the organisation arrangements that were implemented by the federation, 22 pupils received their education at the school and the remaining pupils were transported to the other schools within the federation, where they received their education alongside peers from other schools. West Burton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School was last inspected by Ofsted in June 2023 which judged the overall effectiveness of the school to be Good.

The BAWB federation's governing board temporarily suspended teaching at the West Burton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School site with effect from 1 September 2024 and transported pupils registered at the school to either the Bainbridge or Askrigg sites, according to their age. This decision was taken because of the low numbers on the school roll and because of issues associated with the transport of pupils between the various school sites, this included a loss of learning time within the school day. The federated governing board considered that the decision was necessary to ensure the continued provision of high quality education within the federation.

There are currently three neighbouring schools located within 10 miles of West Burton Primary School, including the two federation schools at Askrigg and Bainbridge. Across the three schools there is a combined net capacity of 163 places. There is currently a total of 65 surplus places.

The Council will engage with the parents of all pupils who are registered on West Burton's roll to discuss the requirement for them to apply for an alternative school place should a closure be agreed, including if it is their intention to transfer to either of the proposed infant or junior schools in the federation.

As noted above, the federated governing board's proposal regarding the closure of West Burton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School forms part of a series of linked proposals which includes a proposal for the school's catchment area to be combined with those of Bainbridge and Askrigg.

Balance of denominational provision

The Church of England Diocese of Leeds has expressed no specific concerns about the impact on proportionality of places in this area.

Travel

There are currently three neighbouring schools located within 10 miles of West Burton Primary School, including the two federation schools at Askrigg and Bainbridge.

Eligibility for assistance with home to school travel would be determined in accordance with the Council's home to school travel policy, including any decision to provide discretionary eligibility linked to the federated governing board's proposals.

It is proposed that special considerations or discretion be given to pupils already on roll at the point that consultation was requested in September 2025. It is proposed that the Council provide discretionary travel for children, already assessed as eligible for travel and on roll at schools on 1 September 2026, within the federation schools for the duration of their education at the schools within the same federation, subject to there being no change in their circumstances. This will enable the schools to move to compliant arrangements and would be a time limited discretionary provision so that children already on roll could maintain continuity of education within the federations that they are already registered, in the event that the school organisation proposals result in them having to move to a different school within the federation due to the age range changes. An example would be a current Year 1 child who attends a primary school but who is required to move to an infant school for Year 2 before returning the nearest suitable school at the time of the transfer. This acknowledges the Council's commitment to continue eligibility under the 2019 policy for children in schools before September 2024.

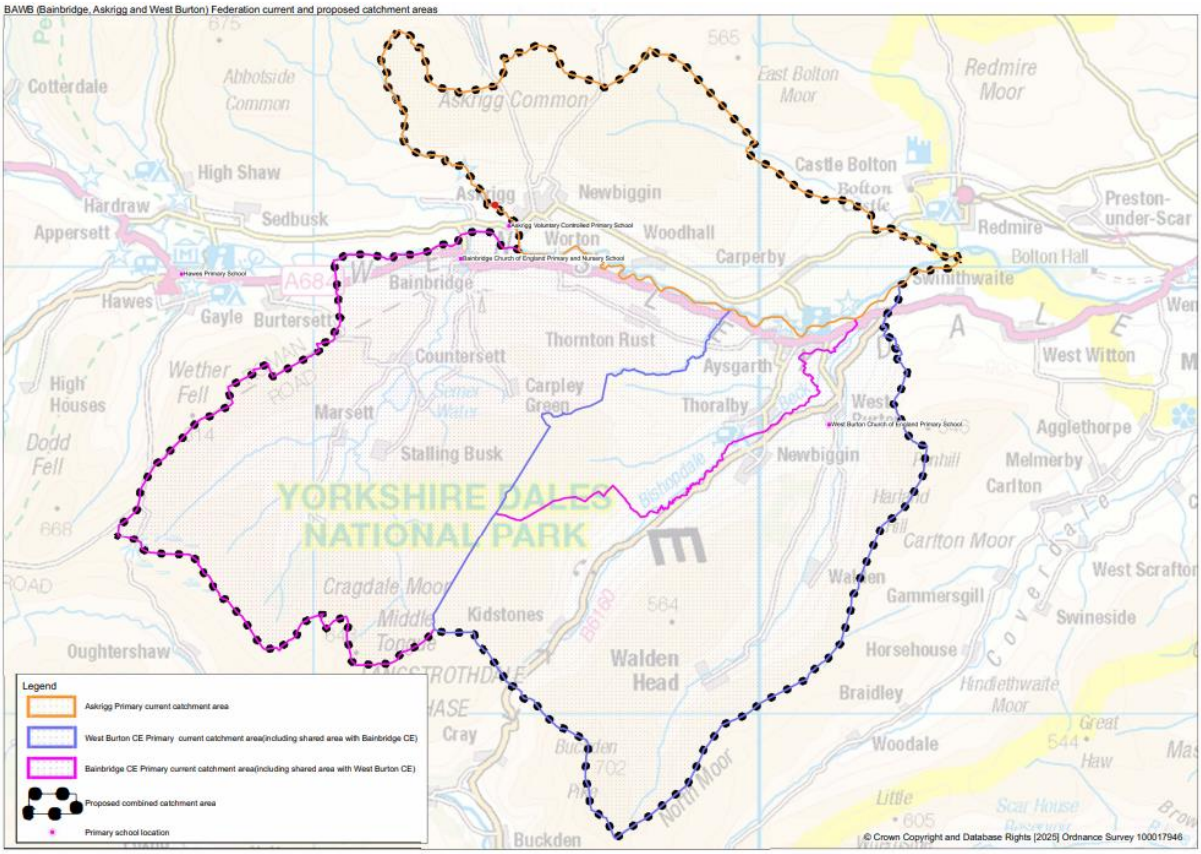
Any new applications for assistance with home to school travel to either school received after 1 September 2026 would only be considered under the current home to school travel policy, unless part of a linked proposal that is decided by the Council.

