

Appendix 3: Responses to the pre-consultation request to 'Please use the space below to provide any further comments you wish to make about the proposal to close Monkseaton High School

These responses are as written by respondents to the pre-consultation question, the only amendments made are to maintain confidentiality and remove any information that could identify any individuals.

Closing the school would force children into schools that are not suitable. further expanding the mental health crisis. Closing the school will have a negative impact on the local area and businesses. I chose the school because it was smaller and more suitable for my son whom is autistic closing now would create a huge problem and negatively impact his academic career further .

With so many houses being built around the area where are these children going to go to high school?

It seems disingenuous of you as a council to spend so much money expanding Whitley high school rather than encouraging a better spread of pupils over the two schools. Instead my daughter was removed from all her friends by being .2 of a mile out of catchment and will now have to find another education provider which will be detrimental to her learning and mental health.

Around the area, there are lots of housing developments being built. If this school was to close, it would put added pressure on schools around the area. Whitley Bay is already over subscribed. The only other option for children in this area is George Stevenson, Longbenton or Norham high which has a bad reputation. Monkseaton high school has a fantastic ethos, it's a nurturing environment and the teachers do an amazing job with the children. I am concerned that by closing the school, children from the surrounding areas will have to travel further, especially if they are not in the catchment areas for Whitley Bay. The school has the capacity to take on two extra year groups if it is running at 50% capacity. currently, there are three primary schools in the area Shiremoor, Backworth and Holy Stone that all feed into George Stevenson high and Longbenton. Opening the school to year seven pupils would make an attractive option. This school achieves high-level GCSE and it is an asset that needs to be protected.

Additionally, I believe it's essential to consider the long-term consequences of closing the high school. While it may seem like a cost-saving measure in the short term, the potential negative outcomes—such as increased dropout rates, declining property values, and diminished community appeal—could lead to far greater financial and social costs down the line.

Lastly, there could be alternative funding solutions that haven't been fully explored, such as government grants, public-private partnerships, or community fundraising initiatives. Engaging the local community and stakeholders in finding creative solutions could help keep the school open without resorting to closure. The council should exhaust these options before taking such a drastic and irreversible step.

As a resident who will send their children to high school in the next 2-5 years. I've been actively trying to avoid sending my children to Monkseaton high.

This was not an issue until change of catchment area last year.

Closing Monkseaton is going to have a major impact on the current learners at the school. I could go as far as to say your decision will ruin their entire lives when they don't fulfil their full potential as there will be no teachers left to get them through their GCSEs. What guarantee are you going to give that my child will get his GCSEs results? He is predicted grade 9s but when he has no one left to teach him who is say he even gets anything. He has aspirations to and if he does not get his GCSEs you will be putting him on the scrap heap for the rest of his life. You made him go to that school so it is your responsibility to give him an education which you will be failing to do. If you decide to close the school my child will spend a year at this with only his year of around 150 kids. I'm realistic that staff will be cut severely as why would a Spanish teacher stop and teach 6 lessons a week. I hope you're also considering the mental health of the kids at Monkseaton high and the impact your decision is going to have on them.

I'm unsure about our options as we are in the catchment for Monkseaton high. Can you add these to the FAQ please?

Having to travel further for school means that students will have to get up earlier to use public transport- not every parent can drive. The students also get home later and having to do homework means getting to bed later - resulting in tired children who cannot concentrate which affects their grades

Why wait until current year 9 students are in there second week at this school, very poorly managed, we had an offer of wbhs and would of took that had we known, now our child may not be at a local school absolutely shocking management

As a parent of a child who has just started year 9 I am very upset that having put monkseaton high school down as our first choice we are now being penalized at the detriment of my daughter education . She is struggling as it is adjusting to a new school but to have to do it all again next year seems unfair - not just for her but will have a huge impact on the mental health of the children involved. Our elder daughter has thrived at monkseaton high - why we chose it for our youngest daughter . We now have the uncertainty of which school she will be placed at and will it be as good as monkseaton, separation from her friends and having the added stress in GCSE years to fitting in to a new environment. If the school closes it will disrupt all the hard work that has gone into their education so far .

There are no spaces at any other school, where do you propose on placing 150 students when the decent schools are at full capacity?!?!

Ideally find use for building rather than demolish and build more housing. Not a sustainable solution.

I am both angry and upset.

I have 2 children at the school, one before inning his a level journey who made a conscious decision to stay I am environment he knows and with teachers he trusts.

If this decision goes ahead yes he will be able the complete his studies but will the teachers stay or as is likely be looking for new positions and peace during the next 2 yrs.

My other child has just started year9 and the move has been a change as you would expect the prospect of a further move is not one we expected to need to face.

Especially if as I suspect it will to a school we have not say over and without his social group for support. Also probably into a 2 tier system again very different to what he is used to.

The council and school have let all these children down hugely.

I think it is the best idea if they continue to go on like this.

It's a landmark and kids for years have been going here

Reassurance is needed on what school provision will be made for those in the catchment of monkseaton high. I have already heard people saying they will

sell and move if needs be and this is going to cause a huge efflux of people from the local area

The proposal is very lack and feels rushed and without care to the welfare, mental and emotional impact on the pupils, staff and local community. The responsibility for the debt and deficits lie solely with the council. This mess should never have got to this state in the first place. Measures should have been put in place long before getting to this stage. I think it is outrageous how much has been spent over the last few years across the borough improving the "look" and aesthetic of the area when priorities such as education are coming to choices like this. Shaping and educating the future of this country through our children and the generations that will take over MUST be a priority! I would rather see a school thrive than a pretty beach with an amazing new cycle path!

The amount of houses that have been built in the area and the lack of secondary school that should be built in backworth needs to be considered

The question needs to be asked why are parents choosing not to send their children to the school? In my opinion the school is in an existenal crisis due to the fact it has no identity and has been plagued by rumours and bad reputation for years. As a former pupil of Monkseaton myself (2006-2010) everything seemed to go wrong about the time the new building was built. The school was ridiculed due to the state of the new building and the lego blocks on the roof made us a laughing stock. Combined with the fact that the school changed the uniforms to several colours of choice rather than one single dress code and the later school day which [NAME] introduced (I know this was later reverted), the school has simply lost its identity and is being swallowed up by the combined uprising of Whitley Bay High and John Spence. They have new buildings which actually resemble a traditional school building and good Ofsted reviews to go with it.

Don't do it!

Instead of over populating your favourite school, send more kids to Monkseaton.

The proposal is simply unacceptable. There are not enough alternatives to make this anything other than damaging to the wellbeing of our children, both from a learning/development, and mental health point of view. For children in a 3 tier system in our area, there are only 2 high schools to choose from. How can we possibly reduce that to only one! There are housing developments close to the school so the numbers of children needing school places will rise in coming years. How will they be accommodated? Are our children expected

to move to 2 tier secondary schools out of area?! How will their emotional wellbeing be protected? Do we know that the other schools have space and resources to accommodate hundreds more children? I cannot begin to emphasise the detriment this will have on the education and wellbeing of hundreds of children.

Closing the school would leave very few options for students that did not make it into a school such as Whitley Bay and would make it harder for those students to commute to and from school.

Make the site a college only

There's a very large new housing estate being built in view of the school . Children on this estate will need to attend school and there's not enough places anywhere locally for them to go.

Bring back catchment areas

North Tyneside council are ultimately responsible for this mess with their misappropriation and mismanagement of school funds. These issues should have been dealt with years before now and not allowed to become a burden to the school, and local area.

Your financial projections are fake news and spin . Deal with today and not baseless falsehoods of maybe future financial numbers.

This is a labour shambles. How dare you create transport hubs which are not needed, cycle paths and spend tax payers money on non life dependant projects and neglect schools which are a part of and a support to the community, which help and support those in society who need educating and a safe place to be.

These facilities are a basic human right and necessity for all children worldwide, but North Tyneside Council prefer to waste money anywhere else other than what is right and proper for community and residents.

Millions of pounds have been wasted on unnecessary and unwanted local projects.

We don't need bus stations but do need schools they are a priority.

Your a disgrace North Tyneside Council

There is a shortage of high school spaces for children in 3 tier around whitley bay and monkseaton- if the school closes where will the children go?

I went to the school and it served the residents of Whitley Bay. It felt an equal choice to Whitley High. Whereas now it is completely the poorer option which is completely unfair to children within its catchment. The curriculum isn't comparable. The behaviour management, the attitude to learning is all sadly poorer at Monkseaton. I know people moving house to get out of the catchment. For some people they have no choice and this is incredibly unfair to the children who don't have those finances behind them to go somewhere less able to help them have as good an outcome as it's neighbouring school. It needs to go and start from scratch a completely different school and deliver a higher quality education.

Our son was sent to MAEPS due to mental health issues partly as a result of his autism. The physical environment of both facilities he went to was especially poor. These vulnerable children deserve a better environment and this building could be excellent for that purpose.

My children currently attend this school and are not highly concerned regarding the quality of their education over the next two years. With all of the houses being built on the Murton Gap, where are the children of the families that will buy these new houses go to school.

It's a shame: we visited and it is a lovely school with dedicated and friendly staff. Unfortunately, there is the perception that Whitley Bay High is the only good option. This school is quirky.

Monkseaton High School is in a prime location with a huge housing development not yet complete within walking distance.

Other high schools/secondary schools I. The area are already at capacity therefore a merge or take over by an academy seem like a logical Solution

When the new housing estate is built where are any children who live there going to go as surely they should swell numbers.

Without seeing where the areas of spend are it would be difficult to advise. One suggestion would be to look at more sustainable options in larger spend areas such as use of solar power

I went to this high school and it was a really good school, a lovely learning facility. I think that it's disappointing for the local area.

I am not in a position to argue with the financial position. However, for my daughter to not be able to finish the school she has started for her education is truly horrifying. This will undoubtedly have an impact on her as she has been in three tier education. Further, you know propose an education system that cannot be completed for many pupils as Whitley Bay High will not take the additional 150 students. This will inevitably mean the erosion of the three tier system. How can it be argued that it is acceptable to have children in year 8 who will have to join already established year groups in two tier systems? This is a hugely detrimental impact on my children's education and wellbeing. If you close Monkseaton then all must be changed to two tier so that children all have equal opportunities to the SAME standardised education. Further, year 9 and 10 are now full!

Alternatives to ensure three tier for the current year 9s could mean a temporary increase in provision on Whitley Bay. They must be allowed to complete a three tier having started this. I am devastated. My children are on three tier but will no longer be able to complete this.

I cannot see how moving to two tier will not have a deleterious impact. If this is enforced I wish to understand what additional support you will give to the children who have been forcibly uprooted from one education system and placed in another?

The fields are used for football over the weekend and it's good for young people to be encouraged in sport..

The school was clearly funded in the wrong places, the building is falling apart and no good. If costs had been put into the correct place this would never have happened, reducing the curriculum makes more parents choose other schools.

It is absolutely the right thing to close a school in deficit that is not first choice for local families. The land is of higher value for new housing and growing the local economy.

The LEA needs to seriously consider the timing of this given the vast appeals of parents this year and the anxiety and anguish of those families with reluctant places in Monkseaton. You must have a sense of a 3 year plan it would be better to share it upfront, including how and when catchment areas will be impacted so that we can all feel comfortable and make informed decisions.

What about the provision for Whitley Bay Sporting Club? They have over 1000 playing members, one of the largest clubs in the north east, and it's already a travesty that they have nowhere to call their home ground. Monkseaton High

currently host large amounts of their home games every week. The club plays a vital role for our young people in Whitley Bay and contributes to their physical and mental wellbeing enormously. Without somewhere to play their games, there is a risk that the club becomes no longer viable.

All other schools near to Monkseaton are at capacity. I would not be happy for my children to travel by school bus given the inability and lack of behaviour management on them. My child school must be within walking distance of Whitley Bay town centre

Expand the catchment area to cover NE27

I think it's unforgivable that year 9s were allowed to even start and new staff were employed. There has been dishonesty here and staff who have dedicated years to the school have been let down.

This facility has excellent potential, it would be a shame to lose this for the borough although clearly many efforts have been made to date to find an alternative to closure. There's a committed cohort of children in years 4-7 who would put a lot of effort into keeping this open.

I am strongly opposed to the closure of Monkseaton High School. As a former student and current member of their Sixth Form programme, the future closure of the school does not immediately concern me academically as I will have completed Sixth Form by the broadcasted closure on August 31st 2026. However, speaking as someone who has gone there for years, I think it is an invaluable school that offers a rich education and demonstrates tremendous care for its pupils. No student at Monkseaton High School is overlooked, they are all tended to and provided support should they need it in any way and the relationships I have personally built and have observed to be built with the staff members are cherished. If there is any possible solution on the topic of securing its future, I would utmost recommend they are pursued and explored further.

I will not pretend I fully understand the situation at hand - I am aware that the school and council have not taken this proposal lightly. But once again, I strongly implore both parties to continue working together to find a viable solution.

I hope all the fantastic staff find appropriate solutions for employment

I would like to further understand how NT council has allowed this to happen.

Whitley Bay and Monkseaton is a densely populated area and Monkseaton High is needed to provide a good education to the area. The large amounts of houses being built will provide a lot more students to the school. I feel the opinion to close the school is extremely short sighted and not looking at the future of the school and local area.

Monkseaton High is a fixture of the area and would be a great loss to the community. The impact of closing the school would be really negative on the other schools in the area. WBHS is already over subscribed and the effect of adding more students would put a huge strain on the schools.

The government and other local schools should work together to support Monkseaton High and see it as more than just a deficit and a problem. We need to make a long term strategy as this issue is about the children of the area for decades to come.

Huge disruption will be caused by closing the school - where will the middle school pupils who don't get into Whitley Bay High School go as it cannot take the additional pupils

Closing the school will limit the spaces for the children in the three tier systems. Having only one high school means all children in area/middle schools should be guaranteed a space at whitley high

Monkseaton high school was my high school. Where other school options felt intimidating the atmosphere and student catchment of monkseaton high school made it a very inclusive and safe space for students with a range of vulnerabilities. I feel that the closure of this school would be a disservice to members of the community with additional needs be that financial, emotional or otherwise. I do believe that in closing the high school and therefore relocating its current/prospective students many young people may not be able to access an education which serves their needs as well. Large high schools are not preferable for many students with a range of complex needs and monkseaton high school creates a safe space for these students. I would however, advocate for the closure of monkseaton high schools sixth form, although I attended myself, the class sizes in many subjects I can see are not viable and there simply isn't enough interest to sustain the sixth form due to this. Ultimately closing this school entirely would be an enormous shame and the impact that this would have on many students should not be underestimated.

It needs to just be combined with Whitley high turn it into a sixth form for Whitley high and it will free more space up in Whitley highs building to take more pupils from the two middles school

When other schools are at capacity with high pupil to teacher ratios, impacting the quality of education, with children waiting for help for the majority of lesson times and parents paying for tutors to compensate, inflating school performance (Whitley Bay High School), a full review of schools should be considered to support / protect children's education in this area of the borough.

Change the catchment in Whitley Bay and consider the whole community.

I feel very let down as a parent of a Year 9 pupil. To find out on day 10 back to school that my child may be leaving at the end of this academic year is disappointing. The end of Year 4 in first school and Year 5 in middle school was disruptive due to covid, now the start of high school and the year to make GCSE choices could be disruptive too. My child does not cope with large environments or change and this feels wrong that they have been settled in to a new school for potentially less than a year. I honestly believe the year group should be allowed to complete the three school years, they have had enough disruption and uncertainty and this is something you need to seriously consider. I fully understand the financial situation and the potential need for closure but please allow the pupils who are currently there to complete this school with the excellent teaching staff, care and compassion they have always shown which made me choose this school without any hesitation for my child.

Why should children have to leave a school they feel safe in and the teachers are fantastic

I'd like to ask why you are not extending closing for the application period for next school year until this consultation is complete. Not doing so is forcing parents to make applications now without knowing what the final decision will be for the school in the new year. It will impact both Y8 parents applying for places now and Y6 parents who need to consider moving to 2 tier.

To make Monkseaton High into a 2 tier system. Extend the catchment area to include NE27 and Backworth Park Primary School. This will take the pressure off George Stephenson High School with an increasing population due to the influx of new houses. Monkseaton High would be the preferred high school for parents in this area.

Why do you say all the new building at Rake Lane will not increase numbers? - why do you think that? I heard a requirement for the home building would be to build a new firstly / primary school - how are current high schools to cope with an increase in numbers - you need to publish numbers for all the schools

- if parents decide to move children in year six into 2 tier system what checks are in place to support feeder middle schools such as monkseaton middle and Marden bridge middle?

I think closing a school and making 700 pupils fight for places in other schools is not going to work. The timing of this is also poor, scuppering Monkseaton high's chances of attracting more pupils this year (their open evening is tomorrow, wed 29th)

This year very few pupils in my part of Whitley bay got into WBHS; strongly increasing numbers applying to monkseaton high, I suggest ...

It's clearly a self serving proposition from North Tyneside Council. To announce this 2 weeks after admitting a new cohort with no forewarning is borderline fraud. Young students who have already been impacted by covid need much more empathy and support at this time

Where will the children from the 3000 new houses that will be built opposite Rake Lane go?

I don't think its a good idea to close this school as there is no more room in the local schools so children will have to travel further to get to other schools.

Where would the pupils go? Whitley Bay High School? Class sizes would need to be huge, therefore degrading the high school education of a whole generation. Disgraceful proposal.

There'll be too much intake at other schools in area

The closure of Monkseaton High School would have significant consequences for our archery club and the wider community. As the only archery club using the school, we've found Monkseaton's facilities to be ideal for both our indoor and outdoor activities. We only started using the venue a few months ago, but it has resolved long-standing issues we had with previous venues. If the school closes, we'll be left without a suitable space, and it's incredibly difficult to find an alternative that accommodates our needs. Unlike football clubs, which are well-supported and have plenty of facilities, smaller sports like archery don't have the same financial backing or options.

The closure wouldn't just affect us. Monkseaton's location makes it easily accessible by walking or cycling for many in the community. If it closes, people will be forced to travel further, which will increase car use, leading to congestion and higher costs for families. This undermines efforts to encourage more sustainable transport and places an unnecessary burden on local residents.

Monkseaton is more than a school—it's a community hub. Local groups, like ours, rely on its facilities, and there are few alternatives that offer the same level of flexibility. Football may be able to adapt, but smaller clubs like ours will struggle. The school could also serve other vital community functions, such as hosting councillor sessions or local meetings, offering even more value to the community.

With a new housing estate being built nearby, the local population is set to grow, and demand for educational and community facilities will increase. Closing Monkseaton now would be a short-sighted decision that ignores future needs. Keeping it open would provide the space needed for both students and the wider community as the area develops.

Monkseaton also has the potential to offer vocational courses or adult education, which could generate additional income while keeping it open. By expanding its role in the community, the school could remain a vital asset that serves a variety of needs.

In short, the closure of Monkseaton High School would leave smaller community groups like ours without a home, while larger, better-funded sports like football would continue unaffected. I urge the council to consider the broader impacts and look for solutions that keep Monkseaton open, allowing it to support both the current and future community.

It's sad; but also concerning because my son's currently in year 11, and I'm concerned this will affect his schooling in a very important year.

Please do not sell the land for housing.

Will lead to students forced into other local schools that don't offer the same quality of education, and will not be able to maintain standards as classes will be overflowing

If it has to close , close in 2027. It is imperative that the current year 9 are allowed to complete their time at Monkseaton. It could be catastrophic for some students to be shipped off to another school against their will and likely without their friends.

When the new monkseaton high school was built, the council knew how many births there had been and therefore could forecast how many children were likely to attend. Why build a school and close it down a few years later? Incompetence? If it is absolutely necessary to close a school (so we, when we're building houses nearby ?(which will house children needing to go to

school)), why did we build a brand new school. Why not keep the old school going for a few more years. If its been in deficit since 2016, we only needed the old building to limp along for 7 years or so?

Should be closed and turned into a sixth form college for the WBHS

North Tyneside has the perfect opportunity to address the shortage of special school places by turning Monkseaton High School into an all through SEND provision.

Monkseaton high has excellent outdoor sports facilities, WBHS to share and set up an extended offer of sports qualifications.

The only other high school in the area for those in the three tier system is Whitley High. This is surely going to put pressure on places there? Will there be spaces for all 4 middle schools to attend the local high school and remain 3 tier?

There is far too many children in the area for the school to close. Money needs to be found or drop Whitley Bays PAN

See previous comment

Ensuring that three tier schools remain within the area and that the feeder schools to monkseaton high remain as they are and can feed into other schools without having larger than normal class sizes and cohorts.

This school has been here for years surely there is a solution to saving the school and not letting that huge building be wasted. I'm sure there is other local schools that are in need of space like there is in that building

The other high schools are at capacity so if Monkseaton closes there are families who will be forced to travel much further at a cost to get their children to school and in a cost of living crisis it will make things even harder for everyone

There are new housing estates popping up all around - surely the need will only increase in the future. By focusing on the sixth form/further education route we could protect the educational offer for our community of the future. Specialisation would put the school back on the map and hopefully reach young people outside of the catchment who want to study for a levels or a vocational course/apprenticeship.

The school must remain in some form to support the 3 tier WB system if it is to remain as WBHS is already over subscribed

The school cannot continue to run in the way it does. Everyone in the area wants their child to go to WBHS so why not just let the Outstanding School

work to improve Monkseaton and then all the children in the area are able to access such high quality Teaching and Learning.

I find it hard to see where the e siting and future pupils would go to school unless the whole boundaries are amended at the coast.

I had to sit through an appeal process through the admissions process in June 2024 and fight to get my daughter into the school because they were oversubscribed which is not the narrative we're being told about falling numbers.

The deficit has fallen over years so surely this can continue with better financial planning and seeking options through this consultation rather than it just being a process to legally close the school.

At the point of appeal I was told the schools were in a good place by the admissions appeal committee.

If all the other local schools are over subscribed where are these displaced children going to go? How is it going to impact on the already overstretched local schools? The previous Essential Guide numbers show many children being rejected from other schools as they were full. How can you now say there is space in other schools?

I choose monkseaton for my daughter based on it being the best option for my child, having moved from a school where she was bullied and is now happy and loves going into the school, this is going to impact on the mental health of those children at a time where they should be focusing on their GCSEs and A Levels.

If the only option is to close, would a phased closure, be an option, allowing the current children to continue until after their exams.

Bigger schools are not always the better option, smaller schools allow for better pastoral and academic provision. Why is the local government not doing more to ensure the security of the school? Academisation? Commercial use of facilities? Generating partnerships with organisations to promote the education of our pupils.

I think this is wrong. If you close this school, it will end up being more houses, with more people and not enough schools for the children to attend and then it would be where kids have to travel miles away just to get to their education which will then end up in kids being homeschooling or not going to school at all. This is the 3 tier school which I would like all my children to attend. If it is closed it means they have to travel further away for school as this one is much

closer for me especially with having 4 children of different ages and different year groups. Please do not close this school. It would be the worst mistake ever

A new housing estate is being built behind the school. Regardless of whether the potential numbers of pupils from this estate have been factored into calculations it is not a good look to be closing the school and presumably embedding even more rush hour car journeys to other schools in the area when hopefully most pupils who live in the estate would otherwise walk there.

It is a waste of an expensively provided modern facility when other schools have older facilities which could be sites which would be better suited to selling off for housing. The decision to close I feel cannot from a local community perspective should not be made without some indication of what the site will end up becoming.

pushing more pupils into other schools and classes is detrimental to their learning. the 3 tier system develops keen minds so much better than 2 tier. support the children's development don't focus on the bank account and selling property

My sister will be going into Year 11 next year and her education will be disrupted. I am in Year 11 currently, and I fear that due to this proposed closure the quality of my education will decrease as teachers and staff may leave early to find a new job.

The school is needed for the community. There have been a lot of houses built next to the school which may add extra pupils. Whitley bay high school would also become over subscribed if monkseaton high school were to close
The catchment area for the school could also be expanded

Utterly disgusting decision, children that may not have means of transport will now be forced to travel to God knows where for a basic education- why built an abundance of housing with no where for the children of said housing to be educated?! Clearly we will be seeing yet more unaffordable housing on the plot in the coming years!!

