

# **THE BOROUGH COUNCIL OF CALDERDALE**

## **EDUCATION AND INSPECTIONS ACT 2006**

### **Proposals to close Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and Walsden Junior School and to establish a new All-through Voluntary Controlled Primary School**

#### **PART 1**

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that The Borough Council of Calderdale, The Town Hall, Halifax HX1 1UJ intends to:

1. Discontinue Walsden CE (VC) Infant School, Rochdale Road, Walsden, Todmorden, OL14 6RN on 31 August 2009 and;
2. Discontinue Walsden Junior School, (community school) Rochdale Road, Walsden, Todmorden, OL14 6RN on 31 August 2009.

#### **PART 2**

Notice is given that the Diocese of Wakefield, Church House, 1 South Parade, Wakefield, WF1 1LP intends to Establish a New Voluntary Controlled School under section 10(2) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. The Secretary of State's consent has been obtained in order to publish this proposal.

It is proposed that the school will open on 1 September 2009.

The proposed school will be situated at Rochdale Road, Walsden, Todmorden, OL14 6RN. The school will serve Walsden and the surrounding area.

The proposed ethos of the school will be Church of England and the educational philosophy will be consistent with the principles and values appropriate for a Church of England school. The proposed school will have a Church of England religious character. The proposer intends to ask the Secretary of State to designate the school as a school with such a religious character.

The new school will cater for pupils between the ages of 4 and 11 and provide places for 161 boys and girls.

The admission number for the school on the opening date will be 23.

The school will take part in Calderdale's co-ordinated admissions scheme and will adopt the same oversubscription criteria employed by Calderdale's community primary schools. Priority is not awarded on the basis of religious affiliation.

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## EDUCATION AND INSPECTIONS ACT 2006

### **Proposals to close Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and Walsden Junior School and to establish a new All-through Voluntary Controlled Primary School**

#### **PARTS 1 and 2**

Pupils on roll at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School at the time of closure will transfer to the proposed new all-through Primary School.

Pupils on roll in year groups 3, 4 and 5 at Walsden Junior School at the time of closure will transfer to the proposed new all-through Primary School. Pupils due to leave year 6 and transfer to Secondary School will follow the normal route according to their preference. Requests to transfer to alternative provision will be considered where vacancies exist.

Transport arrangements will be unaffected. Transport between home and school will be considered in accordance with Calderdale Council's published Home to School Transport policy. Details can be found at:

[www.calderdale.gov.uk/education/schools/travel/schooltransport/policysept09.html](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/education/schools/travel/schooltransport/policysept09.html)

These proposals are linked and will only proceed collectively. The proposals will not proceed individually.

All applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to these proposals have been complied with. This Notice is an extract from the complete proposals. Copies of the complete proposals may be viewed or downloaded from the Authority's website:

[www.calderdale.gov.uk/walsden-schools-proposal](http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/walsden-schools-proposal)

Alternatively a copy may be requested by writing to the address shown below or by telephoning (01422) 392617.

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to Calderdale MBC, Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services, Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN.

Signed:

Bernadette Livesey,  
Chief Law & Administration Officer

Publication Date: 27 March 2009

## **Consultation on the proposal for the closure of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and Walsden Junior School and to open an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

All statutory requirements to consult in relation to these proposals have been complied with.

Consultation on the proposal for the closure of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and Walsden Junior School and to open an all-through voluntary controlled primary school took place over the period 5 November 2008 to 11 December 2008.

A questionnaire was produced, which gave background to the proposals and included a pro forma which could be used to record any comments the respondent wanted the Authority to take into consideration. The questionnaire is shown in Appendix 2.

Questionnaires were sent directly to those listed in Appendix 1 and were made available to anybody else wishing to respond. Details were posted on the Calderdale Engage website which enabled people to download and complete the pro forma.

Two meetings were organised which took place on 25 November 2008: one for the staff of the school and one for parents, pupils and all members of the community.

Appendix 3 details issues which were raised during these meetings and the responses given.

An analysis of written responses is included within Appendix 4 and copies of all written consultation responses are included within Appendix 5.