Procedure for making representations (objections and comments)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 6 February 2026.

Publication Date: 12 January 2026

Map showing existing and proposed catchment areas



Statutory proposals

Proposals to restructure the federation into separate infant and junior schools – with Reeth Community Primary School becoming an infant school (with an age range of 3 to 7) and Gunnerside Methodist (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School becoming a junior school (with an age range of 7 to 11)

PART 1 - Change of age range of Reeth Community Primary School from 3-11 years to 3-7 years

AND

PART 2 - Change of age range of Gunnerside Methodist Primary School from 4-11 years to 7-11

School and local authority details

Proposals published by North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE to change the age range of Reeth Community Primary School, Healaugh Road, Reeth, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL11 6SP from 3-11 years to 3-7 years from 1 September 2026.

Proposals published by the Governing Board of Reeth and Gunnerside Schools Federation to change the age range of Gunnerside Methodist (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School, Gunnerside, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL11 6LE from 4-11 years to 7-11 years from 1 September 2026.

Description of alteration and evidence of demand

It is proposed to change the age range of Reeth Community Primary School from 3-11 years to 3-7 years from 1 September 2026 and to change the age range of Gunnerside Methodist Primary School from 4-11 years to 7-11 years from 1 September 2026.

The current admission number for Reeth Community Primary School is 8 and the proposed admission number will be 15. The current admission number for Gunnerside Methodist Primary School is 7 and the proposed admission number will be 15.

Objectives

During summer 2024, the Council received legal advice that the model that had been established by the federation was not compliant with the provisions of the Education Act 1996 and the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 which govern the arrangements for school admissions and registration. The advice, which was partly informed by information provided by the Department for Education (DfE), noted that pupils are required to receive their education at the school at which they are registered.

This advice means that the current organisational arrangements within the federation are not compliant with the regulations and that the federated governing board needs to implement a change so that the arrangements become compliant.

The Council advised the federated governing board of possible solutions / restructure options, set out below, which the federated governing board has carefully considered.

Following its consideration of the options, the federated governing board has submitted proposals for the establishment of separate infant and junior schools and believes that this option will enable them to best meet the needs of the community and to continue to provide a high standard of education to pupils.

The effect on other educational institutions within the area.

There is not expected to be any effect on other educational institutions, apart from those covered by these proposals.

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

Capital Position

Capital investment is not included within the proposal.

Revenue Position

School budgets are funded largely by pupil numbers so the proposal would not lead to an increase in revenue funding. The school organisation proposal of infant and junior schools provides the same level of funding across the federation as that currently received by the separate schools with the lump sum funding retained for each school. In an amalgamation of two schools, one school's lump sum would cease and whilst an amalgamated school across two sites may receive split site funding, this would be a reduced funding amount compared to the lump sum funding for the two schools.

Federated governing boards can request to amalgamate their individual school budgets; these arrangements could continue under the infant and junior school proposals.

Based on the proposal taking effect from September 2026, and other things being equal, the federated governing board has determined the optimum funding position, based on best estimates of revenue funding for each financial year for the individual schools within the federation. Irrespective of this school organisation proposal, the federation governing boards are continuously required to oversee financial management, and this includes considering efficiency actions where improvements are identified as being necessary in the school financial forecast.

Implementation plan

The proposals contained in Parts One and Two are related.

Under the proposal, both the infant and junior schools would serve the catchment areas which are currently separately served by each primary school. For this reason, the catchment areas would be merged, with each extended to include the other. The shared catchment areas are shown on the map accompanying this document. These arrangements would be implemented from September 2026 only in the event of the infant / junior restructure.