Having applied for provision at Monkseaton High school twice for ... children in my care, and not had any reply regarding a space, I strongly believe the local authority have stealthily created the situation re lack of children as to sell the land in the long term.

Closing this school is going to make a massive impact on the other local school which will make them over crowded and then all the children will suffer in their most important years at school

This will have a detrimental affect on SEN students who struggle with anxiety disorders. Also a huge detrimental affect on all now yr 9 students going into gcse. There will not be enough spaces in other surrounding schools or non appropriate placements failing the kids. Everyone now will jump ship putting school into further damage before due date to end. People panic! Fir the 1st time my child likes school and is settled, this upheaval as a sen child will be so unbelievably damaging.

I went to this school as a young lad and had some of my best years here which led me to the industry I currently work in now (SEND) and would seem like there is an opportunity to explore merging SEND/inclusion into the space available rather than closing.

What are the plans for the existing pupils and all those currently in Middle Schools in the area?

This decision is going to affect all the children in the area parents have made decisions on schools 1st and middle on the basis of them attending Monkseaton in later years parents are now thrown into a situation where children are going to end up attending schools all over the place away from home and friends

I am concerned about capacity in the future for children due to the amount of new homes being built in the area. Closing the building also seems wasteful although I appreciate there are running costs.

With a child due to transition next September this is a massive worry there are not enough places as is where may he be sent to??

The proposed impact on current Year 9 pupils to transfer to another school should be handled with great care. Accommodation should be made to move all Whitley Bay children from this group into Whitley Bay High School and all options, including temporary accommodation/staff at Whitley Bay High School, should be considered to enable Whitley Bay children to be schooled in Whitley Bay.

As a parent of a child in Year 5 at Marden Bridge Middle School who is in the Monkseaton High School catchment area. I am concerned as to what this means for my son in respect of his high school.

How has this happened? You mention low birth rates, which I think is quite frankly rubbish. The real reason is because Whitley Bay High School is now massively over subscribed with students who should have gone to Monkseaton. Why didn't NTC (North Tyneside Council) put there foot down and stop this.

How did a school have a five million pound deficit in 2016 which is only 3 years after it opened! This is unbelievable, and I think parents should be informed as to how this has happened. Bad management, loans, how?

I have the highest praise for the teaching staff at Monkseaton, but can NTC guarantee they will stay the duration? I do not want my son being educated by a supply / temp teacher in his GCSE years..... Loosing staff could crucify his future plans! Have you as a council heard of 'wellbeing'? My son for one is now not in a good place with this planned closure, and neither are his parents!

Can you also guarantee that the catering facilities will stay in place? Children deserve to be able to get a hot meal a day, as a matter of fact, for children on free school meals it could be the only hot meal they get due to family circumstances. Will this still be provided?

Ofsted!! Where have they been for the last 5 years? We deserve the right to know if Ofsted inspections have been deferred over the last 2 years as I know they can be under circumstances such as change of leadership. Bad leadership would have been flagged immediately with an Ofsted inspection, which would have held the schools leadership and governors accountable, and maybe then NTC might have done something before it was too late.

What about sixth form? As the school will be closing will parents get a choice of sixth form in 2026 or be pushed into a school that they don't want? Do we as parents have a say in this?

As a council you have a duty to provide the best possible education for your young children. I'm sorry, but so far as children in Monkseaton High are concerned you have now failed miserably. The school should not be in the deficit it is and the danger signs were there for you to see 8 years ago. NTC now has to step up to the mark and provide those kids with the best possible education over the next two years. Maybe then you can pat yourself on the back and say 'we did those kids proud'.

School places are already at a premium. The council should not be removing school facilities further limiting choice and forcing people to use vehicles for school runs. The council is allegedly committed to reducing the boroughs carbon footprint, removing this school in the face of a major housing

development will mean increased vehicular journey's on school runs and increased pressure on surrounding schools to absorb students from monkseaton.

The school is fairly new should the resources of the school kept open.

With the growth of housing in the immediate vicinity of the school, this closure seems hard to justify from a longer-term planning perspective.

If this school closes there will not be enough spaces to accommodate children as Whitley Bay High and John Spence are full.

We live outside any school boundary and have limited options of schools. Monkseaton High wasn't a preferred choice for us it was what the authority offered following middle school. My child is now in year 10 and the school will close after his GCSEs, what guarantee do we have that his education will be unaffected, and, that the level of teaching will be sustained giving year 10 children the opportunity they all deserve to do their best in their exams without impacting their future careers? This is already a stressful time for many of the students.

This would be so damaging to children in the middle school system who cannot get a place at Whitley High. We will see a huge impact on children with mental health problems, school attendance etc on those who have to enter year 9 within the 2 tier system. Those children in the 3 tier system should follow a feeder school programme where there are stricter rules as to which schools they progress on to. For example south Wellfield 1st, Wellfield Middle then Monkseaton high. Take away catchment area criteria for middle schools in particular and have these feed into specific high school.

How does the council propose to safeguard the education of current MHS students now that staff know their jobs are at risk? How will a mass exodus of teaching staff be prevented?

It would be a huge waste to have built in inthe 1st place, and the pupils already have been disrupted, there studies will hugely be impacted teachers will not be able to cope with larger classes of disruptive children, education will suffer massively. And then what about these parents that have just spent a fortune on uniforms? It's not cheap having to spend it all again.

What is not clear from the faqs is how the school has ended up in the deficit position. There are clearly questions around the Financial accounts of the school, the debts incurred and the cost of financing capital projects like the current building that need clarifying, and public discussion.

There is also a question about how this impacts future capacity in the Borough, especially with the local plan and future housing development.

The proposed date of closure is my daughter's GCSE year so I find it disgusting that all these kids will have to move school during the hardest year of their academic life

This is affecting my education and an alternative to closing should be found as this is unfair to the students

This is going to effect 3 levels of student education in the school and the staff here deserve to be given a chance

All of the new houses being built right next to the school will result in more kids needing school places, which will result in more kids coming to the school.

How can closing a good school be a good idea, staff and students are happy and there is a scramble for school places. Work out a way to keep the school open and innovative in the approach.

Is there a PTA helping with fundraising for provisions of materials and sports equipment?

I would be interested to know where current students would be placed and where future students from the large housing estate being built would go. If only 1 in 5 students are from the catchment area, why are students out of catchment being placed here? Is this the issue with numbers? If students out of catchment were placed in their own catchment areas, would this encourage Monkseaton catchment parents to apply to their local school - has the council's allocation of places caused this issue? Has Kings School added to the issue? Could the council do more to keep local places for local children?

As a mother of 3 children, one in year 11 at Monkseaton high, one in year 9 at Monkseaton and one in year 5. I am very concerned for the future and stability of my children's education.

I moved my eldest from Whitley to this school part way through year 9 and this school has been fantastic. She is absolutely thriving, my middle child is getting the intervention from the staff that he needs to help him. I am very concerned what this means for my youngest, we have been fortunate to have had the choice of schools between Whitley and Monkseaton. But with this closure where will she attend, will you be moving boundaries for admission?

How will this disrupt my eldest child final year and exams, staff leaving no consistency for her.

If closure is inevitable, extend the closure window for another year to allow the current Year 9 students to complete their education without disruption. This is

really important for all learners, but particularly those with additional learning needs who have just made a very stressful transition from middle school and whose mental health and GCSE prospects will be detrimentally affected by yet more disruptive transition.

MHS is the only other high school in north tyneside. If students from local middle schools can't get into WBHS, there is nowhere else for them to go. They will need to travel far and join at year 9 instead of year 7 with everyone else. Students mental health will be greatly affected, teaching resources will be poor and the building of MHS will likely be empty. MHS have recently gained lots of new resources (computers etc) which will now not be used. A waste of resources and too much of a negative impact on the stress of students, parents and teachers. Teachers are going to struggle to find another job as no extra will be made available

The negative effect to the local community about closing the school will be significant for years to come.

I have been so pleased with the school since my son started there. The teaching staff are fantastic and it has a lovely inclusive feeling. It would be a tragedy for future kids not to have the sense of belonging that Monkseaton high provides.

This is a really short sighted approach. There are currently hundreds of houses being built or due to be built in the nest future behind the school and stretching as far as Shiremoor. This school will be needed in the future.

The high school needs will fail to be met within the local area and the alternatives are impractically far away for many families and likely also over subscribed

I simply do not believe that there are no proposals for alternative uses proposed for the building or land. I suspect the moment this school is closed, the land will be sold for housing.

What a waste of a new school and with new houses being built surely the need for school places will go up

My daughter has just gone in to year 9 at Monkseaton - without some swift organisation she is facing teachers leaving and not being bothered about progress and results in year 10, no continuity and gaps in her GCSE education if she has to go elsewhere, and no automatic right to a place in sixth form (providing she passes GCSEs) if the given school doesn't have its own! Her education will be ruined. This needs deciding now - do not give or

make kids in next years cohort accept places in a school that won't exist, it is morally wrong. My daughter is on the lost for Whitley High anyway, she is in 10th position - I would ask that her place is not pushed further down the list with the inevitable influx of worried parents now trying to move their children before they are pushed.

How will the closure affect Whitley high school and the capacity there?

It's a disgrace. I currently attend the school sixth form and by brother is in year 9. Luckily for me I get to continue a levels but he has to relocate to somewhere where he will not cope. We have had to buy all the uniform and 10 days in its announced he has to leave.

Please don't close it until the students who are already there have completed school and rent the building out privately as space becomes available.

I do wonder what will happen to the money allocated by North Tyneside council to funding the deficit - will this money be lost?

While I note that there is a plan to move year 9 students to other schools in North Tyneside, I am concerned that many schools are also oversubscribed. This removes the parental choice for schools which we are meant to be entitled to. If there are only spaces available in Norham or Churchill for example, these schools are too far away and could cause a variety of issues for the children, including travel, friendship groups, social exclusion. Whitley Bay, Marden high, Thomas More and Kings are all at capacity. Churchill has issues with its school building, and Norham has a very old building. Would it not make more sense to use the Monkseaton high building as a school rather than these two, given that it is relatively new? As a parent I am very worried about progress 8 figures, reported behaviour issues and problems with school buildings, amongst other things.

Change the internal design.

it is a great school and doesn't deserve to be shut

Very short sighted by the council. If you need money then cut staff. To my knowledge the council is over staffed by at leads 30%

The closure of the school has caused many issues for myself and others with sixth form and travel options. It is also a brilliant school that over the last three years I have seen how amazing it can be and it would be an incredible shame if future students cannot experience the joys of this school. The close band of teachers here are also brilliant and closing this school would cause issues for them aswell as students. Thank you and I hope you can keep this school open.

Extremely short sighted, frustrating and upsetting situation. For the current year 9 children who have had just 2 weeks at a school, this is incredibly upsetting, particularly as there seems to be absolutely no plan for what will happen to them at the end of this academic year.

Parents who chose Monkseaton, or had it as a second choice, have had all choice about their child's education snatched away. The children there knew of the potential closure by 7pm on the day it was announced and it was all over social media-this is appalling communication.

For families with children in year 8 at middle school, who now need to apply for a high school by the end of October, their choice is a school that is closing or a school that is over subscribed and out of catchment. The lack of planning is absolutely appalling.

The current years 9 and 10 are full, as are all of the middle schools. Surely this means that numbers at the school will increase in the next few years? And will now leave at least 150 children each year without a high school place.

The lack of planning, shocking communication and absolute disrespect for the residents of the local area is disgraceful.

I feel the children are being let down by North Tyneside Council. One size does not fit all, there should be a choice of schools for everyone, not just larger schools where they will be just a number and will get lost in the system. The school should stay open. It's unfair that money can be spent on a new build at Whitley High and John Spence are to get a sixth form department, then Monkseaton is to be closed. This is not money well spent.

Considering numbers of kids in Monkseaton now and free places in all other high schools there is no space to accommodate those kids, so what is Council proposal? Where to move them?

Does Council consider also amount of new houses building around currently? Does this all have been really taken into consideration?

Closing the school will leave hundreds of children without ANY place at a local high school meaning moving from their friends and difficulties for families with travel costs and travel times.

Marden High and WBHS are both at capacity so there is no alternative provision for these young people.

The students will have a year of uncertainty, upset and trauma resulting in poor grades and poor career prospects and we cannot allow this to happen. They have already been through huge amounts with Covid and lack of schooling and now closing their school with no hope of an alternative within their locale.

Why has the PAN been dropping? Surely the schools allocation has caused that by offering other schools to those that should have got to MonkSeaton?

I just dont want it to happen. Monkseaton High School is known to be a good school with many awards. Every other known high school in the area does not have a good reputation, and alot of kids know this. Year 9s in specific will not be able to do their gcses in this school if it does end up closing in 2026. Being in a different school that they dont like could affect mental health, which really isnt a good time considering that gcses are coming up. Being in a terrible mental state whilst doing GCSES could severely affect the performance of how kids do in GCSES.

A few years ago my older sibling went to monkseaton high school and strongly believed it was an amazing school to go to. I am only 3 weeks into this school and I love it, but I am extremely devastated and dissapointed that such a sudden occurrence had happened I really wish to continue at this school and believe it should not be closed.

I also believe that pupils should have there say and the council she be more smart with their money instead of spending on irrelevant things such as new (metro stations and other council gyms and centers). I also believe if the school has stayed open all this time there is no need to shut it down in 2026 and they should let all current attendees finish their studies and then shut down

If parents are offered the choice of their child moving to Whitley Bay, Marden or King's Tynemouth this may be a suitable alternative. There are no other schools suitable in north tyneside. To not even meet face to face with parents of year 9 children is disgusting and not acceptable! Being informed via email is merely disrespectful and shows complete lack of care from council for either the children or the parents! Surely closing after the current pupils complete would be a fairer proposal.

Absolutely do not want to close

See previous answer

I just genuinely dont get how the government and education system have let monkseaton high school get to a point of debt where it has affected to the school to the point its in talk of having to shut down the school all because the education syten cant find the funds to give the school but my question is why build the school in the first place if they had a idea that we would not be able to be funded as a school to run the school as what whitley bay school are able to and i use whitley bay as an example because they have just a had a whole

new school build so why cant we have that why do they grt that how are funded that much and arent having to use the teachers own money to make ends meet so that students can have the best education possible?

With the amount of people moving to the area more schools are needed. Pulling down a fairly new school seems counterintuitive.

Closing this school is not a good idea.

RIDICULOUS!! BIG MISTAKE

The MHS building remains of very high quality. Some of the other local schools (first and middle, especially) are in advanced states of disrepair, with similarly declining rolls - closing a very good building, while maintaining crumbling buildings seems like a poor distribution of resources.

While the new Whitley Bay High School is an absolutely superb building, it could not withstand the amalgamation with MHS. It would lead to cramped learning environments, accelerated decay of new infrastructure, and enormous disruption for a generation of our children.

Having two such high quality school buildings in the area is a credit to our continued commitment to the education of our children.

Where are all the children going to go? what is proposed for the land?.....

I think I've said what needs to be said. This country is in shambles. It's not just the closure of the school. It's everything.

Will pupils parents and carers get any discount from the housing developer when the school is pulled down and houses are built?

This is one of the most modern schools in the Borough and on the edge of large scale proposed developments.

Whitley Bay High provides a better standard of education.

Monkseaton High wasn't our first choice as parents assume WBHS is better . However we have come to be grateful for the school as our child is happy there. We don't want to see it close or for staff to loose jobs. We want to see a solution to keep the school open and more than that we want to see it thrive. I'd like to see other local High schools supporting MHS and working together for the good of the children which is at the heart of this. They should never have been allowed to get into so much debt and now North Tyneside we need to help them to start again. I am concerned decisions have already been made with money rather than children at the forefront. Where would these children go? All coastal High schools full. There IS a need for MHS.

I do not believe you should close monkseaton high school, as it is a school with many students who may be unsettled moving to another school . Also this will affect middle schools in the area as they will only have one high school to go to.

Monkseaton High is cooked.

Shutting it down will cook all other schools.

Clear plans and information must be in place and circulated by all schools affected to parents and students well in advance

This school has a reasonable size catchment area and if it closes, where do the children go. We all want the very best for our children but closing a local school for them to instead travel long distances instantly puts these children at a disadvantage.

They will be tired and spend less time on school work. Other high schools are either over subscribed or too far to travel.

If parents are choosing to send children else where then the reputation of the school needs addressing to out a more positive light on it. It would be a huge loss to the area especially with all the new development.

I think this whole idea is absolute stupid. Only about a decade ago the council spent millions of pounds on a new building for it just to get knocked down only a decade later? And you have clearly failed to think about how the teachers and students feel, as for the teachers this must be an absolute kick in the teeth as they have put their blood sweat and tears into this school just for the council to say that it is not good enough? when in reality they have been working harder than anyone. As for the students, all I hear in the corridors is the younger years debating which school they are going to when they have only got settled in ours. Do you not realize how distressing that is? Yes, the school is in millions of debt, but it is not the 7 million which the council have projected, not yet anyway. And as for the major finding issue, clearly the council are not giving the school enough funding. So they are not giving the school the funding required, then blaming the teachers for something which is completed out of there control? To me it does not sound very fair. This is not the most viable option as there are many other methods which include helping the school get more funding, giving them more funding to get us out of this hole, or opening the school to year 7s and 8s. Even closing the building would not resolve all of the issues as they would have wasted over £20 million which is far more substantial than the 7 million in debt. In conclusion, this change would be so sad, upsetting and unsettling for everyone involved.

Has the council thought about the impact on the surrounding schools as where do the current Monkseaton school pupils go. I do not think over populating other schools in the area is a reasonable consideration.

Given the rise in local housing closing down Monkseaton high would lead to other local schools becoming overcrowded. My daughter is in year 11 studying for GCSE's this news has greatly upset her and is causing massive distress. She was planning on staying on through 6th form and now has no idea what to do.

Surely the 3000 new homes being built adjacent to the school will provide extra pupils. Many of the homes are 4, 5 bedroom houses. Family homes like this are bought by families WITH TEENAGERS! There is only a shortfall of 400 pupils currently..surely 3000 homes will provide these numbers

The teaching staff at this school have played a massive part in my daughter's life and have made her the young person she is today. She has just started the 6th form their and they are so caring. My daughter is know by her name, no another student walking along the corridor.

I don't think that the debt should've been let to get to that level and maybe some extra help is important

This doesn't feel like a proposal, it feels like a decision is made and the consultation is only a box ticking process. The impact on the students (and staff) is immeasurable and devastating.

How is it only Monkseaton High that are impacted by the low birth rates? There seems to be no plan to where the 500 students will go, and the impact to future year 9 students. Which high schools have capacity?

My son attends monkseaton middle school and has been considering the high school for year 9. The proposed closure of a great school would be a huge loss to the area, especially given Whitley bay high school is oversubscribed. If greater collaboration between WBHS and MHS was possible, particularly through a shared sixth form, perhaps it might be more attractive to children/parents who want to benefit from the success of Whitley bay high school.

It is worrying, with the growing number of new houses, that there will be no space at secondary / high schools if Monkseaton closes.

Where are the children in the area supposed to go?? Crazy decision to close an entire school! Unless there is spaces at other local schools (Whitley bay school)

Surely the with the building of new housing estate near to school there will be an influx of pupil's

I am concerned as a parent of a child in Year 7, in middle school and living in WBHS catchment that they won't be able to access their first choice place because of massive additional pressure on places.

We are appalled and saddened. We had to appeal for our daughter to attend Monkseaton High and that was only in June, less than three months ago. This must have been known by council leaders. The thought for the children, families and staff has been pushed aside. After 2 weeks to be told they must find alternative education within North Tyneside is a disgrace. We have sold our house and have bought a property in Monkseaton to be close to the school - to then be told this? The reasons our daughter moved to Monkseaton was because of her recent dyslexia diagnosis, support for her as I was diagnosed with a brain tumour last year and the lack of support and bullying from a previous North Tyneside school. (Which has now been suggested as a possible alternative education??) As a teacher myself I understand the funding issues in education but I cannot understand how these children were able to start an education in a new environment, settle in and make new friends and then two weeks in it all be removed. There has to be a way to phase out the school rather than do this to the children, families and staff. It is utterly heartbreaking. Our daughter was so incredibly sad at her previous school and one of my wishes after my diagnosis was to make sure she was happy again. Which she absolutely was until this uncertainty hit yesterday. I will not stand by and watch it happen again. Whilst I am still able I will do all I can.

As previous comment

Monkseaton High provides a desperately needed opportunity for a quality education, in a comfortable environment, for pupils who need a more personal approach.

The remaining high schools in the area would be overwhelmed by the increased numbers and varying demands of the extra pupils, even WBHS with its new build would struggle.

One also has to ask the question about hidden agendas with regard to closing the three tier system, and whether school properties and land would be sold off for further housing development; this in turn would of course increase the school population and further the demands on the remaining schools.

Where is the answer of where the children would go? What are the options? Home schooling when no one has the opportunity to have time or unlimited money to be able to do that. Sometimes smaller schools are so much more beneficial to certain students, especially those who have gone through three

tier system. What capacity are other schools going to be running at at that time in 2026? So where is the other viable options? Going two tier would absolutely traumatic for some. Have they asked the kids how they would feel? Age appropriately? I'm annoyed. How do you think an 11 year old in a small school would feel suddenly being in a huge school with 18 year olds. Bullying isn't picked up as quickly in bigger schools, three tier is more personable and I feel identifies children as the individuals they are.

I say before you today to advocate for the preservation of Monkseaton High School. This school is not just a place of learning; it's a community that nurtures and empowers its students. From its innovative programs to its dedicated teachers, Monkseaton High School is a beacon of excellence in Whitley Bay. I urge you to consider the profound impact this school has on our community and the bright futures it helps shape. Let's work together to ensure that Monkseaton High School continues to thrive for generations to come. Thank you.

Before making a decision will you look at numbers in years to come? My son-in-law is currently in yr 3 and we planned his school around the three tier system and planned for him to attend Monkseaton High. How do you know that numbers will continue to be low when you can't apply for high school till yr8.

Most first schools are at capacity and I assume middle schools are too. Where will all the children go if you close as there is only one other three tier system school in North Tyneside.

This consultation has arrived before the end of September, therefore it would appear to be on the cards before the new term. The council should not have allowed applications for year 9 this year as this will massively affect the students

It must close due to the budget dept and the fact the building is not fit for purpose and is environmentally meet the standards required at this time.. The new build of Whitley Bay high school is an outstanding example of good design.

It is extremely disappointing and worrying that so many children will be left without a school place knowing that all the other schools in the local area are filled to capacity. What will happen to these children and their disrupted education? I have been really impressed with how Monkseaton has organised and dealt with my child's transition from middle school knowing their anxieties around change. This was the school my child chose and wanted to go to and which they are comfortable and happy with. Without Monkseaton High there

will be just one high school left, and therefore one choice of school, which doesn't have the capacity for everyone, I don't understand how this closure is a feasible option!?

I suspect that the land would just be sold to development companies, for more houses making the strain worse on the schools and congestion, it's not acceptable.

You shouldn't have let us join Monkseaton high as the new Y9s if you knew that we would be in debt!!!

Don't close it I beg

Monkseaton High School is one of the best schools within the area. Despite the recent difficulties in regards to student capacity and finances, there is no school that tailors and meets children's needs as much as this one. Staff at Monkseaton go above and beyond not only in terms of education but also overall child well-being and Mental health support. The drive and encouragement this school provides to pupils is exceptional. There is no other school in the area that meets the same level of excellence. I am aware there are other schools within the area that have larger capacity and are filled with pupils but Monkseaton High really caters to each and every child on an individual basis which is something extremely difficult to come across these days.

Impact on traffic From school runs and other schools will
Be TOO much.

Plus with extra houses going up all the time in the area the school
Needs to remain please

Personally, I believe the three-tier system should be removed. And if it is insisted on being kept, reduce the number of middle schools in the area. If Monkseaton High is shut down, the majority of children currently at middle schools will only be able to go to Whitley Bay High School. Which would force them to take on a lot more children than what may be possible.

Many children from my area (NE27) are in First and Middle Schools outside of their catchment area. As a result, at the end of Year 8, parents typically apply for High School in a similar/familiar location. Whitley Bay High School is currently oversubscribed, so the only alternative to High Schools within catchment - that are further away or Secondary Schools - is Monkseaton High School.

