

Annex 1

Consultation on School Place Planning for Bishop Harland, Church of England (CE), Voluntary Aided (VA) and Hylton Red House Primary Schools

You may already be aware that the governors of Bishop Harland CE VA and Hylton Red House primary schools, the Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle and the Council have been working closely to look at the current position at both of the above schools. The education of our children and young people is important to all of us, so it is very important that we consult as widely as possible to ensure that all views are considered.

The Council's Cabinet has agreed to a first stage consultation on options for the future of both schools. Depending on the outcome of this stage of the consultation, further statutory consultation will take place in October.

Meetings for parents/carers of children attending Hylton Red House Primary School, Bishop Harland CE Primary School and Hylton Red House Nursery School have already been held. To ensure that everyone has an opportunity to have their views heard at this first stage of the consultation process the following meeting for the wider community has been arranged:

Hylton Red House Primary School

6pm – 7.30pm, Wednesday 19th September 2012

Overleaf you will find some information, including the options that we are consulting on. At the meeting you will hear more about the options and you will have the opportunity to ask questions and put your views. You will also be given information on how to respond in writing or by email.

We hope you are able to take part in this important consultation but if you are unable to attend the meeting you can contact Val Thompson, Business Relationship and Governance Manager, on 5611372 or at val.thompson@sunderland.gov.uk, for further information.

Bishop Harland, Church of England (CE), Voluntary Aided (VA) and Hylton Red House Primary Schools - School Place Planning Phase 1 Consultation, September 2012

Bishop Harland CE VA and Hylton Red House Primary Schools have worked very closely together for some time. The arrangement has created successful joint working between teaching staff and governors in a number of areas. Children from both schools now also take part in joint learning. The Council regularly reviews pupil numbers in schools across the City, to ensure that there are sufficient school places and that schools have sufficient pupils to enable them to manage their budgets to deliver effective education. Pupil numbers at Bishop Harland CE VA and Hylton Red House Primary Schools have recently been reviewed and some concerns have been raised about the falling numbers in each school. It has been agreed by the governing bodies, the Dioceses of Durham and Newcastle and the Council, that action needs to be taken to secure the long term stability of both schools and maintain and build on the successful joint working between the schools.

What are the issues?

The key issues are:

- Both schools have worked together successfully to improve performance, under the leadership of a single headteacher. The success has been recognised by Ofsted and it is important that it is sustained
- Both schools are currently operating with spare places.
- Pupil projections show that the falling numbers are set to continue.
- Schools with spare places can experience challenges in managing budgets and class organisation.

What options are to be considered to address the issues?

We are consulting on the following options:

- | | |
|----------|--|
| Option 1 | - Close Bishop Harland and transfer all pupils to Hylton Red House Primary School |
| Option 2 | - Close Bishop Harland Primary School and Hylton Red House Primary School and open a new Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School on the Hylton Red House site |
| Option 3 | - Keep things as they are, but this would mean further changes in the future |

What will happen next?

The consultation meetings on options will give you an opportunity to hear more about what each option means, to ask questions and to make your views known. The consultation will run until 28 September and Cabinet will

then consider all responses, subject to the outcomes of this first round of consultation, there will a second period of consultation in October to consider firmer proposals.

How can I make my views known?

- You can attend the meeting
- You can use the response form that will be available at the meeting to respond in writing to the specific questions and add any additional comments.
- By email to cs.response@sunderland.gov.uk

SCHOOL PLACE PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE
CONSULTATION RESPONSE FORM – September 2012

We would like to have your views on the options relating to Bishop Harland CE and Hylton Red House Primary Schools. Please note that this is NOT a vote on options, but we will use your responses to shape the proposals for the next stage of consultation.

Q1. Are you responding to this consultation as a:

Parent/Carer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Headteacher	<input type="checkbox"/>
Governor	<input type="checkbox"/>
School Staff	<input type="checkbox"/>
Resident	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q2 If you have a child at one of the schools please tick which school they are attending:

Bishop Harland CE Primary	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hylton Red House Primary	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q3 Do you have a preferred option? Yes/No

If your answer is yes please tick which option:

Please note - this is not a vote on the options but it is helpful to know if you have a preference

Option 1 Close Bishop Harland and transfer all pupils to Hylton Red House Primary School	<input type="checkbox"/>
---	--------------------------

Option 2 Close Bishop Harland Primary School and Hylton Red House Primary School and open a new Church of England Voluntary Aided Primary School on the Hylton Red House site	<input type="checkbox"/>
--	--------------------------

Option 3 Keep things as they are, but this would mean further changes in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
--	--------------------------

Q4 What are your comments/views on the options?

Comments
on options

--

Q5 Do you think there are other options that could be considered?

YES ☐

NO ☐

DON'T KNOW ☐

If your answer is yes please set out your suggested alternative option(s)

Alternative
options

--

If you have any general comments to make please use the box below
(*continue on a separate sheet if necessary*):

General
Comments

Print Name:

Signature: **Date:**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR RESPONSE

**Please return by 28 September to:
Children's Services, Sandhill Centre, Sunderland SR3
4EN or by email to: cs.response@sunderland.gov.uk**