Consultation to date

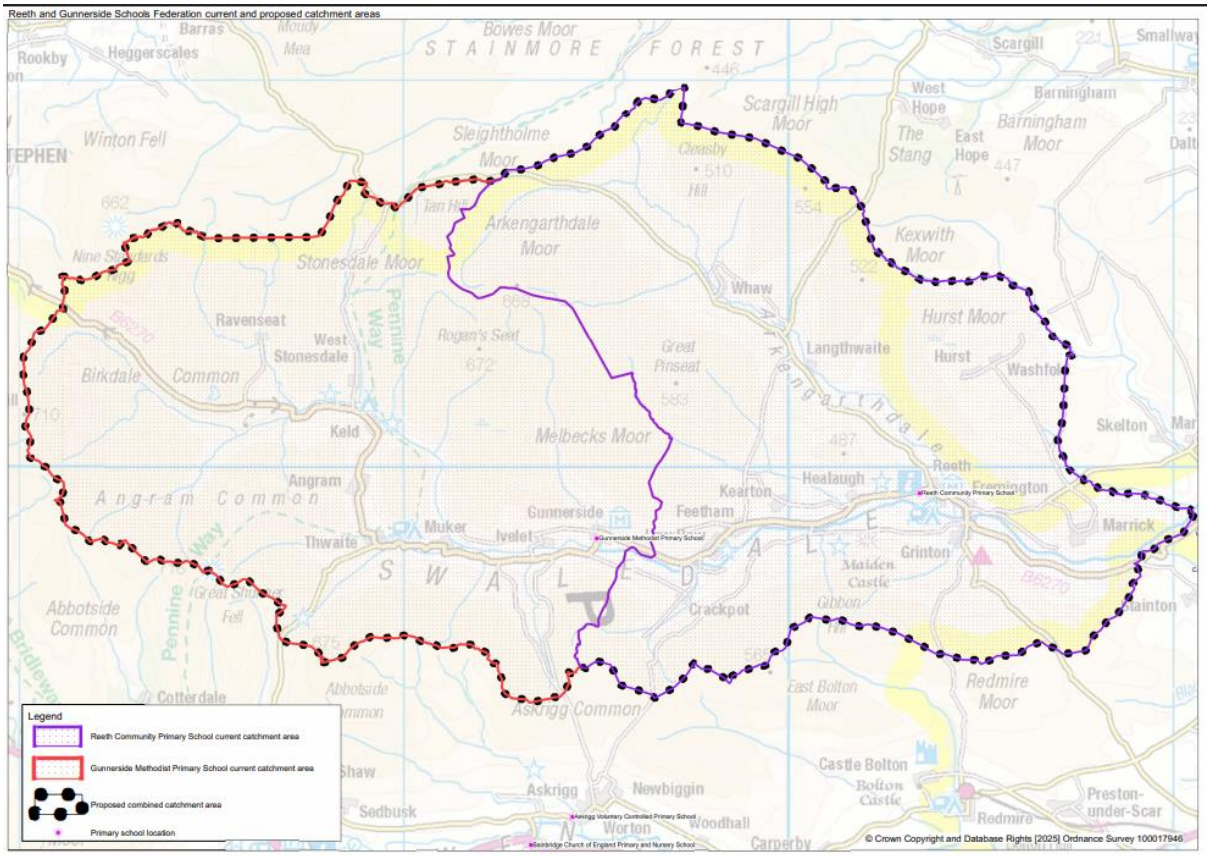
The decision to consult on the proposal was taken by the Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills on the 11 September 2025. The consultation period ran from 22 September 2025 to 7 November 2025. A copy of the Consultation Paper, a note of the public meeting, and consultation responses are included within the report to the Executive of 16 December 2025.

Statement explaining the procedure for responses

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 6 February 2026.

Publication Date: 12 January 2026

Map showing existing and proposed catchment areas



Statutory proposals

Proposals to restructure the federation into separate infant and junior schools – with Spennithorne Church of England (VC) Primary School becoming an infant school (with an age range of 4 to 7) and Middleham Church of England (Voluntary Aided) Primary School becoming a junior school (with an age range of 7 to 11) and to change the category of Spennithorne Church of England School to Voluntary Aided

PART 1 – Change of age range of Spennithorne Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School from 4-11 years to 4-7 years

AND

PART 2 - Change of age range of Middleham Church of England (Voluntary) Aided School from 4-11 years to 7-11 years

AND

PART 3 – Change of category of Spennithorne Church of England Primary School from Voluntary Controlled to Voluntary Aided

School and local authority details

Proposals published by the Governing Board of the Federation of Middleham (Voluntary Aided) and Spennithorne (Voluntary Controlled) Church of England Primary Schools to change the age range of Spennithorne Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School, Spennithorne, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 5PR from 4-11 years to 4-7 years from 1 September 2026.

Proposals published by the Governing Board of the Federation of Middleham (Voluntary Aided) and Spennithorne (Voluntary Controlled) Church of England Primary Schools to change the age range of Middleham Church of England (Voluntary) Aided School, Park Lane, Middleham, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4QX from 4-11 years to 7-11 years from 1 September 2026.