I would be interested to understand the reason that Monkseaton High School

is under subscribed. As a parent of a Year 7 child, I would like to be informed of what alternative High Schools would be viable options for my child to attend. There are several large housing developments being built around North Tyneside, surely on these are established, High School places will be in demand as there may not be provision at the other High Schools in the region.

The school is telling pupils there is a 95% chance of closure so, clearly, that's the agenda that is being pushed here. I also don't believe that the council has any end objective other than to sell the land to developers for housing. This is an absolute disgrace.

There are going to be a lot of children who need school places. I understand the deficit problem, but there has to be a solution for these children and their families.

I would be very much against replacing the school with more housing. The current infrastructure is barely sufficient to cope with traffic at peak times and there are additional houses being built nearby already.

This will affect hundreds of local children and cause upset to many many families. There needs to be a solution that avoids school closure!

I feel that the council has not explored a lot of options before arriving at this decision to close the school. I understand the school is in deficit, but what measures were taken in the last few years to increase pupil headcount in the school? Although the FAQs give some details of what's been done by council before coming to this decision, but I feel, this is just done for the sake of it rather than to actually do something. the council has failed our children. It is not clear how they will be placed in what schools, how far are they? there are lot of unanswered questions and i strongly believe the council has not done enough to save Monkseaton high. This is very pathetic that the country has reached to a stage where it has funds for funding a war, but no funding to keep a school open.

My child is at marden bridge- as part of the application for a Y9 place, as there is now no other Tier 3 high school other than whitley bay (and im guessing this is at capacity versus having the necessary free spaces) we should be allowed to also include 2 tier schools in the application for a Y9 place versus having to also complete the 'school transfer' forms

Living in Holystone our options for Secondary school are either George Stephenson or Longbenton, neither of which have particularly good reputations.

Monkseaton would be a good alternative for us and other families in the area.

Additionally, the SEN provision in North Tyneside is poor and so this could be an opportunity for the council to create a thriving centre of education which supports SEN children - especially those who fall through the gaps. My eldest has an official diagnosis of 'autism, adhd and gifted' and there is currently no suitable support for her anywhere in North Tyneside. I hope the council consult with experts to see what can be done in this area.

Due to the number of family properties being built, I would imagine that there will be a lot of pupils needing places. Could you consider widening the catchment area?

The timing is terrible, any closure should not impact those pupils already at the school.

If it must close, it should be closed to future pupils, not closing to pupils already at the school, unless the 150 pupils can be split between Whitley high, Marsden high and kings priory, which can't happen at present as these schools are full..... temporary classrooms need to be considered at these 3 schools to facilitate the increase in capacity needed to re-school the 150 pupils in yr9.

A generational opportunity to restructure and reorganize schooling in NT. A three-tier structure is too costly. The saved costs could be better spent resourcing schools affected by the restructuring.

Catchment areas for other schools are too large, people who live within sight of MHS send their kids to WBHS, this then means that that school is overwhelmed

It seems crazy to close when yes the school may not be at full capacity but you've then got a lot of children that will need a school and upping class numbers in other schools isn't good enough. Small schools in my opinion give so much more.

It seems strange to consider closure over expanding catchment areas especially considering Whitley Bay High is always oversubscribed. More needs to be done to improve the reputation of the school which I feel has been its downfall when pitted against other schools in the area.

The new estate beside the school is being developed at quite a rate and will only be a matter of time before spaces are needed at a high school.

If the school is closed, where does the deficit go? Hopefully not covered by a developer who will no doubt want to build more unaffordable houses for families to move into and who will then add to the already struggling

infrastructure around here and guess what, no high school close enough to walk to easily anymore.

Have potential changes in demography been factored into cash flow model?

This is a very established school that has like every school faced challenges. Placing more emphasis on community available spaces, pupil allocation and retention has to paramount as the community surround areas are not going to deplete only increase in numbers and needs. If the addition of a primary school is required for the new housing developments surrounding areas where are they expected to attend ?

The roads in that area are a huge bottleneck at many times of the day and this will only get worse once the new estates are populated. If it is certain that the school is no longer required then presumably some of the land could be set aside to remodel the two-roundabout area.

It seems ridiculous that the school is to be closed only a few years after having been completely relocated and rebuilt. What happened to forward planning? Was it the rebuild that initiated the £5M deficit?

I can work out where all the children currently at/projected to go to Monkseaton are meant to go!

This is a purpose build school and should remain as a school or maybe a replacement for Tyne met college which is in desperate need of replacement.

It would be financially beneficial for the council to lose the school and build another load of houses, but this would not be in the best interests of the rising numbers of children and young people in the are, and the rising numbers among them of those encountering social, emotional, mental health and educational needs which are a barrier to success at school.

If the other high schools in the area have intakes from year 7 then this will impact many more children than those moving to year 9 in the next 2/3 years

If you choose to close the school, you are forcing hundreds of young children to move in times of exams and you are causing them to commute to school that is no where near where they live. This will then mean the middle schools are going to suffer and they won't get enough funding which is then going to cause you closing more schools. This will then develop onto an influx in parents moving their children which will cause stress and anxiety which will cause children using mental health services which is an increase in stress on the NHS costing you more money. If the school a child is being moved to is far away which it will be as more schools in this area are over subscribed than

not, they will need to use a car which causes an increase in environmental pollution which will then cause you more issues because the carbon footprint will be double if not triple all due to your choices having repercussions. This school has been on the site since 1973 and there are students who have had parents attend here and siblings by getting rid of this building without trying all viable options you are causing physical distress and panic from parents that due to your choices their children's exams will be under extreme pressure and this may lower exam scores giving a false reputation.

School should not be closed, pupils will come with the building on mutton gap

Will all children currently in feeder first and middle schools have confirmed places in Whitley bay high or what will be expected to happen to them?

I understand why you are proposing it but i want to understand your solution for children currently attending the school or moving to another school. It is already ridiculous that some children who live in Whitley Bay cannot attend their local high school (WBHS). Where are you proposing these children, who are in catchment for Monkseaton High school, going to go if the school closes? Wallsend or North Shields is not a viable option. The catchment boundaries need to be fully reviewed as part of this process.

I am a school that feeds into Monkseaton. Currently, I lose a lot of children at the end of Year 4, who move to the middle school system so selfishly, this may help my own school however, I am very sad that it has come to this. I can see the same happening to my own school in the future as, unfortunately, parent choice often trumps admissions and parent choice is not always based on fact. I hope that you don't now lose a fantastic leader from the middle school as a result because if the High school shuts, it will affect the feeder schools who may then be in the same position.

Could it be a sixth form provision?

Would be a shame to lose a school with such history, but additionally a school in a locality which in the coming years will see a surplus of people needing schools due to the new housing developments.

If you Co-locate you will save running costs and generate a capital receipt

This is going to have a detrimental and immediate effect on those year 6 children applying for secondary school places as parents with children in year 6 middle school are likely to now apply to enter into the two tier system where spaces are already at a premium at popular coastal schools.

I'm angry that this seems to be the only option that you are leading with!!!!
No parent wants to see their child's school close & certainly not this
School with their caring, hard working & talented teachers!
My children are/ have been very happy at this school & have gained
confidence & support because this school is the school it is
How you can consider closing a school when houses are being built all around
the area is ludicrous!! Where are the future generations of children going to
get their education from?
Closing this school would be a travesty!! I'm not impressed with this decision
AT ALL

At a time when major investment into house building nearby it seems a
strange time to close a school when the provision of childcare considered in
the planning process for the housing would have included places available at
this school. Retrospectively this may have had some bearing on planning
decisions

My main concern is as I have a child in Appletree Gardens First School is that
may not now get a high school place in his local area. We as parents can
happily accept him going to Whitley High however it's unrealistic for every
single child going to a first school in Whitley Bay/Monkseaton to go to Whitley
High. The councils current proposed course of action is to utilise other schools
within the borough, this is unacceptable students and parents should be
entitled to a school within their catchment area or at least very close by.

I'm concerned the closure will mean than other local high schools will be
impacted.

This is a terrible decision to close a school, leaving only one 3 tier high school
left in the area. It take forever to get new schools built. Can the council not
take over the school, bearing in mind they have the right to close it, they
should have the right to take positive action as well

Local children would potentially be travelling miles to schools with places
available.
Around 4000 family homes are planned on the fields adjacent to the school
site. Where is it proposed that these children will go?

Facilities are probably being rented out for use by other organisations,
already, but would suggest this be further explored.

Feels short-sighted in an era where we need more options and choice for
children to find out what they're interested in and good at, encourage risk
taking and creativity and build the workforce of the future. Also - there are

thousands of new homes being built on lane adjacent which would, I assume, increase demand over time - has this been modelled out?

I'm aware that this is a long-thought out decision, but it's awful for the students and teachers alike. The concept of having to defer so many students into already full buildings is insane- Whitley High has an ongoing overflow, John Spence would need a renovation to fit the new students. It also raises the concern of whether or not all of the students would even manage to be deferred, and in the following years if the schools would manage to have new students every year. As said in the last response, this is simply going to reduce the quality of education overall. As for the teachers, it is unclear whether or not all of these people would go unemployed or if they'd manage to find a new job, and as someone who knows the teachers, it would be awful to see them lose the ability to teach and show their passions.

Closing Monkseaton High School would be disruptive to the pupils already receiving their education in this school.

It is also very shortsighted, pupil role numbers have dramatically changed over time and it is often difficult to predict. Closing the school would be a travesty when it could be utilised as an education establishment by creating an all through school 3-18 or a secondary school 11-18 or a school for children with SEND.

See how the new 3000 houses change the local economy.

The council's decision to suggest closure is an insult to the hundreds of families who rely on the school for care as well as to the hard working staff and teachers

It should be possible to save this school by taking it to a high school with a year 7 to 23 or even joining with another school.

many would lose jobs, pupils would lose friends and mental health could possibly decline, this doesn't have to be the first option

I hope that the mental wellbeing of current staff and students is being looked after during this process.

I think there needs to be reflection on how such an unsustainable building was ever allowed to be built. The council must have had significant input into this and questions need to be asked

This school is of better educational quality than most schools in the area, extending the catchment area may also be an option as some people may rather the choice of Monkseaton High School than George Stephenson, John Spence or Norham.

More housing is being built in the area and there is very few high schools available for the influx of families.

I do not believe the birth rate in the area is falling. A huge housing estate is being built with 4/5 bed family homes, people expecting their child to attend this High School. Where are these children supposed to go?

We visited Monkseaton High last Autumn and it was extremely obvious there was financial trouble. The school was dirty, classrooms closed - nothing like when we'd previously visited 6 years ago.

Whitley Bay High is completely over subscribed, people moving to be able to guarantee a place, meaning those close in Wellfield / Earsdon go where as it is not their catchment school?

it should close

This is a wonderful school. My daughter is in year 10 and she has SEN. The staff have been amazing with her. Without their support, she would be a school refused and I dread to think what will happen to her if the school closes. I hope the council haven't thought with their wallets and plan to sell to the housing estate next door. That will be an absolute disgrace. Save this wonderful school please!

Last resort tynemet college could relocate here as the building is very old and tired and could do with a revamp. The building would definitely reach max capacity in this case.

I believe it is a grave mistake for which our future generation will pay dearly you appear to be expecting children to travel many miles a day to get to school as there are no places nearby This school is a modern one and should be used to its full potential for many years It stands on a ideal site What are you planning to do with that site if school is closed More housing meaning more children to be educated

I would not have had the confidence or the grades to go to uni if I hadn't attended monkseaton sixth form. I was supported and belived in by all my teachers

This will be a bad move considering the number of houses that are going up in the area.. and plans to build a lot more just 5 minutes down the road from the school (near Boundary Mills). The school is sire to be filled up very quickly! The closure of the school will only mean nearby schools will be even more oversubscribed and our children will have to travel further out the area to get into a high school

It would be great as a SEN school

With the amount of new home, closing another school will mean it will be harder to get in to a school in your area and increase pressure on surrounding schools

Give the school to Star of the sea to have a transition secondary school to go to from age 11 and then have the high school part of it for the pupils coming from the local middle schools and also outside the area

This situation is ludicrous. This school has been systematically failed by the system. My children have attended and continue to attend this school. The teaching staff are excellent and it deserves to be saved.

How can you guarantee that students will have the same opportunities in quality education & class sizes by closing a school down?

My children have gone/are currently attending this school with both very happy & settled there.

My child is really upset & devastated at the prospect of his school closing

If the school does need to close then closure should be extended to August 2027 to allow the current year 9 to complete their GCSE's

The building was opened in 2009. Surely the "shelf life" of a school should be more than 15 years. How on earth could North Tyneside Council justify the cost of updating the original school at that time? How on earth did the school get planning permission when it didn't fit in with the surrounding area and how on earth can the council justify the massive deficit they find themselves in?

Surely mismanagement and deficits should have been flagged in the last fifteen years? We're just hearing that only 500 pupils are in the school.; why weren't parents informed that numbers were declining when they were asked to make choices for their children? Where are these children supposed to go if the school closes? This seems to indicate that there are schools within the North Tyneside area that might be undersubscribed, so why not tell parents which other schools in North Tyneside have capacity to absorb these children - and any other who move into the new-build accommodation. It's a travesty. What an absolute waste of money.

I feel Kings School should never have been allowed to be a public school as it has taken children. That would have normally gone to local schools, meaning there is now a significant shortage of children going to Monkseaton. The pressure of sending these 9 year students to surrounding schools will put further strain on the other schools where class sizes are already stretched

My daughter has just started yr 9 at Monkseaton and looking at the numbers from all the surrounding first and middle schools the numbers do not add up.

How on earth can there be so many kids from 6 first schools and not enough heading to Monkseaton high school. I think the answer is to only have one high school using two sites.

From a non-educational background (not understanding 3 tier system and local catchment boundaries) it feels like a massive opportunity wasted to close a school with massive capacity in a borough that continues to grow and has high demand for housing and families to live.

Is this short term cost saving that will increase demand in an already over subscribed Whitley High and constrain choice further?

Closing the school would be a huge mistake. There is not enough capacity at other local schools, meaning that pupils will have to travel long distances (especially those who have just started year 9 and have no hope of getting an alternative place locally now).

If the school does close, where are all the children living in the thousands of new houses being built behind it going to go?

See above

There aren't enough high schools in the immediate area, it is still needed as a school. The staff still need their jobs, the kids need a good secondary school. Monkseaton high has a poor reputation, especially in comparison to Whitley Bay high. Rebranding/restructuring it might help erase that poor reputation.

We need this high school to remain open as Whitley High can't accommodate the number of pupils from all the middle schools in the area as it's often over subscribed.

Also the building isn't very old and cost a lot of money so it definitely shouldn't close considering the new homes which are nearby so this will help in the coming years with pupil numbers

We only know about monkseaton as it is our feeder school. Monkseaton need to advertise better if they want more students and be engaging with the community around them

This is a perfect example of short-termism. Although the school is currently running at deficit due to low demand and low birth rate, the long term expectation is that there will be a significant increase in demand for large family homes. These homes are being built directly behind Monkseaton High School.

It is paramount that longer term costs that would be incurred by closing this site now, then funding a new build to meet the demand of the significant

numbers of new families within the next decade as Murton Gap is completed, is taken into account.

It seems like a lot of wasted money, to build a purpose built school and close it down such a short time later.

If you have made your minds up already to close the school why not let parents and children know their options.

Why are middle schools not closed, there's less impact on exams.

For on a resident in the earsdon view estate we have two school approx 1.6 miles from our home (Whitley bay and monkseaton) with a child who has just gone into year 7 at wellfield middle. What are our option because George Stephenson certainly isint it! Nearly 3 miles is totally unacceptable and moving from a three tier to a 2 tier would cause so much disruption.

It's not a good option monkseaton provides amazingly for students especially who have disabilities

The sharing of the site will help to reduce the costs and while not wiping the debt will help to reduce right down. As a PFI school will the council still have to pay the costs of the PFI even if the school closes? By bringing in other schools to the site you will vacate potential valuable sites that if the DFE agrees could be sold for considerable sums

i think it's absolutely scandalous that the council is going to close this school especially with all other schools in the area pretty much being at capacity. The disruption this will cause to the children who attend the school will be massive at such a crucial stage in their education which can only have a negative impact, surely the council could look again at other options!

I have a son in Year 9 at Whitley Bay High and do not wish his education to be disrupted in any way. Extra pupils arriving from Monkseaton High would increase class sizes and be detrimental.

I think a thorough review on the impact of all other schools in the three tier system in the area needs to be conducted before any decision to close is made.

There is lots of new houses being built behind the school. There is already a problem with schools in the catchment area and this will make the 2026 intake onward a lot harder

I think it's ridiculous and an extremely short sighted proposal due to the massive housing estate currently being built right next door. I also think it's ridiculous that the council reduces the maximum amount of students allowed into the school; if we were in so much debt why on earth would you reduce the

pupil numbers and therefore the funding. Many schools around this area dont offer education as good as monkseaton and it seems that you have no regard for how the children and their futures will be determined by this decision.

My children went to this school and I also went when it was the old school. You just can't close it. Think of the children and how this will effect them.

I defo think it should be kept as a school but get turned to a SEN school, especially be giving to Woodlawn school. There isnt many SEN provisions for the increase of number of students needing the support. Woodlawn school is a excellent place but just on the small side. They would all benefit so much from a bigger outdoor space to a bigger environment to provide the children with much more. They could even have follow on education support for 18-25 with a EHCP as let's face it, it's nowt for these children once afterwards. Just has so much potential.

This was bound to happen when Kings Priory was allowed to become non private and the council should be seeking help from the government who bailed that school out

With a Daughter having just started sixth form, we as parents are incredibly worried as to the level/quality of teaching she will get in the near future. With closure currently the only projected option, staff will have no choice but to consider alternative employment. What impact will that then have on the education for our daughter's final years at school? Had this information been released before she made her decision to stay at Monkseaton High I know now,she and ourselves would have looked to applying to another college/school. She is deeply worried on her future on top of anxiety still affecting her from Covid school lockdowns.

This debt should have been seen to a lot sooner it is ridiculous that it was just left to get this big monkseaton high school isn't just a school it's a family and as a student u are destroying my family because you couldn't be bothered to look into some debt. Also there is a new estate just behind the school and the only way they were actually allowed to build that estate was because the school was open and if the school closes that estate won't be in any of the catchment areas for any of the schools which is absolutely ridiculous

I would worry about the impact on other schools in the area if this were to close, where would the children go to. The 3 tier system in Whitley bay is a very nurturing environment and children thrive in it

It's crazy that closing the school is the solution. Job losses, right to education violated, and academic and sports excellence that disappears. It's very shortsighted

I feel having 3 children at 3 different schools in the area I don't see how increasing the numbers in their schools is going to work. They are at full capacity and struggling to support SEND children.

I think you need to change the tiers...

Kids from the new estate and stick to catchment areas

I believe parents of many pupils going to George Stephenson from Shiremoor and Backworth were not aware Monkseaton were undersubscribed and would have jumped at the chance to send their children there.

Children who will have to move to other schools should be given mental health support and given their first choice of school they wish to move to.

Overall I think the proposal will be damaging for the local area and this has been an issue that the Council has known about for some time with a delayed response which is unacceptable.

This doesn't make any sense. A school is not a profit organisation and if it is struggling should be prioritised by the council for financial support. A school is a necessity and needed for our kids future. These kids suffer enough, there are few community services available out of school to help our kids thrive and they get the majority of this via school. People look to move to this area for the schools. If the school is closed I don't think the area will have such an appeal and will only put further pressure on Whitley Bay High School. If they close this school within years of its closure a new school will be being built. The Murti gap is already a joke as it is and was not wanted by local residents. This now seems like another plan to add more houses in an area which is already full. I'm disappointed in our council that it is even being proposed. Come election time this will impact massively as it is not what local people want and our councillors are once again not looking at what the local people want

This is an absolutely terrible proposal. My son and daughter are currently at Monkseaton Middle School. We live in North Shields but chose this school as it was a middle school and met their needs. They couldn't cope in a larger secondary school provision. My son is now in year 8 and looking at high school. His hope had been to go to Monkseaton High school with friends to help his transition. This is now being placed in doubt. The next choice would be Whitley Bay High where friends will go but we are out of catchment and the school is oversubscribed. This would leave my son with nowhere to go. Our nearest school is John Spence. I have spoken to them but there are no spaces for year 9 intake 2025. It is wait list only. Where exactly will my son go? It needs to be somewhere he chooses with friends to help transition. The other secondary schools are oversubscribed. Please don't close schools.

Keep it open for the future of the children

Keep open at all costs

I just don't understand what will happen with all the children in current year 9, you say they would be assisted to move to other schools in the area, but surely the other schools don't have the capacity for everyone, and with more houses being built in and around the area surely the situation can only get worse??

By closing Monkseaton High School, it will put pressure on the three-tier system and could put other schools under pressure, like Monkseaton Middle School. Whitley Bay High School is already bursting at the seams, and we can't expect children to travel to Killingworth.

When will the council be making impact statements available that shows the background work that has gone on before this and shows how other schools may also lose pupils, but also the schools that may gain pupils from this event taking place.

I understand this proposal has not been taken lightly. However as an education professional working into the school I'm very disappointed - of all the secondary settings I have worked into there are many positives about this one. They have a nurturing and inclusive approach, and their relaxed approach to uniform is refreshing when compared to other secondary settings where many pupils struggle with this. I have heard many stories of pupils who have struggled / failed in other settings doing well at this school, from the pupils themselves, staff and parents. I have worked alongside some high quality, dedicated and caring staff, who work incredibly hard to promote positive outcomes for pupils in their care. I think it would be an incredible shame to lose such a provision.

There has to be some alternative to closing this "new " school. It doesn't make sense when another school in the area is one of the best state schools in the country. Also, how can a modern school be closed when there are others in North Tyneside that are in desperate need of repair.

My son is currently year 9 at Marden High. It worries me that they will have to operate beyond capacity by providing places for children.

Nothing should be done until satisfactory provision of places for current and future pupils is secured. This should not be left to parents to scramble for places.

The school has been failing for years why has it taken till now. My children have achieved fabulous grades through excellent teachers, but they've

massively missed out on additional teaching trips and visits and equipment as no funds. I would hate to see it sold off for housing.

I think closure of the school will apply due pressure on other local schools. Very soon those schools will not be able to accommodate the increase in pupil numbers.

Absolutely disgrace the way this had been managed by the council

It seems that the writing has been on the wall ever since Monkseaton was built in 1974: It wasn't the old grammar school and had a quirky design with some shoddy construction (e.g. softboard walls that were easily damaged). Replacing the collection of separate blocks (a notorious drain on heating and cleaning) with a scaled-down Bird's Nest stadium was not the best way to attract new pupils and their parents. Contrast with Whitley Bay High School, which now has a new building of a more conventional design - without a sports hall in the centre of the classrooms.

As previous.

The land is also used to host multiple sporting activities outside of school hours promoting health and wellbeing and sports engagement for our younger generations.

Closing this high school will have a detrimental effect on the wider area, first and middle schools affected, middle schools teach up to year 8 and not all pupils will be able to attend Whitley Bay High so they will be forced to join a 2-tier Secondary School that started in year 7. Parents may start to take children out of middle school early ready to start the secondary school therefore leaving the middle schools at half its PAN, putting the middle schools into deficit, this is not the answer to solve Monkseaton's deficit. The answer is in reducing Whitley Bay High PAN and extending Monkseaton's catchment.

The big attractor for families moving to the coast is the choice of good schools. To take this choice away will mean less families with children will move to the area, making a much less vibrant community in the town. Closing Monkseaton high will take away a key asset from the town and runs counter to the work and investment that has been put into Whitley bay in recent years to make it a better place to live.

There are possibly schemes and projects that could make this school sustainable and provide a safe and effective extracurricular program.

If this school closes many local children will have travel further than is viable and a crucial community asset is lost, which will have repercussions throughout the area, not only for the children and families directly involved.

The closure will clearly impact children and staff negatively in the short term. In my view this is still a medium term gain. However, additional efforts must be made to maintain provision for children. I understand that the 3 school/2school system will be maintained and is not subject to consultation. However, there will be huge pressure on WBHS for places. A longer term aim to move to 2 school across North Tyneside would relieve that pressure and open up choices for families.

It is not acceptable to send pupils to any other school in north tyneside that has a space. This is going to put a lot of pressure on marden high and Kings as families will try to switch across to the 2 tier system if they think their child may not get a place at whitley high.

I think it's important the school remains open. Many children need this school as it's the only close by options. Expecting children already in the 3 tier system to suddenly be plucked and put into random schools in the district is beyond damaging to them. We are still living in the age where our kids are effected by the impact of covid. The school closing would another major set back for them.

It will have a negative effect on many families/ children's lives - distance to new school, distance from family homes.

Financial pressures - new travel costs/ new school uniforms.

Very unsettling experience for the current year 9 children, possibility of being separated from friends/ negative effects on their mental health and well being.

False advertising to current years 9 pupils and parents, open evening attended last year, offering education for the next 5years!

Many families have moved near to the school and purchased properties to be within walking distance of the school for their children and siblings.

North Tyneside Council should be protecting the mental health and well being of all its local children, informing them 2 weeks into a new school year that it may be closing, is very negative and dishonest. There has been no planning to protect or minimise the distress this decision may cause to children and families.

The purposed decision has caused a lot of anxiety for local families within the 3 tier school system, this could have a negative effect on the mental health of younger children in local middle schools. It is known other local high schools are at capacity, and not every family has the financial ability to move/ or travel to other areas.

Pressure of huge housing costs in the catchment areas of other local high

schools. This is very discriminatory for many families who can no longer compete with these rising costs and in demand areas.

The 3 tier system is making it impossible for this school that used to have many pupils from wallsend and shiremoor to exist. This system is outdated and needs to change across the borough.

*This is not a consultation - you've only given one option - to close. Not good enough.

* 3,000 houses are to be built in the Murton Fields. If the proposed primary school was included in the 3-tier system it would become a feeder school for MHS and all children in the area would be included in the 3 -tier catchment area. There may be children in the new houses being built now who are of the appropriate age to go to MHS.

* How does the increased transport miles for pupils who live locally but who will have to go to schools further afield impact on the Council's Climate Action Plan and pledge to make the borough carbon net zero by 2030? Have you done an assessment and if so the results should be made public.

*Monkseaton High School is part of a wider community, not all of whom go to the school or are current parents of those who do or might do but who are affected by what the school does and offers more widely. Its closure would leave a big hole in the life of the community. Have you done an impact assessment on this?

* We need to see the reports on all the options cited so people can make their own judgements on their viability

With the new housing in the Rake Lane area (the majority of which are family homes), changing the school to a secondary school would make sense. It would mean many more children from the area could walk or cycle to school.

Within the FAQ section it outlines proposals already considered and the outcome. More transparency is required, who did these discussions take place with, when did they happen, why was the proposal rejected etc

You've just built a massive estate behind the school, all the schools are already oversubscribed - where do you expect children to go?

Closing the school will have a huge knock-on effect to all other schools in the area and a massive impact on the children who have already been through so much during the pandemic. We chose Monkseaton High School for our [child] who has SEN and are extremely happy with our choice. The school and it's teachers are fantastic and I think it is extremely short-sighted to look to close it. This 'consultation' smacks of lip-service and you should be ashamed of yourselves! If you are honestly interested in consulting with the public, then please provide the missing detail on the options listed that we are being told have been explored and give people longer than the statutory consultation period to consider the information and respond fully. It would be interesting to hear which schools the current year 9 students at MHS (and the current year 8 students elsewhere) will be expected to go to considering most schools are already full or oversubscribed.

Presumably the potential closure of MHS was being discussed at the same time as the new Whitley Bay High School was being built. It appears that whilst these two things should have been considered together, they were not. Where was the oversight of these projects? If you close MHS you are basically decimating the 3-tier system and effecting all of our schools and children. Not all children are suited to a large school such as Whitley Bay High, some children (my child included) thrive in a smaller school where the pupils and teachers actually know each other. Getting rid of MHS will mean that many children (especially those with SEN) will get lost in other schools and basically be abandoned by the council. This is an utter disgrace!

The social sciences team at this High School are outstanding. Its a shame the focus was constantly on sports

Having recently moved into the area and trying to find schooling for my two daughters with some difficulty and on apparent waiting lists. I find it confusing that Monkseaton can be running at only 50% occupancy.

The 3 tiered system should be left in place I don't agree with children from this area having to travel miles for high school well out of the area with thousands of houses being built in the Murton gap and money spent on this school building it should not be closed

After all the lockdowns our children have had to go through now your going to disrupt their education again and put them in a 2 tier system where theyll enter half way through the school all local schools are oversubscribed and not happy about my child going to any random school that will have them this is enough to cause mental health in alot of kids

Please do not allow this potential closure to abolish the 3 tier system in North Tyneside which is something that is really special about the area, and will be terrible for the middle schools which are currently excellent schools.

My concern regarding the closure for Monkseaton High School is that there is currently not enough capacity at Whitley Bay High to accommodate all students into year 9 as they finish Middle School. This means that potentially some students finishing middle school would have to transition out of a 3 tier education system into a 2 tier system, with potentially no peer support. This would risk detrimentally impacting students education at a key stage and their well being. I strongly believe that local authorities should aim to ensure continuity for students transitioning through the education stages within the same system.

Whitley Bay has a three tier system with two high schools currently. Closing MHS leaves only one school at the end of the tier with not enough spaces to accommodate the children of Whitley Bay. How can such a family based community be left in this position!!

Moving into the two tier system at year 9 would not be a preferred route for my children based on the travelling distance to get to a two tier school and the school year already established with friendship groups etc.

I am not due to apply to High School for my children for two years but this is already of huge concern. Those families with children just starting in the school must be furious to have sent their children to that school without knowing that this proposal has been discussed for a year behind closed doors.

It is absolutely unconscionable to close a good school (as rated by Ofsted). It is unclear where students will be placed as surrounding schools are either over subscribed, are substantially further away or do not offer the same quality of education

In 2022 we applied for our son's secondary school place as part of the 3 tier education system, admittedly our first choice after visiting several schools was Whitley Bay High School followed by Monkseaton High, our decision was based on the facilities and curriculum that both schools offered. How could Monkseaton High not offer French or German as a language? Considering these are the languages taught by the feeder schools (did they not explore this with the feeder schools to establish what these students had previously learned) it appeared to ourselves that teaching Spanish for potentially only 1 year in Year 9 made no logical or economic sense at all, is that not a waste of teaching time and money? Now we know about the deficit that makes even less sense, why cut your curriculum budget but still insist on teaching a

language no students have been taught before!! There seems to have been a lack of or mis direction of guidance surrounding the curriculum. We had to go through a very stressful appeal panel to have our voices heard, unfortunately, we were unsuccessful and were more or less told to 'put up and shut up' with the place at Monkseaton. Our son was devastated and was adamant he would not attend Monkseaton High, however, his first year at Monkseaton could not have been better and this is due to the dedication and commitment of the teaching staff. He has settled really well and now he is being told that whilst he will sit his GCSEs what level of teaching support and education will he receive. He was forced to go to Monkseaton but now someone is telling him his school could close and so could his education. How do you think that impacts a 14 year old who suffered with home schooling during Covid lockdown, an horrendous time knowing all his friends were going to a different school to now this current situation? What about all the students' mental wellbeing? How could the School's Governing Body in particular the Staffing & Finance committee allow such mis-handling of the school's budgets, surely they should have been scrutinising all spending costs since the deficit increased back in 2016? Why no OFSTED inspection since 2019, did the school take the decision to defer, why was this allowed considering the deficit the school was in and the cutting back of the curriculum, how was the quality of education assessed in the absence of OFSTED?

Keep open

Keep 3 tier

Not going to provide access for children in Whitley to walk to or live and be educated in own community

Will lose sense of identity

We understand money needs to be saved, however please consider the wider ramifications to the community in Whitley Bay and Monkseaton. Removing Monkseaton High and just saying that kids within that catchment area will be accommodated at any secondary school within North Tyneside will have a hugely divisive impact on what people perceive to be "good" and "bad" areas of the town to live in. The schools in Whitley Bay are a massive driver for people living there - removing the certainty that their kids will be accommodated in that 3 tier system throughout their education journey will only penalise people in lower socio-economic groups or who are already facing challenges that cannot afford to move to the most prestigious parts of the town.

Monkseaton HS was once one of the highest performing schools in the area, so seems a shame it has gone this way. It is in a good location so would be beneficial to remain open.

Building not fit for purpose. Expansion into other qualifications

To be used to improve SEN education in area, increasing numbers of pupils would benefit from improved access

The impact this would have on the whole area would be catastrophic not only will the pupils from Monkseaton high be affected but the whole of Whitley bay and monkseaton primary and first school pupils it is not viable for all these primary kids to go to Whitley high and the other high school options are too far away to make it viable for people from monkseaton to travel to, it would have massive impact on traffic with all pupils from this area now having to drive instead of being able to walk and , it would also send the house prices crazy as everyone will fight to get the kids into Whitley high instead of them travelling to further afield schools or move out of the area completely it is just not viable to close this school. The council need to do more to seriously generate funding or actively seek it to become part of a MAT asap,

The loss of the school would have a terrible impact on the community. It worries me gravely.

Due to the high amount of deficit from the school it wouldn't be financially feasible to keep the school open

what is unique in north tyneside is the options for our community. This is going to significantly impact all students now and in the future and put all 3 tier schools at risk

What will happen to the thriving successful middle schools in the area?

I feel the Local Authority have not been transparent or honest in the issues with Monkseaton High School. They surely have a duty of candour to uphold. Parents and Monkseaton residents in particular should have been made aware sooner. To have held discussions behind closed doors for over a year is appalling and does not win the trust of a community. It is unreasonable to consider a consultation without involving parents and families sooner. The council took away the right for parents to choose by withholding information from in particular the parents of the current year 9 children.

This will have a huge effect on housing, businesses, children and families. From larger classes to transport issues for alternative schools. Families not wanting to move to the area if there are not sufficient high school places.

How will you ensure quality first education for the current y10s when staff leave there Will be no specialist subject teacher supply teachers just will not cut it to get these children through their GCSEs. They've already been through Covid. How are you gonna ensure they get through the GCSE with the deserve?

It says in the information that there are places in other schools. Where are they?

The proposal is ill-advised, for the reasons I have outlined in the previous section.

Are the children sitting exams year 11 and 13 being given dispensation in 2025 for exam results ?

Why did you get as far as new intake for 2024? This is devastating for new parents - and existing parents and pupils.

It is not clear whether this is a consultation on the future of Monkseaton High School, or a proposal to close it. If the latter, there isn't sufficient information available to allow residents to respond to the consultation.

My primary concern is the retention of the 3 tier system in North Tyneside. As a former student of Monkseaton Middle and Whitley Bay High, I appreciated the gentle transition between school sizes (as opposed to the typical 2 tier situation with a small primary and very large secondary) and the earlier introduction of teaching by specialist subject teachers. I am certain this significantly helped me throughout my education, both academically and socially.

I appreciate that this consultation is not on this topic, but I am very concerned that the closure of MHS would result in only one high school in the area and seems to put the 3 tier system here at risk.

What will be the impact on the climate action plan on asking students to travel further afield for their education? I am concerned that this has not been considered

I think it doesn't work as a state school. It would work as an alternative provision school because of the land around it.

The case for a more wholesale reorganisation of the three tier system was weak. Personally, this feels as though it needs a more in depth consideration rather than just focusing on one school.

How can Whitley Bay/Monkseaton Area cope with one high school? Maybe extend Whitley Bay High to accommodate.

What other suitable amends could be done to the building to make it more sustainable and efficient

The closure of Monkseaton High would have an impact on all schools in the Whitley Bay area. Whitley High cannot offer sufficient places for all children in the areas middle schools. What will happen to the 3 tier children not in catchment? Education is The 3 tier system is outstanding and should be preserved. Furthermore we have already lost one 6th form in the area . We cannot lose another.

No further comments

I think it is grossly unfair to those currently in middle schools, these kids have suffered through the pandemic and to be split from their friends and shoved all over the place is going to have a detrimental effect on their future.

There is insufficient detail in the available documentation to support a solid, feasible proposal.

My concern is how would the remaining schools in the area cope with the extra pupils resulting from any closure

The impact on the surrounding community will be felt. Parent and communities are against it. There is an opportunity here to create a supportive and forward looking education system in North Tyneside.

Bad idea, there are new houses going up with a new Primary school to fill demand but your closing a secondary school.

You also need to look at new housing estates around the whole area as they could have an impact on school availability for the surrounding schools.

Sad and very uncertain for all the children and families involved.

Why is the building not used to maintain the high school in some part of the building and to home other primary or secondary schools in the the area that don't have a building

I think it is short-sighted. With some 2800 homes being built next to the school, surely this will lead to sufficient demand in the future.

Monkseaton High is a valuable education provider, especially for those students who benefit from a smaller school community. Its staff works very hard to provide a nurturing and safe space for its students. With WBHS being oversubscribed, rather than allowing that school to be full to its limits- which often leads to problems in itself- perhaps intake boundaries could be re-assessed so that both schools end up being of equal value and equally respected in the local community. Many extremely talented, professional and caring members of staff may be left unemployed if the school closes. BUT most importantly, the students will be the ones that suffer and this closure would be catastrophic for many of them.

The council is responsible for allowing the situation to drag on, the council should admit this and take suitable action now?

It is stupid to close it.

I feel the council and school have blindsided the community and kept quiet about the struggles! My daughter is currently in year 8 and already I can see the impact amongst her and her peers with the uncertainty of where they will go in September hanging over them. The open evening at Whitley high was very well attended which only further fuelled our concerns that it's going to be a challenge to get a place there.

Worried about where all these children are supposed to go to school.

Concerned about the education of our gran children

No room in surrounding schools - who takes the children.

Will the students taking GCSE 2025 be given dispensation for circumstances out with their control for GCSE results. It is my understanding the engineering solutions teacher was dismissed at the end of the summer term 2024, and some parents were apologised to for the poor results in this subject for last years GCSE, my son and other pupils have had this teacher for year 10 their first year of GCSE, I personally had to go in to the school and see this teacher and was asked for feedback on the meeting. They are already behind in this subject and now have 2 years of work year 10 & 11 to do in one year - this is an unacceptable situation and should have been managed sooner - now they are in the midst of upset, poor culture, negativity, unknown circumstances and have GCSE's to sit in 2025. I appreciate the head, as I met with him last week is trying his hardest to change the culture and introduce changes to assist with GCSE preparation, but I am afraid changing a culture in a school that is potentially closing is not going to be easy.

The school is medium sized estate school that could be a brilliant school with the right staff, and management - an injection of funding may be needed but with the right change in boundaries there is no reason why the school could not be turned around - there has been no continuity in the last 3 years with 3 different heads - this alone speaks volume.

You need to leave this school and let our children learn close churchill it's fallen to bits with rat

I feel as though with the number of housing being built in the area it is only right to keep the school open. I also believe that a three tier school system is beneficial for pupils

It could serve as a middle and high school site for woodlawn school.

Come up with a longer term sustainable solution rather than short term gain. Young people will need schools to move me on to. We are still attracting young families to the area because of the quality of life, schools and community. This works against this and our future.

The wider implications for all the local schools has not been thought through. Common sense would surely be to, as a minimum, allow all pupils currently there to stay in order to complete GCSE's.

My son has just started at the school in year 9 and is devastated at the potential closure. I feel these children were not considered at all in the decision to close in 2016. They need to be laying the foundation for their gcse choices before next summer, how will they have a chance to do this if they do not know what their choices will be?

none

Closing Monkseaton High School directly contradicts your stated aims in the Ambition for Education report as follow

1. Stated aim to improve SEN provision - closing MHS will directly and disproportionately impact SEN pupils (including my daughter) who chose MHS as the school best able to meet her needs due to it's smaller size and supportive staff. MHS has a much higher proportion of SEN pupils compared to other local schools.

2. Stated aim to close the attainment gap for disadvantaged pupils. Closing MHS will disproportionately impact disadvantaged pupils (MHS has 31% free school meals, compared to 8% at Whitley Bay High)

3. Stated aim to improve sixth form provision in North Tyneside. The coast will be left with just one option - Whitley Bay High - which is already over capacity.

I am also extremely concerned about the impact on pupils. These are children who have already had their education impacted by COVID. These are children who are already seen as 'second class citizens' to Whitley Bay High School pupils. These are children who are, as already stated, disproportionately disadvantaged and with SEN.

What will happen to the current Y9 pupils? This is such a critical time. It is not acceptable to essentially say 'we'll figure something out'. Why not keep the

school open for an extra year to allow them to finish their education without disruption.

What will happen to the quality of education for current Y10 and 12 pupils? When they are in Y11/13 they will be the only children in the school. Teachers will inevitably start to leave. How will you ensure that they are not just abandoned to be taught by a carousel of supply teachers in these most crucial exam years.

What will happen to current Y7 and Y8 pupils in middle schools? Based on published pupil number data there will be around 100 children in each year group who will essentially drop off a cliff with nowhere to go except to join a waiting list to get into one of the secondary schools.

How can you justify building new schools at Wellfield Middle and Marden Bridge Middle whilst simultaneously closing down a modern school building?

I have the following major question that needs to be addressed, how can this be considered a consultation when there is no visibility or clarity to where the current year 9 pupils will go, where next year's year 9 pupils will go, and how the teaching of current year 10 and 11 pupils will not be impacted if the school closes and teachers start leaving on mass.

Fundamentally your Q&A states that there are enough spaces in other schools, I that is in North Tyneside overall, not Whitley bay, cullercoates or Tynemouth where the majority of impacted children live.

You mention that there will be an exceptional circumstances transfer of children to other schools, but don't say whether this will include temporary classrooms at WBHS and Marsden high to increase their PAN or just a proposal to send children of 13 and 14 to Longbenton etc.

Closure is correct with the deficit but changing the catchment areas is grossly unfair to people who have bought houses especially to be in the catchment of WBHS. I do not want to bus my child off to the various secondaries around North Tyneside. We made an informed choice to move to the house we are in to be in the WBHS catchment. Council need to change this & WBHS need to increase their PAN-simple!

My twin sons, having achieved solid GCSE results, planned to attend Whitley Bay High School, where their older brother currently studies. However, due to their English language results, which are currently under appeal, we were informed by Whitley Bay that they would not be accepted—even though they had consistently performed well in this subject. It was only after a conversation with a Connexions advisor that we turned to Monkseaton High School.

The response we received from Monkseaton was both swift and supportive. Within a day, we were contacted by the Head of Post-16, Deputy Headteacher, and the Headteacher, all of whom offered encouragement and a clear pathway for our boys to join the school. The care and attention given by Monkseaton were in stark contrast to the impersonal, data-driven approach of other schools.

Since starting their courses, my boys have thrived. The teaching staff have welcomed them with open arms, and they are engaged and excited about their learning. The school has created a nurturing and inclusive environment, and the focus on the students as individuals is something we feel is rare in today's educational landscape. Many other parents share this view, and we are united in opposition to the potential closure of this outstanding institution. While I understand that financial pressures and declining pupil numbers have led to this consultation, I believe there is more that could be done to promote Monkseaton High School. Schools such as Whitley Bay and Kings Priory benefit from high profiles and are often the first choice for parents, regardless of whether they are the best fit for the child. Monkseaton, on the other hand, lacks this visibility, despite offering excellent education both in secondary and Post 16, and a caring, student-focused ethos. If better promotion and marketing were undertaken, I believe the school could increase its intake and secure its future.

The closure of Monkseaton would not only remove a vital educational resource from the community, but it would also leave many families without a local, supportive option for their children. At a time when other schools are at capacity and can turn students away, it seems counterproductive to close one that so many students and families rely on.

As previously mentioned. This school cannot close and more information needs to be shared widely advising of the state of affairs rather than keeping parents and pupils in the dark to then land us with bad news. Perhaps if we were told about this sooner the situation may not have got this far.

I think it would be a huge shame for the local area and a step back in education. Staff and pupils have worked very hard to turn the school around it has a good reputation. The building is iconic to the area and the facilities are amazing for staff and students. Utilise these resources to create a large sixth form centre, you will likely get children outside of the area travelling to study there.

Concerned about how this leaves a lack of choice for pupils in 3 tier system

I think the three tier system should be removed throughout Whitley Bay

This will have a huge impact on the community. I hire the hall 2 nights per week to coach volleyball to the local community

Form ages 5 - 70

There are onto a hand full of sports halls in the local area that can offer volleyball due to the Court fixings and posts, without Monkseaton our club will be unable to

Continue,

Have you also considered hiring our the classrooms on an evening to do adult learning?

It's an absolute disgrace to even consider closure, this is one of the high schools that is very central with easy access from public transport or walking. Closure shouldn't ne an option when it'd a new build school

The closure of MHS on the students is going to have a detrimental impact on their mental health. They feel safe at MHS and know that the staff go above and beyond to help them.

I don't understand where you will place the children who need a new school. The other local high schools are all full? This needs to be made clear and more people may agree with the closure. Without a viable alternative you cannot close.

I do not wish for my son who is currently in year 8 to be considered for a space unless the future is secured. No child should enter in September 2025 unless the School has a viable future.

Can you look at keeping the old building at WBHS and allowing more classes to enter 2025/26??

Boundaries need to be reinstated to include all of Whitley Bay

The council needs to take some responsibility for preserving a vital school. Fund it as needed. The numbers will recover as the new housing estates are built.

I attended this school and thrived. In recent years I have heard it has gone down hill in terms of pupils behaviour and general standard of teaching. There needs to be an overhaul of staff and stronger more experienced head teacher brought in. I have 2 children currently in x first school and would be devastated if we ended up moving away from the 2 tier system. Monkseaton High school is just along the road from us and would have been one of our options for a high school if it improved.

This would devastate so many lives. The current year 9s have already had so much disruption to their education. Covid hit as they were in their final year in first school and then again another lockdown and homeschooling when they started middle school. This cannot happen. The fault of this lies with you as a council so why should our children suffer for mistakes of adults. I have 4 children, 1 is in first school, 2 in middle and on in year 9 at monkseaton. My son is year 8 so I also now need to find a high school for him to start next September. This stress is not good for kids or parents.

If closed catchment area for ne26 2 should be in within whitley bay high

If this school closes it will over fill other schools

This closure will have such an impact on North Tyneside. WBHS already has 16 classes per year so has a huge intake. To take anymore could reduce the high level of education that they currently provide. This would force children from Whitley Bay to travel miles to an appropriate school outside the area. Would it be a possibility to look at renting out some of the school to other education providers, such as apprenticeship courses or local colleges?

The proposed closure will disproportionately affect SEND, and children having free school meals, what plans are in place to protect these groups over the next few years?

Will year 9 students be allowed to join a school of their choice given they will be left without a school at the end of the year?

It appears to be a money making exercise by the council to profit from builders wishing to use the field this is short sighted as thousands of houses are being built with no high schools so what family in their right mind would choose to purchase there with no clarity on which schools within short distance available

It's the most inclusive school in north Tyneside and will be a massive miss. You could look to include more alternative education or specialist provision to bring in more funding.

Almost everyone in the Whitley Bay and Monkseaton areas tries to gain a place at Whitley Bay High School. By closing Monkseaton High School the house prices in the area will become ridiculously high as parents battle to buy a house within the catchment area. Use the excellent reputation and management at WBHS and create a larger school over 2 campuses - with a larger catchment area.

Coastal schools should all be changed to 2 tier system

Can we see a proposed updated catchment area map if school does close. Parents of year are in the dark. Whitley bay residents should be able to guarantee a place in wbhs or Marden high. Should not be expected to travel wider than this.

If this school closes Whitley bay high will be over run and anybody that doesn't get in there from the west monkseaton area will have to travel by car or bus to the next available school not a very green alternative

Research other towns as Darlington my birth town changes in education. Rent the sports halls out I assume they have them , have a gym make profit from the locals (harton at South Shields) .

Worry that other local schools will have no capacity to accommodate additional children and them having to travel particularly with lots of new houses being built.

You have plans to build 10s of 1000s of new homes in north Tyne side where do you propose the children of these families go to school

Sad to hear about the proposals to close Monkseaton High school

I find it difficult to believe that this high school would struggle to reach capacity especially with the new estate and I'm left wondering whether this is just a ploy to sell the land for further housing development

You should update faq with more info about options for year 8. We are being asked to nominate schools with so many questions still unanswered. How can we apply for Marden high school when their y8 is at capacity. Really need to sort it out where coastal kids can move to wb high school or Marden high.