Description of alteration and evidence of demand

It is proposed to change the age range of Spennithorne Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School from 4-11 years to 4-7 years from 1 September 2026 and to change the age range of Middleham Church of England (Voluntary) Aided School from 4-11 years to 7-11 years from 1 September 2026.

It is proposed to change the category of Spennithorne Church of England Primary School from Voluntary Controlled to Voluntary Aided from 1 September 2026.

The current admission number for Spennithorne Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School is 13 and the proposed admission number will be 20. The current admission number for Middleham Church of England (Voluntary) Aided School is 15 and the proposed admission number will be 20.

Objectives

During summer 2024, the Council received legal advice that the model that had been established by the federation was not compliant with the provisions of the Education Act 1996 and the School Attendance (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2024 which govern the arrangements for school admissions and registration. The advice, which was partly informed by information provided by the Department for Education (DfE), noted that pupils are required to receive their education at the school at which they are registered.

This advice means that the current organisational arrangements within the federation are not compliant with the regulations and that the federated governing board needs to implement a change so that the arrangements become compliant.

The Council advised the federated governing board of possible solutions / restructure options, set out below, which the federated governing board has carefully considered.

Following its consideration of the options, the federated governing board has submitted proposals for the establishment of separate infant and junior schools and believes that this option will enable them to best meet the needs of the community and to continue to provide a high standard of education to pupils.

The federated governing board has also requested that the category of Spennithorne Church of England School is changed from Voluntary Controlled to Voluntary Aided as part of these school organisation proposals.

Joint working with Middleham Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School could be enhanced should Spennithorne become a Voluntary Aided School due to greater alignment between the two schools. For example:

- the schools would have the same Religious Education syllabus enabling greater shared provision
- the federated Governing Body would be the single employer of staff, making shared staffing arrangements in appropriate cases easier
- the inspection processes under the Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools framework would be more aligned

The effect on other educational institutions within the area.

There is not expected to be any effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions, other than those covered by these proposals.

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

Capital Position

Capital investment is not included within the proposal.

The local authority receives school condition allocation to invest in priorities across the schools for which they are responsible, including Voluntary Controlled Schools. As a Voluntary Aided school, Spennithorne would not look to the local authority for this funding: instead, the Diocese receives school condition allocation to distribute based on an assessment of priorities across the Voluntary Aided schools in the Diocese. As a Voluntary Aided school, Spennithorne would be responsible for making a 10% statutory contribution to all capital works funded from school condition allocation funding or Devolved Formula Capital.

Revenue Position

School budgets are funded largely by pupil numbers so the proposal would not lead to an increase in revenue funding. The school organisation proposal of infant and junior schools provides the same level of funding across the federation as that currently received by the separate schools with the lump sum funding retained for each school. In an amalgamation of two schools, one school's lump sum would cease and whilst an amalgamated school across two sites may receive split site funding, this would be a reduced funding amount compared to the lump sum funding for the two schools.

Federated governing boards can request to amalgamate their individual school budgets; these arrangements could continue under the infant and junior school proposals.

Based on the proposal taking effect from September 2026, and other things being equal, the federated governing board has determined the optimum funding position, based on best estimates of revenue funding for each financial year for the individual schools within the federation. Irrespective of this school organisation proposal, the federation governing boards are continuously required to oversee financial management, and this includes considering efficiency actions where improvements are identified as being necessary in the school financial forecast.

Implementation plan

The proposals contained in Parts One, Two and Three are related.

Under the proposal, both the infant and junior schools would serve the catchment areas which are currently separately served by each primary school. For this reason, the catchment areas would be merged, with each extended to include the other. The shared catchment areas are shown on the map accompanying this document. These arrangements would be implemented from September 2026 only in the event of the infant / junior restructure.