There is not enough space in other high schools in the area and poor transport links to other schools such as John Spence, George Stephenson and Longbenton. Also it is very disruptive moving children from a three tier to two tier midway through during important developmental stages of their school life. There will shortly be many more children requiring high school due to new housing developments and they won't have access to a high school

There are house being built left right and centre in our region. Where is the forward planning from the council regarding that on public services such as schools etc? LHS is at full capacity as it St Marys. Closing this school is a ridiculous idea and an embarrassment tot he region. The children are our future. Cramming them in to fewer schools is an outrage. If this closure goes ahead, the mayor and the SLT at the council should hang their heads in shame

If the school does close will the catchment boundaries be redrawn across North Tyneside?

I feel it would be detrimental to the surrounding area as it grows in size and the need for more school places grows due to the housing developments taking place near by. I feel by closing Monkseaton High there will then be a need in the future for another school which North Tyneside Council will then payout more millions of taxpayers money to build when there is a school suitable already waiting.

I live in catchment for monkseaton high and have two first school aged children. I do not want my children to attend monkseaton high due to the low grades and poor reputation of the school, and the fact it is known to be the school where all expelled pupils end up. I had previously looked at moving house to move out of catchment of monkseaton high. Out of all the parents I have spoken to at my children's school, their feeling is the same about monkseaton high school and I don't know of anyone who wished to apply to monkseaton high. However, we need to see a plan for adequate high school education for those in south Whitley bay. The catchment for Whitley bay high school needs to be extended to cover south Whitley bay, and thereby restrict how many out of catchment pupils attend Whitley bay high. I feel strongly about keeping the 3 tier system throughout all of Whitley bay as it is a fantastic system, which works well, and a lot of people in the area with kids consciously chose to live here because of our belief in the 3 tier system. However I know a lot of children from shiremoor, backworth, Northumberland etc. get in to the 3 tier system at an early age and thereby get places at Whitley bay high, reducing capacity for pupils in south Whitley bay who will soon not have the backup plan of monkseaton high.

the debt would have to be absorbed by the council to allow the merger of the two schools to provide service across both sites.

My child is currently in Year x at a 3-tier first school, I specifically chose 3-tier as I prefer this to 2-tier. I live in Shiremoor which catchment area schools are 2-tier, this has now put my 3-tier option in jeopardy. I don't believe you have looked at the bigger picture concerning this matter. You cannot have only 1 3-tier high school when it is not big enough to cover the whole 3-tier system. Middle Schools will be affected now as pupils will have to consider there options in year 6 as to whether to carry on in middle school to year 8 or transfer in year 7 to secondary. I do not want my child to move from the 3-tier system, this is my parental choice and my right.

The reason Monkseaton has lost pupil numbers is because Whitley Bay High was allowed to increase its PAN in 2018 this has had a detrimental effect on Monkseaton. A school legally cannot conduct or increase numbers etc if it has an effect on neighbouring schools, how was this allowed? How was the new build at Whitley High allowed to commence if it meant increasing its capacity to the detriment of Monkseaton. Whitley Bay High also has a bigger catchment area compared to Monkseaton and although you say changing catchment areas will not help you have not even tried this to see the outcome. This could have been a trial for the current year 8 intake to see if it worked. Instead you have released this news of possible closure just as year 8 parents are looking to choose there high school, the footfall from this will be catastrophically lower as no parent will now put Monkseaton down as an option, its as though you have done this on purpose at this specific time.

The new build of Monkseaton High was also signed off by North Tyneside council with no contingency plans put in place to cover the maintenance and survival of this award winning building, you spent over 20 million on this build and are now looking to close it because you did not think ahead of the maintenance and running costs, this deficit falls on you not the school, you should be held accountable for this money and either look to wipe it and let Monkseaton try and fix there pupil numbers and let the new head teacher run forward with his new ideas, (which by the way he has some fantastic ideas, if he is given the chance) or you agree to wipe this debt to allow another school to join Monkseaton so they do not have to take on this deficit, by now erasing this debt (which is actually yours) you are causing so much damage that there will be no way back from this mess.

This has been known about for a number of years. More radical plans should have been put in place before this crisis point was reached.

You cannot be sending children from this school to far flung areas of the borough. I have heard North Gosforth mooted as an option. This is ridiculous and unfeasible. Parents are under enough pressure without having to try and get their children to out-of-the-way places for school every day. Even if transport was offered for students, it limits them on after-school activities, making friends to hang out with after school if they are based all over and also makes it difficult for the parents to be involved with the school - PTA, parent meetings etc.

Please don't do this. There has to be another way in which the community can use the facility and support future students. Please consider a new college or 6-form facility with apprenticeship options and use the space in current 6-form school to expand their offering and tackle to over subscription issue.

I think we need to make sure it gets into no more debt if this means closure then so be it

Huge housing estate on doorstep being built, where will those children go to school, be strict with catchment areas

The other high school can't accommodate the children in their already packed classrooms. Shut the 6th form as tyne met is struggling . It has a massive foyer which surely be good for wheelchairs

MHS is an important part of the community in north shields. In addition to being a fantastic school with fantastic committed teachers it hosts local community clubs outside of school hours, such as volleyball and football. My daughters have attended the junior sessions by monkseaton volleyball club for over s year now and the holiday club miles and Johnson. I have been a member of ladies monkseaton volleyball club for 8 years. No consideration for the wider impact of closure on the community has been given

Closing the school reduces choice for the local community, Other coastal high schools are at capacity and bussing children to other parts of the borough reduces their ability to achieve their potential. educationally, socially and emotionally.

I hope the Council ensure funds are available to retain it and as a 3 tier school system.

I appreciate that the student numbers are currently low, however given the extensive building and redevelopment adjacent to the school it is obvious that

numbers will increase. Closing the school will be a backward step and would put pressure on neighbouring schools which I gather are already at capacity.

Closing the school will be a loss to the community and make our other high schools over subscribed. How will this help

I really don't see how the council can be allowed to consult, or pre-consult on the closure of a high school in isolation without setting out an over arching strategy for both where the current yr 9 pupils will go, where the current yr8 pupils will go in 2025, where those houses that are currently in Monkseaton High school catchment will be served by a high school going forward. Surely Whitley bay as an area needs enough 3 tier high school places to serve the existing 3 tier middle and first schools, unless these numbers are to be reduced, but again this needs included in the over arching strategy/model, rather than just saying close Monkseaton High, wipe the deficit and we'll worry about everything else afterwards. That is not a true consultation.

I feel I have drawn attention to the most pertinent points but I will also be directing this feedback to the Mayor.

Impact on children at other schools who now might not get a place due to redistribution of the children at this school and those moving forward.

It will be a real shame if the school closes. It has done wonders for my daughter after joining

I think it's ridiculous there are too many children who won't cope with all the children from the Whitley Bay Area being placed into one school!

The pressure on other high school in the area will be immense in the long term surely?

Good location, lots of space dont give in to property and houses. Mend and make do.

It's shocking and questions the selection offered by residents for their children being mishandled. By allowing large numbers to attend the other schools in the neighbourhood. This problem has been going on for years. I'll reiterate the fact that 100 new properties have come on the market behind the school currently with residents and a further 200 to be habitable in the next 2 years. This will then be followed by thousands of other new homes to be made available in the next 10 years. Children from these homes will have MHS in their doorstep. To close this school would be a disgrace for the local population and should be given a lifeline to prove its value.

Outrageous...other high schools are already over subscribed. Not fair on children at any of the schools

I wish to celebrate the hard work and dedication of MHS, who I respect and admire. You have my 100% backing!

It is a disgrace that in the sixth richest country in the world that authorities and agencies can't collaborate properly to help a local school on which closure will affect over 500 children and their teachers/support staff. It's also a shambles to wheel out the line "everyone will get a school place" where? Norham, Longbenton - or some other school that is also struggling and well outside of the local area and community where the students live.

Such a new facility should not be forced to when other school building in the borough are in such a state porta cabins or cafeterias and libraries are being used as classrooms

I believe childrens education will suffer. Not just the children in Monkseaton High School but all children in the North East who's classrooms are already at maximum capacity!

As a resident who moved to Whitley Bay from Cramlington 6 years ago (to get our children into the Southridge -> Valley Gardens -> Whitley High system), I do recognise the need for the council to balance the books and look at options. I am concerned however that the closure of Monkseaton High would have a detrimental effect on Whitley High (already noted as a large high school in the most recent OFSTED inspection), so would be looking for assurances that that would not be an issue.

And while it has been noted in the consultation that the move to a 2-tier system is outside of the scope of this consultation, I would like to note my support for retaining the 3-tier system in the area - I believe the benefits of this are significant.

This will have a detrimental effect on already full schools like Marden and John Spence if they are forced to take more students. Childrens progress and well being will be effected

Rediculous you have not considered the impact of the local area

My children will be at marden at the time.of closure over populating the classes Will not help with out child's education

It will put a burden on other school's in the area.

With the sale of green spaces behind the school to housing development and the rumoured 2000 additional homes to be built, longer term there will be a requirement for school spaces for children moving to the area and new children being born.

To close Monkseaton High School would, unfortunately show more about the local authority and the political ideals of those controlling it. To say that they believe in the future of all young people and to close a school that has a fantastic reputation for inclusivity and not find a way to keep this approach to education, would show that the LA do not care about the well-being of those that most need help and support. Instead it would demonstrate a lack of political will and appetite to support families and young people whether this is SEND or disadvantaged young people.

Year 9 children have been desperately let down by north Tyneside council

My son came out the catchment area he is settled and loves it

My daughter is in year 10. I am very concerned about how the quality of teaching may be impacted over the next 2 years as some/ many teachers may leave as they need to find alternative employment eventually so may understandably 'jump ship'. I am also very concerned about where my daughter will then go on now after this school. Ideally we would choose a sixth form but I don't now know what her options will be on leaving school

The students that are at Monkseaton will need to move to Marden High and Whitley High where numbers are already high

Are ye high in the clouds? this seems rsther dum when you intend to also build housing close by

It's absurd

I think this is yet another ploy to remove the 3 tier system and I strongly disagree.

Please can you provide more information about when the NTLT took over owning the school field? who had it before the NTLT? Was any money paid? is there a contract?

The school itself was owned by the innovation trust, Is this now owned by NTLT? if the school were to close could they still use it to let out to community groups?

I understand cost is the driving factor, and lack of heads means the cost of MHS is challenging. But more people living here drives the economy, and people move to this area because of things like the 3 tier system, choices of school, no overcrowding.

Not to mention the disruption to kids who are already in the school, after their education was so heavily impacted by the pandemic

I am concerned what will happen to the building will it be mothballed and who pays for that?

This highlights poor financial management by NTC from consider options, financial appraisal risk & sensitivity analysis and net present value NPV Calculations

Whilst the building is somewhat intrusive physically, it does have potential to offer a greater range of courses and more diverse curriculum offer and should link with local vocational providers to offer a more extensive and exciting all age provision.

If it is decided to close monkseaton high school surely you should stay open until August 2027 to see all of the current students out. Having tried to find a new school for my daughter currently in year9 at monkseaton high school I'm unable to find her a space in another school. So what are you going to do with the year 9 pupils

Can land not be sold, making the grounds smaller but allowing funds to be added

I think the lack of thought to the new yr 9 pupils is shocking - you've accepted students knowing this was happening.

I would like to know if the running costs of the building are more or less than WBHS (a bigger school!) ?

Ensure survey not impacted by those living in new houses who want school grounds retained and not more houses close by

NE27 needs a high school and you looking to close a school 3 miles away. Sounds like you have already made your mind up as every single answer on the appraisal was every option not financially viable. If this was a real consultation you it would show which options were more or less viable than others.

Also I was advised by North Tyneside that NE27 would get a new high school when George Stephenson is 95% occupied. It is 94% according to the figures so this new high school must be imminent?

Also If you were to move to a 2 tier system this would create an instant demand as being 3 tier is out of date with the rest of the region, parents stay clear of 3 tier because it is limited, all the other schools are 2 tier.

Please share the full feasibility study (impact assessment) that sets out what criteria was looked at for each option and as importantly maybe what was missed so we can perhaps highlight any omissions that may change the viability of these options.

The decision to close the school seems to have been already made, the main issues are where the kids will go, kids will be split up and kids mental health, the easiest solution is to move all the kids together to the building that's sitting empty at Whitley bay

Please share when discussions regarding changes to the 3 tier system were last put to the community as I believe that this was probably in 2015 and during different times. New times lead to different responses. Discussions nearly 10 years ago shouldn't be included in a current feasibility study.

The council have repeatedly said that they cannot dictate PAN numbers and cannot stop Whitley high bidding for money to build new buildings etc, so the council needs to use what powers it does have fully, and these are to manipulate catchments to manipulate distance criteria in the coat schools in particular and incentivise either Whitley high or Monkseaton middle to merge with Monkseaton High, debt free.

Poorly managed, no clear plan to support children impacted. Some suggestions not really dealt with in depth. Just shambolic and cold hearted. Children re not pots of money. They are our future and we are letting them down

2 tier system over a bigger area would solve a lot of problems

Please provide details of who conducted the Impact Assessment days late August, and over what period, and precisely what instruction, (please provide scope system issued to instruct the survey and report peripheral,) the assessment was conducted.

Where do the students of Whitley Bay go when there is no alternative 13+ school in the area. The council seem to have the authority to close the school but not to influence the education system

Please add the feasibility/impact assessment info on the option of closing monkseaton high school to the documents that you've uploaded.. as a parent I need to see that you have considered all of the knock on impacts to the community and all other schools. And that these other schools that have rejected a merger have been notified that upon closure they will be impacted like it or not

High number of new homes being built in north Tyneside this school WILL be needed in the future

Closing it is very narrow minded with the local population about to sky rocket.

It is detrimental on the community. The children from monkseaton middle school often feed into this school. There are also many children from wellfield middle school fed into Monkseaton high school. This means that children from these two middle schools are now completely at sea. They have been to first school and middle school with their friends yet high school comes along and they can no longer go somewhere with friends they will be sent much much further afield. The closure of monkseaton high will put strain on neighbouring schools. Yes, the number of pupils is low but there are still pupils! These children need to go to school. Other schools are at full capacity. So how on earth are other high schools meant to absorb this many children. It really narrows down the options for children. The impact will be huge on all of our schools. It's a terrible decision. The council/government need to keep this school open in some shape or form. What a tragedy to lose this school.

I moved back to the area for my son starting school and bought the house I'm in for him to go to Appletree then middle school and finally to monkseaton high

As previously mentioned closing the school might solve issues in the short term, but the long term impacts will be extremely damaging to the children and the local area.

Needed for Children's education. Closure of this school will have a heavy impact of schools close by and to children in the local area. Don't sell it for more housing or where are all the kids off the new houses going to go?

If the school must close as a high school, and can't be merged with Whitley bay as an enlarged two site high school and larger 6th form, then the current yr8 9 should be allowed to continue and the proposed school closure delayed 13 months, giving plenty of time for Whitley bay high to grow to take the larger catchment long term.

What costs have the council allowed for if the closure goes ahead, if the Monkseaton building is to be re-purposed this will entail costs, if the building is to be demolished this entails costs, if land is to have a changed usage this entails up front costs, if Whitley high needs to grow to fill the catchment void after Monkseaton closure this entails costs. Have these costs been factored into the councils only viable option which is to close the school.. and by the way, when year 6 pupils leave Marden bridge and Monkseaton middle to join the two tier system, for security and certainty, these middle schools will need propped up financially, have these costs been considered.

We live in Whitley high catchment. I'm worried about my children's future ability to get into wbhs if this school will have to take in children from outside of the catchment (those who live in the former monkseaton high catchment).

Concerns around places for future generations

There is a lack of middle ground SEN provision for children who may struggle with sensory issues but are able to easily achieve to meet a national curriculum. My child is just this and he's refusing school because he can't cope with the sensory aspect. We need a middle ground to enable children to stay in main stream and not have to access an alternative provision

DO NOT CLOSE IT BUT COMBINE 2 OTHER SCHOOLS TO FILL IT UP

If the school was to close I would want clarity on how catchment areas would change and confirmation that if catchment areas moved to oversubscribed schools such as Whitley Bay High School and Marden High School that more places would be on offer at these schools, rather than just increased catchment area for the same amount of places.

I worry about the impact on the local feeder first and middle schools

Huge impact on other schools in the area which are all ready full to capacity. More children will be in the catchment area due to the new estate being built

Well the land is currently owned by NTLT and Churchill community high school. At the moment the land is worth £100,000 but I am assuming once your planning department give permission for houses it will be worth a lot more. I am assuming the land is worth more than the land at Norham or Churchill or even John Spence. We are all aware that this is a money grab

Limiting choice of high school is counterproductive

Need to tell the children from other areas and local authorities sooner rather than later that there will not be room for them in North Tyneside schools

It's a bad reflection of the Council that you've let it get to this stage, you should have acted sooner. Typical. Now we'll pay the cost of your incompetence.

I do think the LA needs to secure funding from the government urgently to keep this school open . Funding is available for other means in the area but education is vital and we are struggling for suitable school places in the area as it is .

Whitley Bay High School is already a huge school, with a very academic focus. Realistically, closing Monkseaton High would take away any choice of learning environment for young people in the area, particularly in the north of the area. We also have poor provision for post 16 education in the area.

Its need not only for the local area but alot of children travel from middle school to there

It is a newer built school & would be detrimental to lose as Whitley Bay High School can't accept all children from the Middle Schools within Whitley Bay area. I know for sure being out of catchment for Whitley Bay that Monkseaton would be my next choice for my son as he hasn't managed either first choice first school or middle school due to the high birth rates of his school year (2014-2015) I'm therefore worried & concerned of what will happen as he doesn't bode well with change & transitions away from his friends (both September's of new schools have been awful to see what he's going through) but he doesn't warrant an EHCP to allow choosing of school so this could have a serious impact due to having to go to a High School that other students have attended from year 7, where the children would already have their friendship groups built from the previous 2yrs & how nerve wracking this could be to my son whos not confident in friendship building, nstead of the possibility of going to Whitley Bay or Monkseaton with his friends

Disgraceful that this building is considering being closed when Longbenton is oversubscribed, Whitley Bay is huge and George Stephenson is not fit for purpose.

I do not understand what the relevance of questions number 5, 6,7 ,8 have to the proposed closure. In particular numbers 7&8. I feel they are intrusive and completely unnecessary in this context.

Closing it will be a mistake especially with all new builds around.

The impact on the y9 options forngcses has not been adequately considered as affect on mental health choices and teaching standards differ for each school. This will actively disadvantage our children and is discriminatory

You are going to destroy many children by closing this school. There mental health is going to be affected.

This appears to be a removal of the three tier system by stealth

Schools are a public service, not a money making business. Their future should not be dictated by profit/loss spreadsheets. Announcing the possibility of closure will have a detrimental effect on the school and education of current pupils as staff will look to find new jobs elsewhere, parents will move their children to other schools (maybe further away with associated environmental effects) which are not at risk of closure

My concerns would be around increasing the pressure on other secondary mainstream settings in the area. We live in Whitley Bay and have a young

child, and I do worry that there now may not be space for them in Whitley Bay high. We moved to the area largely in hope that he would be able to go to WB High when the time comes and at great expense, and it would be very disappointing if as a result of this closure our chances of this were reduced.

Monkseaton high has been a fantastic school for my children, removing the choice of a smaller school for children will be a huge loss to the community.

As previous page. Keep current year 9s till 2027. That relieves the urgency and the issues you are currently having regarding where to put these kids. They deserve to stay together and stay settled and get ready for their gcse's these are the most important years of their school lives.

We have a son at primary school we are in the catchment for monkseaton high the only other school in walking distance to us is whitley high but this school is over subscribed so therefore people in the same situation as us won't have a high school within safe walking distance to go to

How will the other schools fit students in who would have gone to Monkseaton? Makes a joke of the catchment syndrome??

[Name] AND [Name] ARE STUPID.

[Name] AND [Name] ARE STUPID.

[Name] AND [Name] ARE IDIOTS

This must be done in a way that puts the education and wellbeing of children first.

It is such an iconic building with great indoor facilities. I would worry about the extra pressure closing would put on other schools, especially Whitley Bay High School. Teachers are already at breaking point. Whitley Bay recently got an Excellent Ofsted rating, let's try and keep it that way.

It's only being done so you can sell off the land to private developers. Why not keep the site if the school must close and build council properties and assisted living homes.

Amazing that the school was allowed by the authority to accrue such a debt. Also amazing that a building like that was allowed to be built with no objection by the authority as it was unlikely to be financially sustainable from the outset, because of its design. What about the school in North Shields that is running at a huge deficit too?

I feel that closing the MHS would cause other schools to become over populated. There are new homes being built within the direct proximity of the school, closing the school will put future possible pupils at a disadvantage to

go to a school within the catchment area. I feel that closing MHS would carry with it catastrophic effects and put the future of pupils education at risk due to other schools becoming over populated.

While there might be enough secondary school places it will mean many pupils having large distances to travel.

Reducing all places in the area may be the correct thing to do, and protecting the public purse is undoubtedly a primary objective.... but doing it at the expense of a group of children's education is wholly against what you ask say you stand for..... you must see this.

I disagree with the proposal and would like to see the LA play a role in distributing school placements more equally. Whitley Bay High is not the only school that provides a good standard of education to children in North Tyneside!

I would like to know the cost of closing the school, maintaining it over the next 10 years, the cost of having to pay for transport for the children affected by the school closure and future transport costs, the predicted cost of redundancy packages, how the school was ever likely to pay back the deficit, how a school can have a deficit but not a profit they are not businesses they cannot make profit so cannot surely have a deficit if the deficit is purely lack of pupils then the council should be able to make up the shortfall by taking money from the schools that are making a profit by having more children than their PAN allows if they cannot do that then they cannot decide a school should close. Are the council going to compensate parents for the mental anguish caused to the children and their mental health and the devastating affect it could have on their GCSE results. Have the council in any way thought about how much closing the school will not just affect the local area but the transport/local businesses and other schools in the area ie first and middle schools the impact on housing etc. Is the infrastructure in place at the alternate schools to cope with more pupils every year? How many of the council's staff have children impacted by this and what is their part in the decision making process? Do any of the cabinet members have interests in any of the alternative schools making them biased if yes what is being done to ensure an equal and fair decision is made? Can the council guarantee that the year 9 children affected by this decision will be allowed to take the GCSEs they choose irrespective of the school they attend? What is being done to ensure that the year 9 children are not disadvantaged by joining a school in year 10 in terms of grades/GCSE choices etc. Do the council promise that the affected children will not be moved again. With SEN children what is being done to

ensure the schools available will have the same accommodations as msh in terms of an lsc not arp, access to mobile phones during school day, relaxed uniform i.e.no tie/formal shirt/ accessible and fair disciplinary outcomes.

It's short sighted due to the number of new family homes being built in the area. Whitley bay high school is already over subscribed

If the decision is to close the high school then the building should be utilised as SEND provision instead of wasting a modern building. Particularly when the likes of Southlands has to utilise portacabins as classrooms and Moorbridge & Silverdale are having to take over any old build that has space!

Is there any point in me filling in this form as I fully believe you plan to close this excellent, caring school

I think this proposed/planned closure of the school is fundamentally wrong

How can you have the best interests of the children of this area when you are proposing to close a school stating this is the only option that is left?????

This is decision driven by money only & not by educational needs of the children in the area

You are taking choice away from pupils & parents!!

The secondary level of education at local schools on the coast are full; how are you going to fit more pupils into these schools & ensure that there is not over crowding??

Where are pupils who want to stay on at school & do further education within the security of a school supposed to go?? There are very limited local places ie there are 2 schools other than Monkseaton that have a sixth form & Whitley Bay High School will only take bright pupils who are going to get high A-level grades..... where are the other pupils in the area supposed to go, if college isn't a good fit for them?

Monkseaton teachers KNOW my child. Monkseaton teachers CARE about my child.

I know this to be true as my older child has completed her education there & has since gone to university with the help, support & guidance of the teaching staff at Monkseaton.

I want the same opportunity for my younger child but your taking this away from him!!

How are you going to guarantee that the teachers stay at the school you are wanting to close down?? Therefore further jeopardising the education of the pupils who you claim to have the best interest for?!

Closure of Monkseaton is the worst decision you could possibly make & if this goes through & the school closes I will have no further faith or trust with your decisions.

Not that you care what I believe anyways!!

This should never have gotten like this & parents & the community should have been consulted before closure seemed the only option left!

The people involved in this decision making should be ashamed of themselves!!!!

Monkseaton High School is a very unique school which is inclusive and provides vital services for the students and their families. It would be a huge loss to the area if it closes.

Would be an unbelievable waste of public money and amenity.

I think the proposal is madness when other schools have got to be evacuated because of unsafe structures and concrete. This school was heralded as part of the building schools for the future and is less than 20 years old. What does this say about the state of the education system in this country .

Not enough is being done to look at alternatives. You are all talking about 'looking at it' but I have not seen one plan, one business case, or any reasonable alternatives other than the obvious "let's just close it" - very lazy, very poor, very disappointed. Show us options... It's very obvious this is corrupt and you have already made your mind to close this location without exploring actual detailed options. There are children who will not go to school if you close this location, and parents who will not be able to get their children to other locations - not every household has that privilege and it is disappointing to see that they have not been considered at all.

I want my boys to go there , my kids are in 3 tier and it's the only high school we can go to because of catchment, it's a good school and needs to stay open for not only the current 3 tier children but future ones living or soon to be living in area once new builds are built

The council have conducted themselves appallingly. The community have no faith that there is a plan for our children's high school education beyond 'somewhere in North Tyneside.....'

My daughter is devastated that there is a consultation to potentially close her school.

She chose this school to meet her needs (SEN-awaiting diagnosis) and has settled really well into it.

She wants to go to school. However, since the release of the consultation this has massively affected her emotionally and she is very anxious and becomes easily dysregulated at the thought of not knowing/what is to be of her school at a very important phase of her education, which may have negative impact on her future.

I do not think enough consideration has been given to changing catchment areas.

There is also a lot of shifting responsibility and accountability from the the local authority to DFE and vice versa.

As a result of the hideous amount of time that has been allowed to elapse without taking action sooner, my daughter has been failed by the local authority in relation to her education.

I do not want my school to close as it has a nice environment. I finally enjoy attending school now as I feel comfortable at MHS. The staff are all very friendly, approachable and supportive. Some of my friends do not want to go to Whitley Bay High School and prefer MHS as the alternative. I have made a lot of new friends already. We just settled into this school in year 9 and then we are faced with having to move again at an important time in our education. If we have to change school I will no longer be with my friends and I will not know where all the classrooms are. Everyone else will already know where they are going and I will feel alone.

Rebuilding the outdated and dangerous Churchill School is going to cost potentially around 25 million pound, this school has also just failed its Ofsted grading needs improvement, Monkseaton High already supported this school allowing its classrooms to be used by Churchill. Why cant we close a failing school when you have a more than suitable school with a good Ofsted report and enough space to support the children permanently here. I am aware this is a 2 tier high school, children from year 7-8 can be placed into neighbouring schools and also used to support the middle schools under subscribed in this area, such as Monkseaton Middle and Marden Bridge Middle. It is a complete waste of money to close a complete functioning safe built school which has a great Ofsted report and plough money into a failing school.

Norham High School and Longbenton High School have the other highest deficit in the area. Why cant you move these two high schools into Monkseaton High or even just move Norham into Monkseaton High. You spent over 20 million pound building a brand new building which is fully functioning and even advised by the teachers this schools building runs perfectly fine, move Norham High School into Monkseaton to remove the deficit from both schools. Parents will not allow there children from Monkseaton to be spread out between Norham High and Longbenton just so you can remove there deficit and close Monkseaton. You have wasted money building Monkseaton you should be looking at the buildings that need improvement and move them into Monkseaton not the other way round.

I request that year 9s are kept in Monkseaton High School to finish their GCSEs without disturbance, removing them before starting year 10 will still have a distribution on their GCSEs as majority of year 10 will be a settling in period, teachers would not have formed a bond with the pupils and the children will have to deal with an uncomfortable setting of not having peer support. Subjects may not be available to the children when moving. It was said in the parents meeting that the council held that incentives could and will be given to encourage teachers to stay and continue to provide a high education. The amount of money it will cost to transfer these year 9s to another school could be put towards an incentive to keep teachers until years 9s have finished their GCSEs, an incentive could be an extra years salary which is nothing compared to what you will pay transferring them. It was also suggested in the meeting that you didn't think this would be a nice experience for Year 9 being the only year group left in the school however you will be doing this to Year 10s anyway as they could potentially be the only year group left in the school as there are only a handful of current year 12s.

The year deficit and the extra incentives to keep teachers will work out less money than what would be paid for each child transferring schools. Let year 9 finish Monkseaton High without causing them anymore anxiety and upset, this will be more damaging to them transferring them now.

Monkseaton High School is a perfect small school for children with special needs who progress best in small environments

I'm so angry at the council refusing to release information until mid way through this 'consultation' only engaging after several weeks with current students and not at all with those who will be left with no high school in years to come. Is this seriously the best you can do after ten years of knowing there's a problem? Your calculations are flawed because they depend on no children

moving into the NEPA and the abnormally low birth year for children 8 years away from high school becoming a pattern. You might not have full control but you have a responsibility to do better than this. Shame on you.

The prospect of leaving up to 100 children aged 13 with the prospect of having to find a space in a two tier secondary school with no friends and a distance from their home is absolutely disgusting and cruel. A solution needs to consider the long term damage this will cause to mental health of young people. The 3 tier system exists with children as part of it and you are responsible for maintaining it.

I am very upset that my child has been allowed to start year 9 in September to then be told the school might be closing. These children have already been through covid - they have been let down.

In one side of Whitley bay is one of the best schools in the country, and in the other side there will be no school for our kids to go to. So many kids are already struggling, and this is going to add to their difficulties.

I don't know if what I'm seeing is pure incompetence or pure disregard. Either way not a good look, shocked at how weak this consultation is.

Where is the accountability? This whole situation and the conduct of the LA is disgraceful.

Closing MHS leaves no choice for children at high school level. Are there even enough places for all children currently in the 3 tier system if MHS is to close? How will this affect the feeder schools.

Damaging to the community for years to come. People are moving to the coast for the schools and regeneration. It would mean less accessibility for pupils to get to senior school with peer group split.

The admissions process has failed the system and the community.

Very disappointed by how this has been handled by the council.

1 - I am a parent of a year 9 child. Children in this year group have already had their schooling massively disrupted due to Covid. This is the year group, who in 2020 didn't get to finish their First school education and had to move up to middle school without any transition. It seems wholly unfair that they are now being disrupted again, at such a significant time in their educational lives.

I would like to understand whether there is an option for Monkseaton high to remain open for the current year 9 students until end of year 11. Could something be done to incentivise the retention of teaching staff to guarantee the quality of education?

My final comment, which i anticipate will be the general feeling among parents who have chosen to school their children in the 3 tier system at the coast.

For the record, my son, will categorically not be moving to either Norham, Burnside or Churchill schools.

Where are all the children going to go and are we now stopping the three tier system in this case ?

Change the catchment areas so more people attend. Change the catchment of WBH to cover the coast line of Whitley bay so it covers the whole of Whitley bay. Then have catchment for MHS cover all of monkseaton, Marden estate, earsdon and the new housing estates.

You cannot look at the closure of MHS in isolation. This has to be a system wide change. The three tier system is not fit for purpose if there is not enough high school places for all in the first and middle schools. Please realise we know the birth rate is dropping but that will not reach the magical number of 370 pupils in the lower schools until 2033. Babies don't go to High School, teenagers do and they've already been born. Cracking line though we'll done NTC Comms, it's really skewed the narrative and created a mess for our kids. The debt is the problem, falling birth rates and parental choice is just a PR message, we know.

It has been clear to the general public that the current building for Monkseaton High School was a vanity project for [NAME] and I firmly believe that an investigation needs to occur into how this situation was ever able to come to fruition. Why have North Tyneside Council been approving deficit budgets for so long that the deficit has become so large? Why are people involved in this process of consultation not independent and have previously been involved with discussions relating to the school? Where are all of documents showing the processes which have been followed in relation to the 'alternatives' that have been explored (for example, when was the discussion held with regards to the creation of a multi academy trust? Were each of the parties who were involved in the discussion given adequate time for decision to be made (no, they were not), were those involved across the board actually decision makers? (no, they were not - heads and chairs of governors cannot approve such)).

At the centre of this mess are children..... An independent and public enquiry must occur.

Close this and the 3 tier will fail by default

It's a disgrace. After spending all that money on a new school. Keep, it open or make better alternatives for. Children who live in that catchment area. Not send them miles away. What about Whitley High School, or Marden High School for them instead of Norham or Killingworth

If you do close you must provide spaces in Whitley Bay/ Monkseaton for children - increase Whitley catchment to include what was MHS and stop people from 2 tier catchments who do have a catchment school coming in

No such consultation is going to be easy, and there is no ideal time to do it, but it seems to me that announcing it 3 weeks into the new school year, with no clarity about the future of the children education pathway of the children who will be most affected by a potential closure, is sub-optimal. As the processes unfold I would hope to see a more conscious emphasis on the wellbeing of children and their educational outcomes in the way it is all handled. It seems to have placed a great burden on teachers (who are dealing with their own anxieties and uncertainty) and families. I would hope that, whatever the outcome, lessons can be learned from this for any future such discussions (particularly if, should MHS close, there need to be conversations about the futures of other schools within the Whitley Bay Pyramid).

The declining birth rates quoted in the FAQ since 2018 will not affect the school for another 8 years plus. It is not a legitimate explanation of the current issues with declining school population and funding deficit. Instead this coincides with increased favourable reputation of other local schools (Whitley Bay High, Marden High, Thomas Moore) and the increased parental pressure to get their children into these other High schools. Monkseaton requires investment to make it more competitive against other local High schools, not cuts, curriculum restrictions and then closure.

If the school does need to close, it should continue to be used for educational purposes and community organisations. The area lacks sixth form options (only Whitley Bay High and Thomas Moore (restricted entry) have sixth forms,

Marden does not), has a total lack of adult education facilities. There are also many local organisations - health, fitness, community support, Scouts etc who struggle for buildings and could make excellent use of the facilities at the school.

It would be a disaster for the community and would have a major impact on students and families

There doesn't seem to be a joined up approach here, WBHS has just had a new build. That could have been the perfect opportunity to increase the size there to ensure a place for all NEPA kids. Wellfield Middle is due a rebuild- why when it is full of kids from Shiremoor with no High School to now go to? MBMS is due a rebuild too- why when all of the South WB families will be diverting their kids to two tier at the earliest opportunity as there isn't the room for them at WBHS. This is a very uncoordinated approach to local education- in one small area not even the whole borough.

I think this idea would be wrong bearing in mind that more housing is being built and Robinson Fields should be put into the catchment of Monkseaton High

The 6th form closing will force Monkseaton high students to compete for the 50 places at Whitley bay high school as the 6th form there is prioritised for Whitley bay high students, with only 50 places kept for external applicants, will there be enough 6th form places locally for these students?

My daughter is in year 9

Of the school closes I think it will impact her education and affect her gcse results.

M not a happy cookie

Look INTO A mass walk out over so called there are places in the borough, however other than assigning blame,

It would be devastating to many children as most alternative schools are a massive commute away taking valuable time from their educational and social lives. This closure can't be considered without expanding the capacity of more local schools e.g. whitely high

Can not work out whether the lack of joined up thinking here is due to incompetence or lack of interest in other human beings. Either way its not [NAME] or [NAME] finest hour. Also 'somewhere in North Tyneside.....' is not an

answer to the question 'where will our children go to school?' So please do stop insulting our intelligence.

We are responding as a first school in the Whitley Bay Collaborative.

1.The solution being proposed sets a precedent. We understand that the deficit is significant and needs to be addressed. However there have been, are currently and are likely to be more schools with structural deficits. Closure is being proposed in this case but has this solution always been proposed in the past and if not, why is it being considered in this case? More so, does a proposal for closure set a precedent that would need to be repeated for any future large deficit?

2.The solution needs to consider the financial stability of other North Tyneside schools. In particular, how will the outstanding deficit/debt be serviced/paid off if the school closes? Whitley Bay Collaborative Schools carefully considered forming a MAT but did not feel able to enter into this arrangement because it would risk the financial security of all of the schools in the Whitley Bay Collaborative. North Tyneside maintained schools must not be exposed to a share of the accrued deficit/debt as part of the solution because many are already facing the risk of deficits.

3.The solution needs to seek to actively protect the reputation, overall effectiveness and future viability of Whitley Bay Collaborative Schools. The Whitley Bay Collaborative is very successful and very popular; Governors and leaders in these schools have a track record of the provision of good or outstanding education. Instead of highlighting the strengths of Collaborative and seeking to preserve this as part of the solution, the proposal suggests that, in part, closure is the only option remaining because Whitley Bay Schools (particularly Whitley Bay High) did not bring forward a solution and/or create a MAT. It also suggests that other schools in the Whitley Bay Collaborative may be at risk of closure/decline if High School capacity within the three-tier system is reduced as a result of the closure of Monkseaton High. Implying that Whitley Bay Collaborative schools are complicit in the closure of Monkseaton High through the decisions they have made and that further closures in Whitley Bay could follow risks knowingly and unnecessarily damaging the Whitley Bay Collaborative and ultimately the entire North Tyneside education system.

The financial aspects must dictate the future of the school. At present this huge deficit must be addressed as soon as possible by closing the school.

Although in the FAQs it states that there are enough space in surrounding schools I don't think this is true. Classes are already at capacity of 30-35 in schools. Where are the places coming from Whitley Bay High does not have the capacity for all these pupils

The land should not be used for more housing if the school closes bearing in mind the house building that has been passed in recent years. This land should be preserved as a municipal space for sport and leisure, acting as a small green belt and maintaining a sense of space in the area.

It is unfair for the students to impact their education after covid and on the staff who work so hard to support the students daily

Closure of MHS will have a catastrophic effect on the whole education system within Whitley Bay. Schools should be encouraged to work together to support MHS and the 3 Tier System.

Changes to PANs of Schools and the debt being absorbed through the sale of additional land on the MHS site. Would allow MHS to continue and allow the 3 Tier System to continue to provide an excellent education within NT schools System.

My child lives outside the catchment of 3 tiers schools and currently attends year 8 in a middle school, where will she go to school ? there are no places in a high school and the nearest two tier is already full in her year group?

Closing this school will have a much wider impact on the community and education of the children for many years to come. Low birth rates mean first schools will be the 1st to suffer. Don't start reducing numbers from the top

Extend closure til 2027 if it can't be saved.

Loss of Monkseaton High would have impact on the whole community not just the children left to travel to other schools that presumably are also struggling to maintain numbers otherwise they would not have capacity.

Why not ask children/families from the schools where there are places and require significant investment in buildings if they would like to come to MHS and make up the numbers - then close that school and save on future build costs

In effect if the school closes the council is saying sod this generation of children and casting them into the unknown. A recipe for social anxiety and trouble.

It should involve a consultation about the whole system of schools in the area

IMMEDIATE SITUATION

What happens to the current Y9 pupils? Officially none of the local schools have capacity to take them.

What happens to the Y7 and Y8 pupils currently in middle schools? And those in lower years? Should Y6 pupils be encouraged to move now? How will that affect middle schools? Around 100 pupils per year will be left with no options after middle school except to apply for an in-year transfer and hope for the best.

How will it be ensured that the quality of education for current Y10 and Y12 pupils is preserved with teachers inevitably leaving?

These are children who have already had their education impacted by COVID. The closure would affect 280 students across Years 8 and 9, leaving significant uncertainty around future school placements, particularly in light of insufficient capacity in local schools.

Monkseaton High School currently supports the largest proportion of students with special educational needs (SEN) in the area, with 14.3% of its students requiring additional support compared to just 7.8% at Whitley Bay High.

CATCHMENT AREAS - over 1,000 children will live in a ghost catchment area

What will happen to the areas currently in MHS catchment area? How will the catchment areas be redrawn?

There are more than a thousand young children who currently attend a first or middle school who will live in a ghost catchment with no clear educational pathway beyond the age of 13. Furthermore, projections show that this issue could persist for up to nine years, as declining birth rates will not significantly impact high school numbers until at least 2033.

As a parent with children in Marden Bridge Middle and Rockliffe First School, I am concerned that there seems to be little evidence that a viable plan exists, or could be effectively implemented, to manage the closure of a high school within the three-tier system. The council must effectively address what impact this decision will have on students, their families, feeder schools, the wider

community, and the local economy. We are already seeing parents pulling their children out of Rockliffe and Marden Bridge Middle School to move their children into a two tier system, or in the most extreme cases moving house to be closer to a Whitley Bay catchment—it's a complete free-for-all and scramble for such little places which brings a huge amount of angst for children and parents, nevermind the disruption of children leaving and joining midway through term times. It also feels like the council is just letting the parents self-serve and sort it out themselves without a clear plan.

We are fully invested in living in Whitley Bay and have seen the positive impacts of families making roots here with parents from school children opening local businesses and contributing to the local economy, particularly those businesses that have supported the improvement of South Parade and Whitley Road area—whose children now have no clear educational pathway beyond age 13.

It would certainly make people think twice about investing in businesses and buying homes in South Whitley Bay in the future, potentially undoing all of the great work already in place. It's all highly disappointing, as a Whitley Bay resident and parent to children in the area, that this seems to have gone unconsidered.

ACCOUNTABILITY

If there is a problem with falling birthday rates, why isn't this being looked at as part of a comprehensive review of schools across the borough. Why aren't other options like closing less well-performing schools or schools with inadequate buildings being considered?

Why have things been allowed to get so bad when MHS has had a deficit since 2016?

Clearly the expansion of Kings Priory (2013) and WBHS (2018) has created a surplus of school places and MHS has been caught in the middle. Why were these expansions allowed?

Where is the accountability for the fact that the building is expensive to maintain? Why was it approved in the first place?

How can building new schools, e.g. at Marden Bridge or a sixth form at John Spence, be justified under these circumstances?

Has the option of using the site as a specialist provision for SEN children and SEMH children given the rising number of children in the area struggling to access mainstream provisions?

Again as I said in my previous message, the council needs to create a plan before closing anything with regard to the relocation of displaced children. Again we don't want to see the classes of other schools increase in number.

This needs to be addressed as a broader issue, planning for the future of education in North Tyneside. What impact will this have on middle school provision and would this impact make schools reconsider restructuring or merging? Our other local 3 tier high school is oversubscribed, as are some of our middle schools. How could restructuring ensure middle and high school places nearby so travelling out of the immediate locality to get to a school can be avoided.

This is very disruptive to current Yr9. Schools in the locality have published a calendar and several are saying they have options meetings in January. If year9 from mhs are just applying for schools then, how will this affect their option choices? When will they find out which school they are transferring to? Can they not transfer as groups/classes to another school with a teacher from their current school to ease transition, who knows them so any educational issues are addressed immediately rather than new staff having to get to know them.

Current year 9 should be able to stay on until they finish the school and current yr11 offered sixth form provision.

This seems like an ideal opportunity to look at restructuring schools in the area to make education sustainable and relevant for the future.

As previously, children living in the Shiremoor, West Allotment, Northumberland Park area currently have limited options for secondary schools. if the school is

under capacity now, by changing to a secondary school, years 7&8 could join which would increase the number of pupils

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How can building new schools, e.g. at Marden Bridge or a sixth form at John Spence, be justified under these circumstances?

Making it a dedicated sixth form college would benefit local children who would no longer need to travel to Newcastle Rye Hill campus. There is nothing in North Tyneside to rival the Excellence of Rye Hill.

Developing something like that on the site would be amazing. The sixth forms here have great ofsted outcomes, but the kids are mostly miserable. Kids at Newcastle College love it..

Perhaps the building design does not lend itself to conducive learning environment

I am concerned if closure is going to happen where the children attending will continue with their education as all other schools are over prescribed already.

The closure of Monkseaton High School would have significant and long-lasting negative impacts, which must be carefully considered before making any final decision. Here are the key reasons why the closure should not happen:

1. Impact on Students

1.1 Educational Disruption:

Continuity of Learning: For students currently enrolled, particularly those in Years 10 and 11, moving to a new school can cause disruption to their learning and preparation for crucial exams. Different schools may have varied curriculums, teaching approaches, and resources, making it difficult for students to maintain academic progress.

Emotional and Social Impact: Students will be forced to leave behind their established friendships, teachers, and support networks. This kind of upheaval

can increase anxiety and stress, particularly for students with special educational needs (SEN) or those struggling with mental health issues.

1.2 Impact on Vulnerable Students:

SEN and Inclusion: Monkseaton High may have specific provisions for SEN students, with dedicated staff and resources that meet their individual needs. Transitioning to a new school could mean these students might not receive the same level of tailored support, risking their academic and emotional well-being.

Disruption of Pastoral Care: Students benefit from established relationships with teachers, counselors, and support staff who understand their personal challenges. These relationships are key to providing a safe and nurturing learning environment.

2. Negative Impact on the Community

2.1 Loss of a Community Hub:

Central Role in Local Life: Schools are often at the heart of a community, providing much more than education. Monkseaton High likely serves as a venue for local events, sports, clubs, and activities that engage families, students, and local residents. Its closure would diminish community cohesion and limit access to these important services.

Social Capital: The school plays a role in building social capital by fostering relationships between families and connecting them with local support services. Without Monkseaton High, the local area could lose this sense of unity and support.

2.2 Long-Term Impact on Local Demographics:

Decreasing Attractiveness for Families: The closure could make the area less attractive to families looking to move into the region, particularly if alternative schools are not conveniently located. The presence of a good local school is often a key factor for families when choosing where to live.

Depopulation Risk: With fewer students and families moving into the area, the population could decline further, leading to a reduced local economy, and diminished investment in infrastructure and services.

3. Economic Impact

3.1 Financial Consequences for Families:

Increased Travel Costs: Families may face additional costs and logistical challenges in transporting their children to schools further away, especially if public transport options are limited or unreliable. This is particularly concerning for lower-income families who may struggle with the additional burden.

Time and Convenience: Longer travel times will reduce the time students can dedicate to extracurricular activities, study, or simply rest, which may negatively affect their overall academic and personal development.

3.2 Local Business Impact:

Economic Ecosystem: Schools indirectly support local businesses, from small shops to service providers, who benefit from the foot traffic of students, staff, and their families. The closure could reduce revenue for these businesses, contributing to economic decline in the area.

Job Losses: The school employs local teachers, administrative staff, and support personnel, many of whom are deeply integrated into the local community. A closure would lead to job losses, contributing to unemployment and financial instability for local families.

4. Potential Alternatives Exist

4.1 Underutilized Space and Resources:

Leverage Available Capacity: Rather than closing the school, Monkseaton High should explore ways to better utilize its excess space. This could include subletting rooms to local businesses, offering adult education or vocational training programs, or using the facilities for community events outside school hours. Such initiatives would not only generate additional revenue but also strengthen the school's ties to the community.

Collaboration with Local Educational Institutions: Rather than a full closure, stronger collaboration with Monkseaton Middle School or other local schools could be explored. Sharing resources, staff, and facilities may help to reduce costs and ensure the financial sustainability of the school.

4.2 Focus on Attracting Students:

Improved Marketing and Outreach: The school can implement a targeted marketing strategy to improve its reputation and attract new students. This might include showcasing academic successes, offering unique programs, or emphasizing strong pastoral care. Engaging with local primary schools and parents to encourage enrollment at Monkseaton High is also crucial.

Unique Educational Offerings: By creating specialized programs, such as vocational courses, partnerships with local industries, or extracurricular opportunities not offered by nearby schools, Monkseaton High can set itself apart and attract more students.

4.3 Multi-Academy Trust or Local Partnerships:

Consider a MAT or Federation Model: Rather than full closure, Monkseaton High could explore joining a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) or forming a federation with other local schools. This would allow for shared resources and services

without losing the school's identity and community ties.

Maximize External Funding: Seek out alternative sources of funding, including grants and partnerships with local businesses or charitable organizations, to secure additional income streams.