Consultation to date

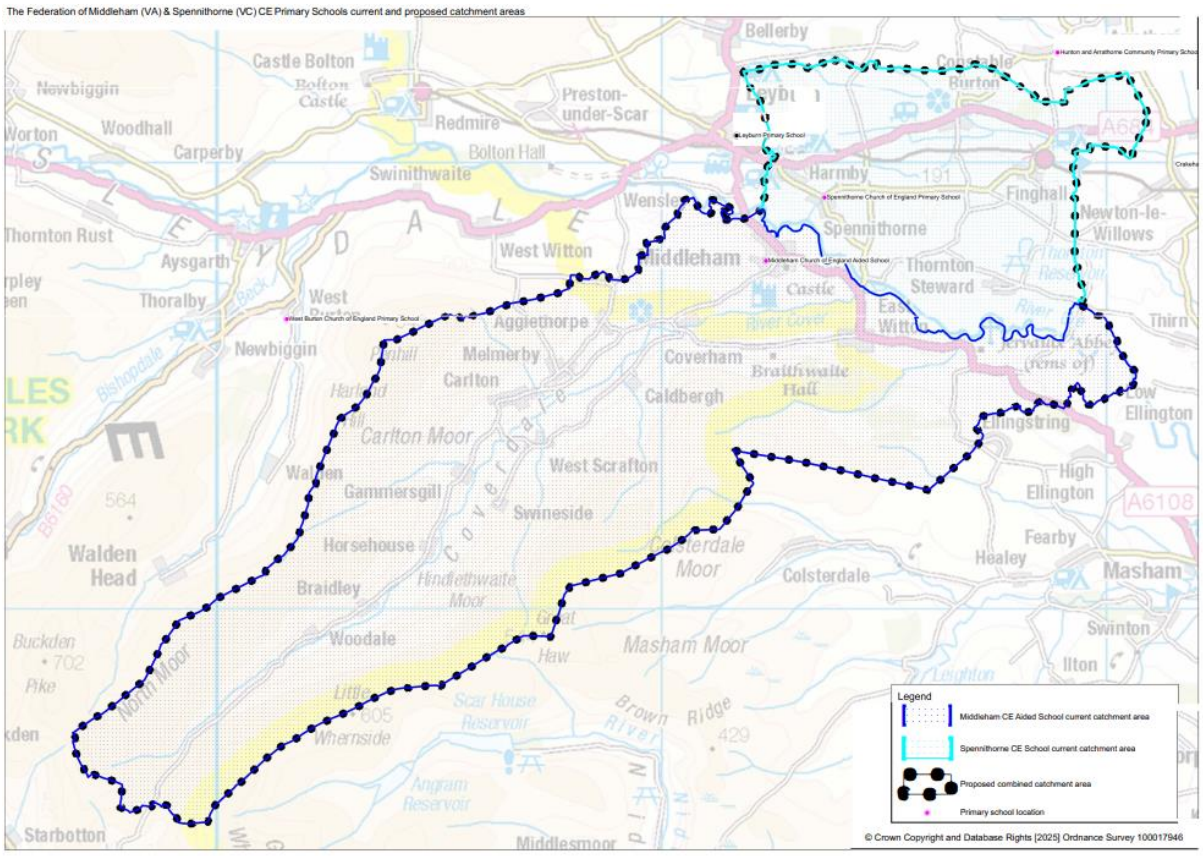
The decision to consult on the proposal was taken by the Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills on the 11 September 2025. The consultation period ran from 22 September 2025 to 7 November 2025. A copy of the Consultation Paper, a note of the public meeting, and consultation responses are included within the report to the Executive of 16 December 2025.

Statement explaining the procedure for responses

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 6 February 2026.

Publication Date: 12 January 2026

Map showing existing and proposed catchment areas



Statutory proposals

Proposals to amalgamate Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School and Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School

This would result in the technical closure of Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School as a separate entity, and the creation of a single 4-11 primary school on both school sites through the enlargement of Aiskew Leeming Bar Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School.

PART 1 – Discontinuance (closure) of Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School

Contact details

Proposal published by North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, to discontinue Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School, 2 Leeming Lane, Leeming Bar, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 9AU from 13 April 2026.

Implementation

It is proposed to close the school from 13 April 2026.

The proposals contained in Parts One and Two are related.

Reason for closure

Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England Primary and Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary Schools are part of the Synergy Schools Federation, which is a federation of six primary schools within North Yorkshire. The federation is governed by a single federated governing board and leadership is provided by an executive headteacher. The schools, which have adjacent catchment areas serving the Leeming area, south of Bedale, joined the federation in 2024 and 2021 respectively. Both schools have low numbers of pupils on roll. Aiskew, Leeming Bar has a net capacity of 103 places, with 47 pupils on roll in the May 2025 census, while Leeming and Londonderry has a net capacity of 56 places, with 24 pupils on roll in the May 2025 pupil census. Both operate similar two class structures that involve Reception and Key Stage 1 cohorts being educated in one class and Key Stage 2 children in other classes.

Following the incorporation of Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England Primary School into the Synergy Federation work has been undertaken to improve the quality of the education provision within both schools and the federated governing board have undertaken consideration of alternative models for the organisation of the schools to allow for further improvement in learning.

The federated governing board's proposal regarding the closure of Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School forms part of a series of linked proposals which includes retaining the site for an Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and a proposal for the school's catchment area to be combined with the catchment area of Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School. This decision was taken because of the low numbers on the school roll, a desire to provide sustainable classes of similar aged children and because of issues associated with the transportation of pupils between the respective school sites. The federated governing board considered that the decision was necessary to ensure the continued provision of high-quality education within the federation.

Pupil numbers and admissions

The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is currently made at the school.

As at October 2025, there are 25 pupils on roll at the school, of which 22 are of compulsory school age. Of the 25 pupils, 12 pupils are male, and 13 pupils are female.

	Pupil numbers	PAN
Reception	4	8
Year 1	5	8
Year 2	2	8
Year 3	3	8
Year 4	3	8
Year 5	4	8
Year 6	4	8
Totals	25	

The school's age range is 4-11 years, and provision is available for boys and girls. There is no boarding provision. Information on special educational needs of pupils is not provided as this would contravene the Data Protection Act.