5. Staff Morale and Retention

5.1 Loss of Experienced Educators:

Disruption to Careers: Many staff members at Monkseaton High have likely spent years developing their teaching practices, building relationships with students, and contributing to the school's culture. Closure would force them to either relocate or seek employment elsewhere, causing a loss of experienced educators who may not be easily replaced in nearby schools.

Impact on Future Recruitment: The closure of a school in the area could create negative perceptions, making it harder to recruit and retain high-quality staff in the remaining local schools.

5.2 Community of Support for Staff:

Teacher-Student Relationships: Teachers develop close bonds with their students, especially in smaller schools like Monkseaton High. These relationships are crucial for effective teaching and pastoral care, particularly for at-risk or SEN students. Breaking these connections through closure could lead to poorer outcomes for both students and staff.

Professional Development: Closure may result in the loss of in-house professional development programs, particularly those tailored to the unique needs of the school community. This would negatively impact staff's long-term career progression and opportunities.

6. The Strategic Importance of Keeping Schools Open

6.1 National Policy on School Closures:

Government Incentives for Keeping Schools Open: Closing schools is often seen as a last resort due to its wide-reaching consequences. Government policies, including grants or special programs, can help struggling schools recover. Before considering closure, Monkseaton High should exhaust these options.

Rural and Smaller Community Support: Schools like Monkseaton High, which are integral to smaller communities, often receive special consideration from the government. There may be untapped resources or support programs aimed at keeping schools in these areas open.

6.2 Local Authority and Long-Term Planning:

Strategic Importance for Future Development: Keeping Monkseaton High open aligns with long-term regional planning, particularly if there is potential for

future housing development or population growth in the area. Ensuring the availability of educational infrastructure is essential for attracting new families and maintaining community vibrancy.

Sustainable Growth: With the right strategies in place, Monkseaton High can recover from its current financial difficulties, making it a sustainable and thriving educational institution that will serve future generations.

Conclusion

Closing Monkseaton High School would have severe negative consequences for the students, staff, local community, and economy. The emotional, educational, and financial costs of closure outweigh the benefits, particularly when alternative solutions exist. By focusing on better utilization of resources, improving student recruitment, and exploring collaborations or partnerships, Monkseaton High can address its financial challenges without resorting to closure. Keeping the school open is not only in the best interest of the current students and staff but also essential for the long-term vitality of the Whitley Bay community.

There is insufficient sixth form provision in North Tyneside. My daughter attends a school in North Shields where there is no sixth form. Since the closure of TyneMet at the Hawkeys Lane site, there are very limited places in schools and this is really not acceptable. North Tyneside students should not be expected to fight for places at Whitley Bay High or travel to Newcastle College.

There is a high percentage of SEN students currently here, including EHCPs. It is unfair for these students to have to move to another school after settling in so well. Students in current year 10 are also at risk of their current teachers leaving.

Impacts across all children across the locality.

Council needs to impose powers to address this.

Why not use this an opportunity to move Football, Ruby and Cricket onto one site and use existing sites for new housing near Marden bridge middle school

Does the school need to reach capacity of pupils in order to set a balanced budget? If not, how many additional pupils would be needed to maintain the existing level of staffing?

It should not be closed under any circumstances.

The school, together with the Council, should be more pro-active in attracting pupils. The building is an inspiration in design. More emphasis should be placed on creativity and inspiration for the generations to come.

Not enough children's voices being heard. Has [NAME] , Children's Commissioner been made aware.

The area and community need this school, especially with new houses being built behind it, other schools that have available space are way to far away and too dangerous for the kids to travel too at the time of the morning

Uncertainty on which school they will be at for GCSEs: no clear plan & schools are full. Disruption to children in the year before GCSEs when they need to be focused and settled. No visibility of subjects they can choose for GCSE

No pre-planning from LA - entered consultation not expecting to have to transfer Year 9 children. Essential to familiarise with new school, teachers, peers and curriculum at start of year. Panic in-year transfers to other schools, lacking in transparency and control

High levels of anxiety in Children (and parents) not knowing what their educational pathway is, low attendance and engagement with school

Parents expect

- Year 9 children not to be disrupted and disadvantaged at a key stage in their education
- Appropriate choice of local schools with equitable curriculum, and ability to view prior to selection
- Minimum same choice of GCSE subjects and opportunities as children already at the school
- Support and transparency from LA and Government
- Effective planning and execution to deliver appropriate education to our children

Year 9 concerns

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Middle Schools

· Concerns About School Transfers: Parents are concerned about transferring their children to a two-tier system or waiting to see what happens with Monkseaton High

School. Parents expressed worries about about not securing high school places, the impact on friendship groups, and the potential size of WBHS.

· Full Schools and Waiting Lists: Many schools, including Thomas More, are full, and parents are considering putting their children on waiting lists.

· Friendship Groups and Local Schools: Parents worry about disrupting their children's friendships by moving them to different schools, especially if local schools like Marden are preferred.

· Concerns About Monkseaton's Future: There is anxiety that a large exodus to

the two-tier system could justify Monkseaton's closure due to insufficient new students.

- Lack of Information: Parents feel they lack enough information to make informed decisions and are participating in consultations and surveys to advocate for their children's best interests.

- Stress of Transitioning: Parents are concerned about the stress their children will face if they have to move to new schools during critical academic and developmental periods.

- Impact on Curriculum and Transition: Concerns raised about the potential reduction in curriculum choices and the challenges of ensuring a well-sequenced transition from KS2 to KS4 if the three-tier system is disrupted.

- Parental Uncertainty: Parents are uncertain about the best course of action, with some considering in-year transfers to other schools, despite their desire to support the current three-tier system.

My daughter has SEN. She was only able to attend WB High school open evening for 2 minutes before becoming overwhelmed. (It is too big, noisy and crowded) We were relying on MHS as a smaller school to fit her needs.

Think of how much disruption this will be to our kids

Redraw Catchment Boundaries

Expand the catchment area to include more students from surrounding areas (e.g., Whitley Bay South.

School (MHS)

Potential Alternatives/

Viable options

Page 2 out of 2

5. Sixth Form Integration

Propose converting MHS into a sixth form Centre for students from nearby schools, including Whitley Bay and North Shields, to maintain enrollment and provide a specialized post-16 education service.

6. Collaboration with Local Schools

Encourage partnerships with nearby schools to share resources, reduce costs, and maintain a collaborative approach to managing student numbers and educational quality across the region.

With the closure all of south Whitley bay will have no catchment area. The first schools, ie Rockcliffe who feed into MBMS will not have a high school to feed into. Taking children out of the 3 tier to put them into 2 tier will have a knock on effect to MBMS unless we can have WBHS as our catchment area and not be left without one

I feel excluded and uninformed due to the absence of formal communication or invitations to meetings regarding the potential closure of Monkseaton High School, especially in contrast to Year 9 parents who have been engaged in discussions.

As the deadline approaches I am uncertain about whether Monkseaton High School will be an option for my child which makes any application process impossible.

The cancellation of an open evening, which was intended to provide vital information to parents, has heightened uncertainty about school choices and left Year 8 parents without the necessary insights to make an informed decision. The closure of Monkseaton High School will affect my daughter, who already experiences anxiety. The prospect of being separated from friends and facing disruption to her education will add extra stress to an already challenging situation.

The concerns of Year 8 parents have not been addressed. Our request for urgent and transparent communication has also not been addressed.

The numbers may be falling but there will still be approximately 500 children looking for a high school. If the current building became a sixth form that might free up capacity in other local schools so pupils currently in monkseaton high schools catchment aren't required to travel as far away. Currently North Gosforth Academy has been mentioned but that's 2 buses and an hours travel away. All the coast schools are currently full so we need local capacity to meet the needs of our children

The area cannot afford to close this school, as there is an urgent need for the teaching infrastructure. Whitley bay high school is running at full capacity so there needs to be places for students, especially those moving into new developments, like the new estate on Rake Lane.

Pupils with SEND but don't have an EHCP are going to be disadvantaged if this school closes. My child has struggled throughout education and was becoming a school refuser. The SENDCo within 4 weeks has identified their needs and has requested the necessary assessments. I'm concerned these aren't done in time for applying for school places if Monkseaton High School closes. We spent 6 months carefully choosing this school and had a term of extra transition. My child is extremely anxious about starting this process again and signs of stress are becoming apparent. Not sleeping, crying, hair pulling all linked to anxiety. As a parent I was hoping for GCSE guidance from the school but I don't know how this will work if we have to move. How will the application process work? Will we be able to go and look at schools and liaise with SENDCo? Some schools have GCSE meetings with students in January but we will just be applying then. Will our children be disadvantaged in GCSE choices as a result of this?

If it is not cost effective it can't stay open

Year 9 concerns:

Uncertainty on which school they will be at for GCSE's: There is no clear plan and schools are full. This has caused disruption to children in the year before GCSE's when they need to be focused and settled. No visibility of subjects they can choose for GCSE.

No pre-planning from the local authority-The council has entered consultation not expecting to have to transfer year 9 children. It is essential for the children to familiarise themselves with a new school, teachers, peers and curriculum at the start of the year. There has been lots of panic in-year transfers to other schools, lacking showing the council have a lack of transparency and control.

There are high levels of anxiety in children and parents not knowing what their educational pathway is.

We as parents expect:

Year 9 children not to be disrupted and disadvantaged at a key stage in their education.

That there is an appropriate choice of local schools with equitable curriculum, and to be able to view the schools prior to selection.

Minimum same choice of GCSE subjects and opportunities as the children already at the other schools.

Support and transparency from the LA and government.

Effective planning and execution to deliver appropriate education to our children.

fantastic school and a huge asset to the local community it would be devastating to see it go

It's been handled appallingly. No options appraisal on CLOSURE the document called an options appraisal is just a list of rejected ideas, there is no impact assessment, there is no Equalities Impact Assessment, I can't work out whether it's incompetence or you just don't care that you are using our kids to balance your books. Falling birthrate is a handy excuse, you don't close high schools for falling birth rates you start with first schools. I have no respect for or trust in the decision makers.

My daughter in year 5 is currently worried about what High school she can go to. She wants to go to a local school, where she can walk to, be with her friends to support her in her GCSEs

This is an excellent school with outstanding SEND provision which is not equalled by Whitley Bay High School. WBHS have demonstrated they can't

meet student needs and the school is big faceless and not an appropriate choice for all children.

As a parent of a pupil with special needs, my child found looking around large schools including middle schools, daunting and will not cope in a school with a large site as following a timetable is difficult. They need to build relationships with staff who really get to know them or they won't be able to ask for help. A lack of a smaller school in our area is a huge concern as my child cannot travel independently and will become lost in the system

Please consider the impact this will have on children not given the chance to get support in a smaller 6th form, and for the path for children currently in year 9 with no clear pathway for their education. Very disappointed in the council for not taking a more proactive approach to address the national problem of falling pupil numbers in a more structured way.

Absolutely blown away by the news. I live in Monkseaton and if my children can't get into Whitley Bay High School, where will they have to travel to?

I can only assume there has been some fairly disastrous management that has caused this to happen. Where can I see the detail on why the deficit runs at £600k a year?

You only have to look around the current surge in house prices around the school to see families are moving to the area because of the schools and so a closure here is going to be a timebomb for children under the age of 10 living around the area now.

MHS is clearly highly valued by parents of pupils with SEN. Children thrive there who may have been school phobic, may need a reduced timetable, specialist teaching as well as pupils who are academically able but overwhelmed by large schools. Neuro diverse pupils can't cope with noise, large crowds, smells etc, a dinner hall of 1000 pupils causes huge difficulties. Here could be an opportunity to excel in provision and allow home schooled children to access some curriculum areas too to gain recognised qualifications.

This concern did not happen overnight, why was there no actions put in place before now to address the falling numbers of students when there is a growing catchment area?

Please don't make me leave and have to make new friends.

If the school were to close it will have a negative impact on Whitley Bay. Which is a great place to live, high house prices etc. All due to its schools. To close the school is not sending a positive message about the area.

The local authority has allowed this situation to manifest, inappropriate decision making initial with the new build of the school with no immediate plan to recoup costs.

The local authority can see the area as investment to sell off so further homes can be built. As it's an aging local authority there is no investment in young people and or families.

The impact on mental health, displacement to schools outside of the area impact on further climate change demonstrates there is no long term thinking by the local authority.

The communication with parents by the local authority has also reflected the lack of care, allowing the school to send out communication to parents and the young people attending. Clearly no backbone of local authority again, Labour Council for this area is no different to a conservative government, you don't care about people just balancing the books which you've allowed to become unbalanced.

We wonder why educational results in the north east are much lower than the south of the country, there's no investment or aspirations set for our young people who will in not so many years be expected to be in jobs/roles to influence the country.

On a personal note when we move to the area, the snobbery seen by other schools in the area was very disheartening, again focusing on financial benefits associated to the child. Schools were over subscribed and placement just happened. The local authority I haven't seen done anything to challenge the snobbery of the schools, which has also impacted on Monkseaton high school. My son has thrived at this school, and is surrounded by staff that generally care and not just because they attract additional funding for the school.

As a local authority you should be ashamed and as a Labour authority even more disappointing

School closure, if it is the only option, should be delayed to allow current year 9 students to complete their GCSE courses without any further disturbances to their academic journey. This cohort has already suffered significant upheaval relating to Covid19 school closures when starting middle school. They should not have to deal with changing schools, subjects, friendship groups, travel arrangements or routines yet again as this puts them at a severe and un-

mitigatable disadvantage.

Announcing that the future of MHS was under investigation only two weeks into the academic year when the students have just settled in is appallingly bad timing given the fact that the council have been aware of the financial situation for a long time. Further to this no concrete information has been forthcoming with regard to potential options.

Don't close it. Join into two tier system as a feeder for shiremoor, holystone, new York and Backworth primary schools

The Council's consultation on its proposal to close Monkseaton High School is fundamentally flawed in a number of ways:

i) The Council has provided scant information about where and how it intends to accommodate the Y9 pupils currently at Monkseaton High School if, as proposed, it proceeds with the proposal to close the school; or how it intends to migrate them. This suggests that either the Council has failed to carry out an essential assessment of, and planning for, the impact of closure; or, alternatively, the Council has done these things but has refused to disclose this information so that consultees can properly consider these matters. Either scenario prejudices residents' capacity to see the consultation in its wider context and to be able to respond meaningfully.

ii) It is questionable how the Council's proposal is compatible with duties under the Equality Act 2010. At a public meeting held on 23 September members of the public requested a copy of the Council's equality impact assessment so that residents could understand the likely impact on children with SEND. To date the Council has not published one (despite verbal assurances that the Council would do so). This suggests that either the Council has failed to carry out an essential assessment of, and planning for, the impact of closure on children with SEND; or, alternatively, the Council has done these things but has refused to disclose this information so that consultees can properly consider these matters. Either scenario prejudices residents' capacity to see the consultation in its wider context and to be able to respond meaningfully.

iii) The Council has timed this consultation to end a day before the deadline when Y8 parents in the middle schools must submit their applications for a Y9 place for their child in September 2025. Undoubtedly, the timing will have caused considerable concern and uncertainty among Y8 parents and it is

likely that Monkseaton High School will now receive fewer applications for Y9 school places than it otherwise would have done. After all, many Y8 parents will question the point of applying for a place at a school that the Council proposes to close (and also potentially wasting one of the three preferences that can be stated on the common application form)? In other words, the Council is likely to have materially prejudiced the School's viability by holding the consultation at this time and to have created a self-fulfilling prophecy that it is no longer financially viable. In these circumstances it is all the more surprising that the Council has provided such little evidence that it has considered the impact on Y8 children generally and, in particular, those living in the catchment area for Monkseaton High School (who, uniquely in the borough, will live in a catchment area without a secondary or high school.

The parents of Y8 children have been clamouring for more information before the application deadline of 31 October, but to date the Council has refused to meet with Y8 parents or provide any useful guidance about the coordinated admissions round for Y9 places in September 2025. This suggests that either the Council has failed to carry out an essential assessment of, and planning for, the impact of closure on current Y8 pupils; or, alternatively, the Council has done these things but has refused to disclose this information so that consultees can properly consider these matters. Either scenario prejudices residents' capacity to see the consultation in its wider context and to be able to respond meaningfully.

iv) Seemingly the main way to respond to the consultation is by completing an online survey.....

v) Members of the public, via their elected councillors, have put specific questions to senior officers within the Council, and the Council has replied with general responses that do not answer the specific question. This suggests that either the Council has failed to carry out an essential assessment of, and planning for, the impact of closure; or, alternatively, the Council has done these things but has refused to disclose this information so that consultees can properly consider these matters. Either scenario prejudices residents' capacity to respond meaningfully.

I have children within the 3-tier system in Whitley Bay. We live in South Whitley Bay and have always chosen our catchment schools as our first choice (Rockcliffe First School and Marden Bridge Middle School). When we made the decision to opt to send our children to our catchment schools and therefore work with the 3-tier system we always expected our children to go to Monkseaton High School as their final school within the 3-tier, in our catchment area. Whitley Bay High School is a huge school and wouldn't suit our children's personalities and needs and we are not within the Whitley Bay High School catchment area anyway. With the proposal to close Monkseaton High School high on our agenda we are now facing a situation where we potentially need to look at entirely different schools for our children as we are now in a ghost catchment as Whitley Bay High School is over subscribed and isn't an option for us. We feel hugely aggrieved by the proposal being made and think that the Local Authority has gone about this extremely badly. The closure is going to have a massive impact on several first and middle schools within the NEPA and will affect not only the lives of the current Year 8s and 9s who live in South Whitley Bay, who are penalised by being the closest to the coastline and furthest away from the only other high school in the NEPA, but also the lives of all Reception to Year 7s living in this area. You must take into consideration how you are going to deal with these children and families as they have nowhere to go beyond Year 8.

I would suggest a consideration to make Rockcliffe First School into a Primary School (although a school this small will struggle to host Year 5s and 6s in it's current format regardless of whether you reduce intake from the current 45 per year group to single form entry with a PAN of 30) so there would need to be a lot of work done to ensure it was viable. I would then suggest the catchment area is redrawn to ensure Rockcliffe catchment is included in Marden High catchment in the 2-tier system.

I do not think a proper impact report has been created with regards to the closure of Monkseaton High School and it has been up to parents to point out these major concerns to North Tyneside Council through this consultation. Closing Monkseaton High School will likely mean at least one First School and one Middle School within the NEPA will also end up closing unless something is done to change this result. None of this has been the right way to have gone about it and quite frankly I'm pretty disgusted and massively disappointed with our Labour Local Authority in this situation having been a supporter of the

local Labour Party for so many years. This needs to be handled better. They may just be numbers to you but these are our children, our future workforce and it's not good enough to be shipping them off to schools outside of the local area, most likely out of their current friendship groups, to complete their compulsory education. Get it sorted North Tyneside Council!!

If the school were to close I would hope that a delay until year 9 students have completed their GCSE's as their education has been subject to unprecedented disruption due to Covid 19.

If, as is stated in the FAQ, the school would be viable if full, it seems wise to further explore options for increasing pupil numbers, either through redrawing catchment areas or innovative partnerships with other schools, before proceeding with closure. It seems that utilising the existing building and staff would be better than closing the school.

It is an absolute disgrace. The Council/Cabinet have handled this badly. It is disappointing to note that two council officers and two elected representatives will make the 'delegated decision' which will then be passed to the Cabinet who will approve it. The decision should be taken by all of the Council's elected representatives not just the small group chosen by the Mayor. This is a knee-jerk reaction with no long term planning which will have a devastating impact on the future of the 3-tier system. After reading the Cabinet report of 9 SEP I was very concerned to read that the initial plan was to keep the current Y9s into Y10 and then move them half way through their GCSEs! Further evidence that the public do not have faith in the key decision makers.

Make it into a two tier system school instead of sixth form because sixth form is lacking students.

Use of the old Whitley Bay High school to add enough capacity to take current students from Monkseaton High. This would allow future capacity for all students within the three tier system. Teachers from Monkseaton High could move with the students therefore retaining jobs and meaning that students would continue to have teachers that they already had relationships with (particularly important for GCSE students).

Ensure the council allocate children to monkseaton properly instead of oversubscribed whitley bay high, you could also offer an incentive for groups of kids to attend which in turn will increase funding

Keep it open, spend time and money promoting it, its successes, the passion of the pupils and staff and how the community needs it

School admissions need to be increased. I still don't understand how the school can be running at 50% capacity. If this is just down to parental choice surely this would be happening all over the place.

In conjunction with other high schools in the area, more equal distribution of students so that while capacity diminishes in all areas it's more equitable and allows all schools to continue.

Bringing the school together with another local school under one governing body

I live in South Whitley Bay, next to Rockcliffe school. The only fair thing to do would be to change catchment of whitley bay to include us. Ie the only way to keep the 3 tier system.

Changing 3 to 2 tier system to enable pupils, parents, staff and community be reassured and able to plan for their futures. This will ensure that Monkseaton can continue to support its high proportion of SEN pupils, 14.3%.

The opportunity this also presents, of having smaller classes, is an added bonus and brings UK into similar status as other European countries. A chance for North Tyneside to become a leading proponent of this as suggested by NEU and other education unions.

Reduce capacity at other schools to rebalanced intakes

Public funding initiatives to get support from local families and businesses for sustainable growth

If the building is too expensive to maintain in its present form either a) a new building is required longer term or b) a change to the catchment areas with expansion of existing schools within the current 3 tier system at other levels. It's impossible for the closure of this school not to be seen via its impacts on the wider context of the three tier system here at the coast.

Closure is not leaving an option for children in lower years in the three tier system not yet in high school.

Could the council sell off some of the land and assets to developers but keep enough to rebuild a fit for purpose school on the remaining space if the current building too large and can not be retrofitted.

Make the school into a top 6th form destination for all secondary and high schools. This would free up space at the other coast schools for the year 9 (150 young people).

As a concerned parent, I firmly believe that the responsibility for addressing the challenges facing MHS lies with the council, not with us as parents or community members. The complexities of school funding, administrative decisions, and educational planning require expertise and resources that we simply do not possess. Solving financial deficits or restructuring schools requires specialized understanding of education policy and budget management.

Furthermore, there is a distinct lack of transparency and we have not been provided with enough detailed information to possibly attempt to find solutions. Very specifically information about the debts and what happens to it under a variety of scenarios, and what other options there are for families in the Coastal Areas who do not fall into WBHS catchment.

My children have been entered into the three-tier system in good faith, under the pseudo promise that there are no plans to change the system. Yet now I am being told that there is to be no third tier for us. How does that work? And you want answers from me?!

My children have SEND needs, and the stress is unbelievable.

The most obvious solution I would expect to be considered is the redrawing of catchment areas, to include more areas. Potentially increasing the entry to the three tier system by adding additional first schools/converting current primary.

It speaks volumes that the Murton Gap properties in development are actually not even in the MHS catchment area. The planning was granted for this despite increased traffic volume, and yet those grounds are used to discredit a potential merger with MMS.

Answers should be provided as to the impact that the Kings Priory merger and funding has had on numbers.

MHS has shown its strengths for SEND children, a massive area of growth in the region, and one which is largely uncatered for otherwise. A growth in the number of home-schooled children in North Tyneside, which I understand is at unprecedented levels, directly correlates to this. Creating a hub of provision

which could reach further into the community than merely schooling, and therefore increase revenues, has got to be worth exploring.

I would also suggest that the view of the next five years is a very narrow one in terms of the three tier system, and this information needs to be provided for those in catchment for first and middle schools, and not a high school in the event of closure so that they can comment fully on the future of MHS, and decide their support for the closure or otherwise.

I am passionate about a clear and solid future for my children and those in the area and in three tie who are currently feeling abandoned. If it is not MHS, you need to provide answers.

Proposals to ensure a consistently high education for our young people in light of student numbers not reducing until current reception year - meaning 8 years time.