Displaced pupils

There are 8 other primary schools within the Outer Bedale school place planning area. The table below shows that there is a general surplus of places across the locality.

DfE No.	Outer Bedale Primary School	Net Capacity	NOR 2025 - May	Position 2026/27	-/+ capacity (May 2025)
3001	Aiskew, Leeming Bar CE	103	47	49	56
3337	Burneston CE VA	133	117	137	16
3020	Crakehall CE	106	113	118	-7
2063	Hunton and Arrathorne CP	70	86	90	-16
2040	Leeming and Londonderry CP	56	24	26	32
2166	Leeming RAF CP	280	156	143	124

2133	Snape CP	52	30	25	22
3124	St Nicholas CE, West Tanfield	70	44	47	26
3119	Thornton Watlass CE	51	21	12	30
		921	**638**	**647**	**283**

The council will engage with the parents of all pupils who are registered on Leeming and Londonderry's roll and there is no intention to cease to use the school site under this amalgamation proposal.

Under the proposed new structure, all children would be registered at Leeming Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School, but the governor led nursery and Reception children would initially be taught in the Early Years Foundation Stage classes at the current Leeming and Londonderry site. Another three classes, consisting of Year 1 and 2 children in one class, Years 3 and 4 in another and Year 5 and Year 6 children in another, would be taught at the current Aiskew Leeming Bar site The single primary school would continue to be funded and supported by the local authority with staff employed by the local authority.

Pupils who transfer between the two sites will be supported through a managed transition process.

Impact on the community

There is no intention to cease to use the Leeming and Londonderry school site under this amalgamation proposal. The impact on the community is therefore likely to be minimal.

Rural primary schools

Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School is a rural school. The DfE's guidance (Opening and closing maintained schools. Statutory guidance for proposers and decision makers, October 2024) notes that decision makers are expected to adopt a presumption against the closure of rural schools. However, the guidance confirms that this does not mean that a rural school will never close but that the case for closure should be strong and clearly in the best interests of educational provision in the area.

As noted above, the federated governing board's proposal regarding the closure of Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School forms part of a series of linked proposals which includes retaining the site for an Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and a proposal for the school's catchment area to be combined with the catchment area of Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School.

It is not considered that there would be significant additional car use given that there is no intention to cease to use the Leeming and Londonderry school site under this amalgamation proposal.

Balance of denominational provision

Not applicable as Leeming and Londonderry School does not have a religious character.

Travel

The Aiskew Leeming Bar Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School and Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School sites are approximately 0.6 miles apart.

It is not considered that there would be significant additional car use given that there is no intention to cease to use the Leeming and Londonderry school site under this amalgamation proposal.

Eligibility for assistance with home to school travel will be determined in accordance with North Yorkshire Council's Home to School Travel Policy.

All existing pupils who have eligibility for assistance will retain their eligibility subject to there being no change in their individual circumstances.

Procedure for making representations (objections and comments)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 6 February 2026.

PART 2 – Enlargement of Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England Primary School onto an additional site using the Leeming and Londonderry school site

School and local authority details

Proposal published by North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE to enlarge Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England Primary School, 2 Leeming Lane, Leeming Bar, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 9AU onto an additional site using the Leeming and Londonderry school site at Roman Road, Leeming, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 9SG from 13 April 2026.

Description of alteration and evidence of demand

It is proposed to enlarge Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England Primary School onto an additional site using the Leeming and Londonderry school site at Roman Road, Leeming, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 9SG from 13 April 2026.

The current admission number for Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England Primary School is 14 and the current admission number for Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School is 8. The proposed admission number for the amalgamated school will be 15.

Objectives

Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England Primary and Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary Schools are part of the Synergy Schools Federation, which is a federation of six primary schools within North Yorkshire. The federation is governed by a single federated governing board and leadership is provided by an executive headteacher. The schools, which have adjacent catchment areas serving the Leeming area, south of Bedale, joined the federation in 2024 and 2021 respectively. Both schools have low numbers of pupils on roll. Aiskew, Leeming Bar has a net capacity of 103 places, with 47 pupils on roll in the May 2025 census, while Leeming and Londonderry has a net capacity of 56 places, with 24 pupils on roll in the May 2025 pupil census. Both operate similar two class structures that involve Reception and Key Stage 1 cohorts being educated in one class and Key Stage 2 children in other classes.

Following the incorporation of Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England Primary School into the Synergy Federation work has been undertaken to improve the quality of the education provision within both schools and the federated governing board have undertaken consideration of alternative models for the organisation of the schools to allow for further improvement in learning.

The effect on other educational institutions within the area.

There is not expected to be any effect on other schools, academies and educational institutions, other than those covered by these proposals.

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

Capital Position

Capital investment is not included within the proposal.