1. Create Capacity in coast schools by

- increasing PAN at John Spence and Thomas Moore - both have additional building capacity for 30 students and take on staff from MHS if required - TOTAL 60

- explore additional capacity in 2 tier and 3 tier high schools at Coast with each taking on 10-20 and staff from MHS if required. - WBHS to explore short term use of parts of old building eg: library area - TOTAL 40-80

2. Make Monkseaton into a 6th form for all secondary and high schools at the coast to allow more space at other coast schools for the 150 young people and improving the sixth form opportunities at the coast for all young people

When young people move try and ensure friendship groups are kept together

to provide mental health support.

share information ASAP as uncertainty is unfair to young people's mental health

There is currently a strong need for some sort of SEN provision across the whole borough and indeed further afield. It is proving more and more difficult to find appropriate school places for children with SEN who don't fulfil the very narrow criteria for specialised provision. Therefore it seems like a huge opportunity here to address this gap. Failing that, if MHS does close there will be even fewer sixth form places in the area. Again, it seems like a perfect opportunity to address this gap.

As a concerned parent, I strongly believe that the responsibility for addressing the challenges facing Monkseaton High School lies with the council, rather than the parents or community members. I feel that I lack access to the necessary information to build a convincing case. However, I do see the following as potential solutions:

Reviewing the catchment boundaries is crucial. Whitley Bay High and Monkseaton High School should collaborate to ensure an even distribution of pupils between the two high schools within the three-tier system. Whitley Bay has been allowed to enroll students from outside their catchment area to the detriment of Monkseaton High. Additionally, children residing in Whitley Bay should attend schools there.

Merging Monkseaton Middle School and allowing Monkseaton High to accept students from years 7 and 8 would increase student numbers. If Monkseaton High were to close, I do not see how Monkseaton Middle or Apple Tree Gardens could continue operating. The school could easily be modified to accommodate these additional year groups, facilitating the transition to Monkseaton High School. The increased traffic due to year 5 students would be negligible in the larger context, considering most year 5 students already walk to school.

A borough wide discussion about the future of schools in the area.

Monkseaton High School could be used for the schools due a rebuild so pupils are completely off those sites while Monkseaton High School can still operate as a smaller high school to see what the numbers would be like in a few years time

1) Revisit the options to allow a year 7 intake into Monkseaton High School, alongside a year 9 entry (dual entry works at other schools in the area, including in Gosforth and Tynemouth). The data showing which areas current Monkseaton High School students live shows that there is clearly demand for Monkseaton High School in areas such as Shiremoor and Preston Grange - families live much closer to Monkseaton High than their catchment schools, but as the local primaries are in the 2 tier system it is difficult to find a route into Monkseaton High. Creating a year 7 entry for pupils in these areas would allow families to send their children to a much more local secondary school than their current catchment schools (Shiremoor residents are in the catchment for George Stephenson for example, which is a bus ride away, but MHS is within walking distance). It could be modelled like part of a middle school, much in the same way that Cramlington Learning Village operates (years 7 and 8 are taught on a separate part of the school site, and don't mix at all with the older year groups).

2) Revisit the idea of partnering with Monkseaton Middle School - The younger children could still be kept separate (as was done successfully in emergency circumstances with Churchill Community College using MHS facilities) and is also the model used in Gosforth (Great Park Academy has year 5 and year 9 entry).

The school should be allowed to continue teaching all students that are currently there until they complete their education. The area needs an additional 6th form (currently John Spence are looking to have a sixth form which would need to be built. I would make more sense to use Monkseaton High to accommodate this. The building could also be used as a college. There are very few courses on offer at North Tyneside College, most children from the area have to travel to Newcastle for further education. The current building has capacity to run as a high school aswell as a 6th form and/or a college. Using the current building would be better use of money rather than build a 6th form at John Spence.

You're the experts but I would suggest widening the school catchment area to ensure that all places are fulfilled. Shut down the bean counters and fully fund both school and teachers.

Temporarily close and open again when you've thought about it properly

Can some of the £1.4bn funding for crumbling schools be used to invest in MHS to address the energy issues and make the school viable ? It is a fantastic

school and a potentially excellent location. Has any surveying or design work been done to understand what would make it more efficient to run ?

Monkseaton High school has a fantastic reputation for providing safe education for SEND pupils. Could it become a specialist school in this regard ? SEND students also receive additional funding. The impact on these children of disruption and re-integration with new schools has not been well considered. This is something MHS excels at and should be seen as an opportunity and not ignored.

It strikes me that there is a poor offering of sixth form / 16 + education across North Tyneside. Whitley Bay High School is the only real option currently but is mostly only open to WBHS students and a select few others with high grades. Would it be sensible to make Whitley Bay High school (current site) years 9-11 only which could then service the entire 3 tier system.

MHS could then be further education place to provide 16+ education for WBHS, Marden High and others across North Tyneside . This would surely be welcome and could easily be filled making the school viable.

Unreasonably asking parents to sort this out

Improving the 6th form to provide a good range of subjects and attract the needed number of students. This makes more sense to utilise an existing building rather than build a new one at John Spence. As there is a proposal to have a 6th form at JS then there is clear need in the local area.

Due to MHS having a higher than average number of SEN pupils and there being a shortage of provision across NT could this school not become a specialised provision? It has an excellent reputation for supporting in a much better way than any other high school in NT and this could be capitalised upon.

Make Monkseaton middle and high a secondary school -

Catchments are redrawn so that Whitley Bay South (Rockcliffe first school catchment) becomes part of WBHS catchment.

Hire the school facilities out

Close sixth form

Source local contractors to offer repair work to building

Close the sixth form or change to a secondary school

Make it a hub for SEN pupils in North Tyneside along with offering smaller class sizes to those who are less academically fortunate.

Change the high school into a 2 tier school. Lose the 6th form

Keep Monkseaton open. Offer school to local football clubs etc to increase revenue

Merging it with the middle school,
Allow more students to enter school

Whitley bay high

Allow Monkseaton to take more students and lower numbers of other schools allowed students like whitely bay who are too full

Making sure that all residents in Monkseaton for that catchment school are placed in Whitley Bay High School. At the moment some people in Monkseaton no longer have a pathway for their education at high school level.

I suggest you come up with a better plan and consult on that. This is not a meaningful consultation.

Close one of the other failing schools - those with deficits, poor Ofsted ratings or crumbling buildings. Use MHS to accommodate displaced students and teachers.

As a concerned parent, I believe the responsibility for addressing Monkseaton High School's challenges should rest with the council, not with us as parents or community members. School funding, administrative decisions, and educational planning require specific expertise and resources that we do not possess. Solving financial deficits or restructuring a school demands specialized knowledge in education policy and budget management.

There is also significant concern about the lack of transparency in the consultation process regarding Monkseaton High School (MHS). The council has not provided essential information about the options it considered to address the school's issues. Parents remain uninformed about the dates on which different proposals were evaluated, the criteria used for rejecting them, and whether schools and academy chains approached to accept MHS students would also assume its accumulated debt. This absence of clear communication has led to mistrust among parents and highlights the urgent need for the council to supply comprehensive information, so stakeholders are fully aware of decisions affecting their children's education.

Proposals to Save or Retain Monkseaton High School (MHS): Potential Alternatives/Viable Options

Redrawing Catchment Boundaries

Expand the catchment area to include students from nearby regions (e.g., Whitley Bay South, Shiremoor) to boost student intake and stabilize enrollment.

Hybrid School System

Convert MHS into a hybrid school, accommodating Year 7 and Year 9 students to cater to both two-tier and three-tier systems and attract a broader student base.

Special Educational Needs (SEN) Provision

Establish MHS as a specialized school for SEN students, utilizing its small class sizes and supportive environment to meet the needs of students requiring additional resources.

Increasing School Revenue

Increase revenue by renting school facilities—sports fields, indoor halls, and classrooms—for community events, sports clubs, and other local activities.

Sixth Form Integration

Convert MHS into a sixth form center for students from nearby schools, such as Whitley Bay and North Shields, to support enrollment and provide a specialized post-16 education service.

Collaboration with Local Schools

Build partnerships with nearby schools to share resources, reduce costs, and maintain a cooperative approach to managing student numbers and educational quality across the region.

Repurposing MHS as a Vocational Training Center

Transform MHS into a vocational education center, offering specialized training programs to fill a regional gap and attract students interested in vocational learning.

Lobbying for Additional Funding

Mobilize local and national politicians, media, and community stakeholders to lobby for additional funding to address MHS's financial deficit and ensure long-term sustainability.

Academization

Approach academy chains locally and nationally, offering the school under the condition that the council will cover its accumulated debt.

These alternatives aim to retain MHS and sustain its role in the community while addressing current challenges.

I believe this consultation is a pointless process as you have already made your decision. This is a way of saying we asked for ideas, and none are viable, which is our fault and not yours. I believe that there are viable options within the ones presented, but it would take more effort to save than close, so you will close the school ride out the 10 years and take the large windfall payments when you sell off the land to property developers with some sweeteners thrown in.

Use the current building to continue educating pupils to GCSE. Carry on with the 6th form and there'd be no need for John Spence to build one in their site. Due to a lack of provision for further education in the area, there's not many courses at Tyne Met, the building could also be used for that. It would save children going all the way to Newcastle college. This could all be planned/implemented whilst the current students carry on with their education. The building is big enough to carry on educating children from year 9 to 13, enhance the 6th form and or provide vocational college courses. This would increase the number of students and finances going in to the school.

Changing catchment areas for Whitley Bay high. Creating a 6th form college. Specialist SEN school.

Changing the remit of the school.

Whitley Bay high is not as suited for those who are less academic so offering alternative more practical qualifications may encourage parental choice towards Monkseaton.

Monkseaton also has a higher number of SEND students, and the number of those with SEND/ mental health / neurodiversity is increasing with not enough spaces at places like Oswin Terrace / Moorbridge.

An ARP to support these students would be helpful as the alternative is likely to be an increase in the number of EHCPs or children becoming too anxious to attend and receiving no education at all.

In the long term this will put a strain on resources for cohorts of children left with no qualifications and needing support services into adulthood.

The ARP could serve all of North Tyneside

Anything which is better-thought-out than closing a school which is pivotal to a tiered framework. Closure will cause the whole 3-tier system to become dysfunctional. Instead, the Council and all local schools should work together to either preserve the 3-tier system or to phase it out in a planned and measured fashion. This current proposal smacks of very bad planning and lack of forethought.

Leave our children to learn in a school that they have settled into these year 9s have been through enough through COVID..

At a meeting you say you are aware of our childrens mental health well let me tell you there isn't enough out there for mental health

You have children in another school in cabins to learn as the school is falling to bits don't say you don't because I have many friends with children in that school to here is nothing wrong with Monkseaton high apart from debt that you allowed to happen not our children.... Building housing on the land isn't going to solve this matter... You say we have the children at heart and thinking of our children well no you don't you've not let our kids have a say in this what about their Human rights eh....

[criminals] have more human rights then our 13 year olds..

You are disappointing as a council

I don't think any of the suggested proposals have been explored properly and a decision has already been decided and sold, long before this consultation began.

This is just a box ticking exercise.

Which is deeply , bitterly,disappointing and is letting the local community , children and staff down.

Close the school sixth form.

Turn the school into a 11-16 school.

Phase Rockcliffe First School from 2 tier to 3 tier over next couple years with those kids moving on to Marden high school.

The school to stay as a 3 tier school and the current yr 9 be allowed to stay and finish their education with no disruption

Remain open - change catchment areas to attract more pupils into school

I would suggest PAN numbers for WBHS are reduced and those for Monkseaton increased to a level where both schools can financially break even.

I would urge the Governing Body of Whitley Bay High School to expand the school's catchment area to include the current catchment area for Monkseaton High School. If this action requires the Governing Body of Whitley Bay High School to submit an application to the Schools Adjudicator to vary its admission arrangements for September 2025, we would strongly encourage an early application so that the School Adjudicator can approve it in good time before national offer day on 3 March 2025.

I would also urge the Governing Body of Whitley Bay High School to agree to temporarily increase its PAN to create 'bubble' years for the current Y9 students at Monkseaton High School who live in the expanded Whitley Bay catchment area as well as for next year's Y9. This is likely to be the only way to limit disruption, maintain parental faith in the 3-tier system, and so see its ultimate success. We make this request aware that taking on an extra 30-40 Y9 students this year and next will not be possible without additional resources and support.

I would further urge you to consider changing the oversubscription criteria in the admissions policy for Whitley Bay High School (in conjunction with the middle schools) to create a formal feeder system by giving priority to children attending the middle schools rather than simply on the basis of living within the school's catchment area or distance. In a formal feeder system, children like ours, who were offered Reception places in first schools, would get a priority for a place at a local 3-tier middle school and then high school rather than pupils not in feeder schools on a distance-based criterion. We recognise that this is a longer-term solution. However, we feel it is important to raise this now as this would give confidence to pupils entering the 3-tier system in first schools and those in Y6 who have the opportunity to move schools this year.

Change to two tier, I know that this was consulted previously, but circumstances change, and there may be more support now. More years in the school will increase overall pupil numbers therefore increasing funding.

Either a merge with a first school as a two tier option, or merge a more extensive sixth form college for NT with existing MHS

Redraw catchments and turn it into 2-tier system school

SEN provision

Students should be allocated schools in a tighter catchment so monkseaton high would have more pupils and have strict feeder schools.

There is a huge requirement in our area for additional provision for SEN education. There is a significant gap between places needed and available. Use this as an opportunity to bridge that gap. In the short term it will meet a

need. Longer term it prevents the closure of a school which will be sorely needed in a couple of years when the three thousand homes are occupied in the Murton gap.

Go two tier and have a quality sixth form provision which is both enriching and aspirational.

I don't believe the consultation should have reached this stage. Proper attempts have not been made to find alternative solutions such as academy sponsors. Insufficient consultation has been done with other Borough schools.

It appears decision makers and those involved with the process have a vested interest in the survival of other problematic schools such as Churchill

Close the failing school whose building is going to cost the same if not more than Monkseatons debt to repair, ie Churchill, move the Churchill pupils to Monkseaton high, year 7s already worked there last year and make Monkseaton high a secondary 11-16 high school. There are plans in place already to close a middle school and 2 first schools so move to a 2 tier system now rather than in the future.

The Council should pass a by-law that in the Council's area pupils can only attend a school within their catchment area. We live in Whitley Lodge / Valley Gardens and WB High catchment and lots of pupils from the Monkseaton area use our schools but should be going to their closest schools. Catchment areas are there for a reason. This would force pupils back into Monkseaton schools.

Re draw catchment areas and move to a 2 tier system. There needs to be a clear educational pathway for all children in Whitley Bay and it's not acceptable to have an area of Whitley Bay without a school/pathway

Move Whitley Bay High School 6th form to be based at Monkseaton and expand it to become a 6th form centre for North Tyneside. This would mean there are more spaces for students in Years 9-11 in the 3 tiered system to attend WBHS.

If NTC are to take on the debt of MHS (that is historic debt and absolutely no beating on the running of the school,)) then all options should be clearly, without agenda, transparently looked at again.

No action should be taken immediately - the current Year 7s need to get to their high school, and in the meantime a more thought out action plan over 6 years be made - and this would allow all schools to be looked at.

Make use of MHS special and well embedded SEMH beliefs and working and encourage this as part of the NTC SEND plan.

Not sure but the fact that the intake was full the last two years suggests that the school will be viable in the future especially with the new housing estate near by. You could also redraw the school boundaries to try and bring in more pupils.

Making MHS possibly a high school with a Send unit.

A 2 tier system or a sixth form college should be explored more fully.

I am answering this on behalf of Archery GB. I would suggest working with the wider community, health partners, leisure providers to open the space up outside of school hours and become a health and well-being hub in the area

A six form college is badly is badly needed . Do not close this building think of our kilds think of their future : forward thinking to maybe a two tier system . So many options think of our kids future .

Keep my school open so I can finish my GCSE's.

I have only just joined MHS and I love it. I have really settled and feel like I will do well here and it's very sad it's now being taken away. I want to stay with friends as I chose this school after visiting both high schools.

I am a keen student and always thrived and worked so hard, I have never been in trouble at school and wish to achieve my GCSE's with good grades. The disruption in changing schools can have a mass8ve impact on my learning and mental wellbeing as well as my friendship groups

To keep catchments strict so that children go to the school they're allocated to and only to

Extend the 6th Form in Monkseaton High. We do not have enough 6th Form opportunities in our area, other than Whitley Bay High you have to travel to Newcastle College since Queen Alexandra closed its doors.

Apply for more funding from the government to expand the 6th Form base here.

The MHS problem could have been solved had an innovative solution been brought forward by the LA/or governors in as early as e.g. 2016, or had it been actively brought to the attention of parents/the community at this time. However, assuming that at this point, there is no solution to the structural deficit due to i) 75% of MHS catchment resident children accepting offers from WBHS under the distance criteria and ii) the non-modular architecture of the school not allowing the building to flex to a smaller population, I raise the following points

1) All NEPA resident children need a NEPA catchment high school. However, all NEPA resident children do not fit into WBHS until 2030. Those resident within a 1mile radius of WBHS are not vulnerable, as they fit into WBHS under the distance criteria. Those outside that radius (i.e. Rockcliffe and a small slither of S. Wellfield) are extremely vulnerable without a catchment high school, into which they comfortably fit. This requires resolution to remove the prejudice to these children.

There are two options to fit all NEPA-resident children into NEPA schools:

a. Build capacity at WBHS by either using existing buildings (old school) or building new temporary buildings. Since from 2030 the population will decrease below present WHBS PAN these buildings should not put WBHS at risk financially in the future.

b. Convert part of NEPA into two tier. Realistically, Rockcliffe First school converting to a single class intake Primary, feeding into Marden High School (closest school by distance) is the obvious solution. The Rockcliffe children should fit into Marden without further changes to Marden catchment, although a reduced Rockcliffe catchment may be required.

2) Yr8 MHS resident children – It is not fair for parents to select high schools for their children in this situation. Particularly those outside the 1m WBHS distance criteria (see above). The deadline for applications must be extended until such point as a new catchment has been assigned, and where the new catchment schools are beyond capacity, reassurance is provided that the children will fit into the school.

3) Yr 9 MHS resident children – the prejudice to these children of moving schools is huge due to i) many have been through an unsuccessful appeal process to attend WBHS alongside their school friends who were largely accepted and ii) the narrow curriculum at MHS vs other schools, and iii) the timing of GCSE Options. The students need to know which school they will go to asap such that they can prepare. The Yr 9 resident children must be

accommodated at either WBHS or MardenHS and the schools must be supported to temporarily increase their net capacity without impacting future intake/financial viability.

4) Yr 9 SEN – MHS is uniquely performing an important role in the education of SEN children in the region. Whilst your impact assessment concludes that there is adequate SEN provision at two tier / WBHS, this does not reflect the experience or opinion on MHS SEN parents. I encourage a consultation on this with the parents who hold the data on their childrens' needs.

5) Yr 9 general – There are two main categories of Yr 9 parents i) those who wish their children to be moved asap so as to minimise the impact of the move / prejudice to their child's education , and ii) those who wish their children to remain in the school until the end of Yr9/10 for the precise same reason. Noting that an evidence based fear of incomparable SEN provision as a major drive for the latter. The wishes of both groups of parents should be respected when considering options. Either way there are two changes that are required: i) the threat of the right to a single appeal per year should be removed in these circumstances, and ii) all parents should be educated on their rights and the process for in year transfer. Many parents do not understand the process for in year admissions, or their rights.

6. Given the projected reduction in population in the near future, this can be seen as an opportunity to research the proactive action that can be taken to ensure NTC offers cost-effective and quality education across the NEPA area. For example, it would be good to see more proactive action taken to Coquet Park's structural deficit, rather than following the same pattern that MHS has.

7. Any solution to increasing capacity at WBHS/Marden HS or other schools to accommodate the MHS students, should not compromise the future financial viability of the school in the same way that MHS building (and Coquet Park) has. Let's learn from these mistakes.

The published intake figures for the last few years indicates full capacity of those year groups (as per the revised PAN of 150). Given the building of the large housing estate next to the school, it seems likely this trend would continue and it would therefore not take long for the full school to be operating at full capacity as currently defined.

As per the recently added FAQ, the school would be viable under those circumstances: "New 18/10/24 – Would Monkseaton High School be viable if it was full? –Yes, financial assessments show that if the school was at capacity for pupils it would be viable."

As such it would be short sighted to close the school at this stage, particularly as this will have a significant impact on all schools in the area, including class sizes and quality of education if over subscribed schools are encouraged to increase their PAN (where building facilities allow) to accommodate the additional pupils or parents are forced to send their children to under performing schools, and will likely lead to difficulty maintaining the three tier system, a system the residents of Monkseaton and Whitley Bay have remained committed to protect.

Expand and invest in the 6th Form to make it more advantageous to current pupils and residents in North Tyneside. The current 6th form does not offer enough courses which is forcing pupils into other areas, the cuts were made to help reduce the debt but this has had a knock on effect. The surrounding high schools do not have 6th form provisions therefore have to travel out of there area to Newcastle College, which is far away and costly. If we invest in the 6th form at Monkseaton High it can support pupils from Marden, John Spence etc. Extra government funding is needed since Queen Alexandra College was closed. Extending the 6th Form at Monkseaton would then support the lower pupil numbers in the lower year groups.

This should be put tot he government to request extra funding as it was the governments decision to save Kings Priory which has directly effected the pupils now attending Monkseaton.

The school needs to collaborate with Norham high school another school which below numbers and part of the north Tyneside education alliance. and jointly take become a sen school with buddy system with able bodied pupils and a sixth form college which is sadly lacking in the North Shields area.

As a parent of a Year 8 child, I am surprised how little information we have been given about the situation and previously considered alternative proposals.

As a parent whose child is now in a ghost catchment area, I would suggest that the catchment areas for Whitley Bay High School and Marden High are redrawn so that children in Whitley Bay North and South are located schools nearby. Ideally our children should be able to continue their education in the 3 tier system, or at least be offered schools of our choice that are nearby.

I have 2 thoughts: a workable plan whereby all the schools in 3 tier system work together - it means priority is given to those children to get into mhs and WBHS . There needs to be assistance given to mhs to provide a wider curriculum and promote the school - instead of competing, WBHS and mhs need to work together and be seen as 'complimentary schools' - the new buildings near mhs should have been directed into three tier potentially - or we go two tier in the county but with a plan - I can't believe the space at mhs isn't needed for the foreseeable - it'll be at least 10 years before our lower reception birthrate year comes through - as part of the next stage of development maybe mhs can have a SEND arp or facility to bring together the various units in n Tyneside.

Closing the building prematurely is detrimental to the wellbeing and education of those children already there in year 9, farming 13 year olds out to sites with limited space already is not acceptable - most of these children have come through smaller three tier schools and entering at the midpoint if a two tier high school is not consistent mental health or friendship groupings.

There are 3 other high schools in the area, John Spence, Marden High and Norham who do not have a 6th form unit.

Extend the 6th Form at Monkseaton High, invest in extending this to offer the courses the children want to study, this will increase numbers at the school to support the lower pupils numbers in the lower years.

Since the closure of Queen Alexandra College the nearest college for pupils in Newcastle College, this is a good distance to travel, costly and the timetables are not suitable for a lot of pupils, there is a 16% drop out rate just because of this.

Monkseaton had to reduce its subjects taught in the current 6th form to help with the debt. Request extra funding from the government to help support this 6th Form, it was the government who singed off on saving Kings Priory which had a direct affect on the pupils attending Monkseaton.

A college has been closed in the area, and private school saved from closure and made into an academy, closing another high school is massively damaging to this area and deserves to be saved and invested in.

I am appalled by the shambolic handling of the Monkseaton High School governance by the Learning Trust and North Tyneside Council. Their failure has allowed this unacceptable situation to arise and develop into the scandal that we are now faced with.

That these authorities have even considered the school's closure, at the expense and detriment to the education of the children and the local community, is quite frankly a complete derogation of the principles of responsibility that they have to those they serve and answer to.

I also add my voice to the critics of the ludicrously short timescale of the consultation period North Tyneside Council has imposed on the local community. To expect parents to provide viable solutions, that they have failed to procure since 2012 when budgeting issues became apparent, in such a protracted period is disingenuous in the extreme and engenders mistrust of their purpose.

I am no expert in the governance of local education but an obvious proposal would have been to have set up an expert working group or inquiry into the whole issue with the interest of the affected children's education at the forefront. To declare that the LEA has explored and exhausted all viable possibilities, without the outcome of such an inquiry is a failure of responsibility, the result of which should not be to the detriment of the cohorts of children whose education they are responsible for.