Revenue Position

School budgets are funded largely by pupil numbers so amalgamating the schools would not lead to an increase in revenue funding. The combined revenue funding would be smaller because the lump-sum would cease for Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School following amalgamation, although transitional funding will be provided during the initial period of the amalgamation. Transitional funding protection arrangements allow for both lump-sums to be retained from the point of amalgamation for the remainder of the financial year that amalgamation takes place and provide 85% of the two lump-sums received in the next financial year.

Based on the amalgamation taking effect on 13 April 2026 (for instance, the start of 2026 to 2027 financial year) and other things being equal, the Governing Board has determined the optimum funding position, based on best estimates of pupil revenue funding for each financial year, the retention of lump sums for that financial year, the amalgamated school retaining 85% of their lump sums for the financial year 2027 to 2028 and split site funding being subsequently available.

Implementation plan

The proposals contained in Parts One and Two are related.

Under the proposal, the single primary school would serve the two catchment areas currently separately served by each primary school. For this reason, the catchment areas would be merged, with each extended to include the other. These arrangements would be implemented from April 2026 only in the event of the amalgamation restructure and we are consulting on this aspect of the proposal.

Consultation to date

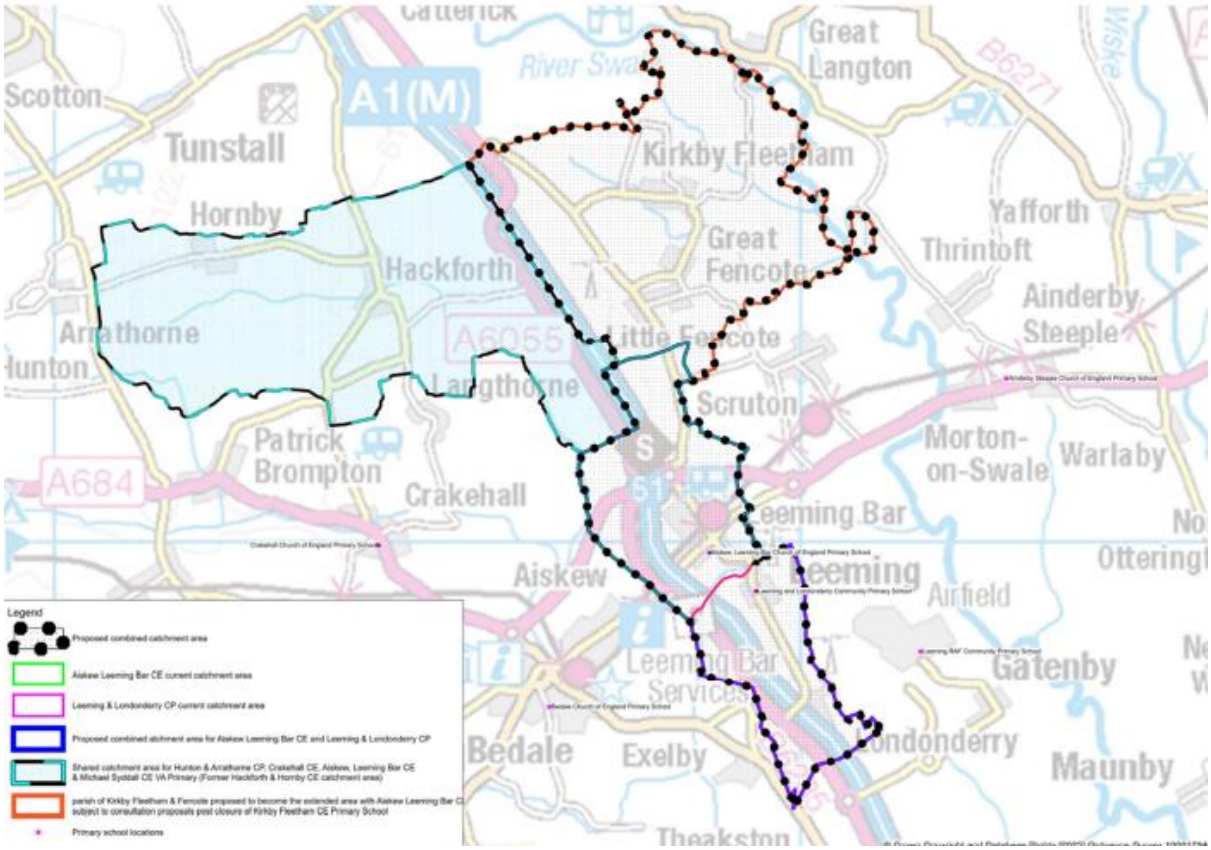
The decision to consult on the proposal was taken by the Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills on the 11 September 2025. The consultation period ran from 22 September 2025 to 7 November 2025. A copy of the Consultation Paper, a note of the public meeting, and consultation responses are included within the report to the Executive of 16 December 2025.

Statement explaining the procedure for responses

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 6 February 2026.

Publication Date: 12 January 2026

Map showing existing and proposed catchment areas



Governing Board of BAWB (Bainbridge, Askrigg and West Burton) Schools Federation and North Yorkshire Council

Proposals to restructure the federation into separate infant and junior schools with Bainbridge Church of England (VC) Primary and Nursery School becoming an infant school (with an age range of 3 to 7) and Askrigg (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School becoming a junior school (with an age range of 7 to 11), and to close West Burton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School

PART 1

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the governing board intends to change the age range of Bainbridge Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary and Nursery School, Bainbridge, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 3EL from 3-11 years to 3-7 years from 1 September 2026. The current admission number for the school is 12 and the proposed admission number will be 15.

PART 2

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the governing board intends to change the age range of Askrigg Voluntary Controlled Primary School, Yorebridge, Askrigg, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 3BJ from 4-11 years to 7-11 years from 1 September 2026. The current admission number for the school is 12 and the proposed admission number will be 15.

PART 3

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, intends to discontinue West Burton Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School, West Burton, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4JY from 31 March 2026.

The proposal also includes revised school catchment area arrangements that would apply.

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

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 6 February 2026.

Signed: Chair of Governors, BAWB Federation and B. Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services), North Yorkshire Council

Publication Date: 12 January 2026

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

Governing Board of Reeth and Gunnerside Schools Federation and North Yorkshire Council

Proposals to restructure the federation into separate infant and junior schools – with Reeth Community Primary School becoming an infant school (with an age range of 3 to 7) and Gunnerside Methodist (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School becoming a junior school (with an age range of 7 to 11)

PART 1

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that North Yorkshire Council intends to change the age range of Reeth Community Primary School, Healaugh Road, Reeth, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL11 6SP from 3-11 years to 3-7 years from 1 September 2026. The current admission number for the school is 8 and the proposed admission number will be 15.

PART 2

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the governing board intends to change the age range of Gunnerside Methodist (Voluntary Aided) Primary School, Gunnerside, Richmond, North Yorkshire, DL11 6LE from 4-11 years to 7-11 years from 1 September 2026. The current admission number for the school is 7 and the proposed admission number will be 15.

The proposal also includes revised school catchment area arrangements that would apply.

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

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 6 February 2026.

Signed: Chair of Governors, Reeth and Gunnerside Schools Federation and B.Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services), North Yorkshire Council.

Publication Date: 12 January 2026

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

Governing Board of the Federation of Middleham (Voluntary Aided) and Spennithorne (Voluntary Controlled) Church of England Primary Schools and North Yorkshire Council

Proposals to restructure the federation into separate infant and junior schools – with Spennithorne Church of England (VC) Primary School becoming an infant school (with an age range of 4 to 7) and Middleham Church of England (Voluntary Aided) Primary School becoming a junior school (with an age range of 7 to 11) and to change the category of Spennithorne Church of England School to Voluntary Aided

PART 1

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the governing board intends to change the age range of Spennithorne Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School, Spennithorne, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 5PR from 4-11 years to 4-7 years from 1 September 2026. The current admission number for the school is 13 and the proposed admission number will be 20.

PART 2

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the governing board intends to change the age range of Middleham Church of England (Voluntary) Aided School, Park Lane, Middleham, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 4QX from 4-11 years to 7-11 years from 1 September 2026. The current admission number for the school is 15 and the proposed admission number will be 20.

PART 3

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(3) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that the governing board intends to change the category of Spennithorne Church of England Primary School, Spennithorne, Leyburn, North Yorkshire, DL8 5PR from Voluntary Controlled to Voluntary Aided from 1 September 2026.

The proposal also includes revised school catchment area arrangements that would apply.

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

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 6 February 2026.

Signed: Chair of Governors, Federation of Middleham (Voluntary Aided) and Spennithorne (Voluntary Controlled) Church of England Primary Schools

Publication Date: 12 January 2026

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

Governing Board of the Synergy Schools Federation and North Yorkshire Council

Proposals to amalgamate Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School and Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School.

This would result in the technical closure of Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School as a separate entity, and the creation of a single 4-11 primary school on both school sites through the enlargement of Aiskew Leeming Bar Church of England (Voluntary Controlled) Primary School.

PART 1

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE intends to discontinue Leeming and Londonderry Community Primary School, Roman Road, Leeming, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 9SG from 13 April 2026.

PART 2

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE intends to enlarge Aiskew, Leeming Bar Church of England Primary School, 2 Leeming Lane, Leeming Bar, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 9AU onto an additional site using the Leeming and Londonderry school site at Roman Road, Leeming, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 9SG from 13 April 2026. The current admission number for the school is 14 and the proposed admission number will be 15.

The proposal also includes revised school catchment area arrangements that would apply.

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

Within four weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Corporate Director - Children and Young People's Service, North Yorkshire Council, County Hall, Northallerton, DL7 8AE, by 5pm on 6 February 2026.

Signed: Chair of Governors, Synergy Schools Federation and B.Khan, Assistant Chief Executive (Legal and Democratic Services), North Yorkshire Council

Publication Date: 12 January 2026

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