**List of those consulted**

Staff of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School

Staff of Walsden Junior School

Parents and pupils of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and Walsden Junior School

Neighbouring Local Authorities

Trade Unions

Members of Parliament

The Diocese of Leeds, Bradford, Salford and Wakefield

Headteachers and Governors of primary schools

The wider community

### **Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

#### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 On 27 October 2008, Calderdale's Cabinet met and agreed to commence a process of consultation over proposals to reorganise school provision within Walsden. The proposal was that the separate infant and junior schools within Walsden should be replaced with an all-through primary school.

#### **2. Background**

- 2.1 In May 2004 structural problems at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School resulted in the temporary solution of relocating the school within modular accommodation situated on the playground of Walsden Junior School.
- 2.2 This arrangement has necessitated a considerable amount of close working between the two schools, including the shared use of the junior school's hall for lunchtimes and for PE activities.
- 2.3 There are two leadership teams and two governing bodies. Parents of children attending Walsden Infant School who would like their children to transfer to Walsden Junior School currently have to make an application for a place.
- 2.4 It is a priority for the Authority to rebuild Walsden CE (VC) Infant School; Walsden Junior School also requires rebuilding or refurbishment. This is subject to a successful bid to central government through the Primary Strategy for Change. This proposal relates to a restructuring of the two schools prior to any construction.
- 2.5 Benefits to an all-through primary school include:
  - 2.5.1 the disruption to children's education when they transfer school at seven will be removed;
  - 2.5.2 the opportunity to establish a clear ethos and an agreed approach to learning and development which encompasses the wider age range;
  - 2.5.3 the opportunity to employ a more integrated approach to curriculum planning and assessment;
  - 2.5.4 the opportunity to develop and improve children's key basic skills in a continuous and progressive way from Foundation Phase to the end of Key Stage 2;

- 2.5.5 give children regular opportunities to work with, or alongside, younger or older pupils, allowing them to put their own learning into context and develop important social skills;
  - 2.5.6 offer parents an opportunity for a longer quality relationship with the school;
  - 2.5.7 support teachers' professional development through increased opportunities to teach across a wider age range within the same school;
  - 2.5.8 offer the head teacher and staff a wider range of facilities and existing resources to support the education of all pupils with an opportunity to use these more efficiently than when maintaining separate schools; and
  - 2.5.9 remove the need for separate admission and transfer arrangements at the end of Key Stage 1.
- 2.6 In order to reorganise the schools, it is necessary to formally close either one or both of the existing schools in order that a new all-through primary school may replace them. This proposal is to close both schools in order that an all-through primary school may replace them.
- 2.7 Closure is linked to the opening of a replacement all-through primary school and will mean:
- 2.7.1 that pupils attending Walsden CE (VC) Primary School and Walsden Junior School will cease to be pupils of those schools at the end of July 2009; and
  - 2.7.2 all pupils attending year groups reception to Year 5 will transfer to the new school in September 2009.
- 2.8 This process takes a significant length of time to complete and it is therefore prudent to begin steps towards the closure of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and Walsden Junior School and the opening of an all-through primary school at this stage.

### **3. Consultation**

- 3.1 Consultation is the first step of the process which must be followed in order to close a school.
- 3.2 This is a consultation by Calderdale MBC about the closure of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and Walsden Junior School. Closure will not take place unless both schools are replaced by an all-through primary school.
- 3.3 Consultation will take place over the period commencing 5 November 2008 and closing on 11 December 2008. Meetings have been arranged where questions may be asked and views may be expressed.

3.4 The meetings have been scheduled and will take place at Walsden Junior School on:

- 25 November 2008 4.00pm to 5.30pm – school staff only
- 25 November 2008 6.00pm to 7.00pm – parents and the community

3.5 If you would like to submit comments then you may obtain a form electronically and e-mail it to us via:

cyps.admissions@calderdale.gov.uk

The form may be obtained from:

<http://www.calderdale.gov.uk/council/consultations/engage/getinvolved.jsp>

You may also complete this form and post it to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services  
Directorate, Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN

Telephone number: (01422) 392617

Fax Number: (01422) 392513

All responses must be received by no later than **11 December 2008**.

#### **4. What Next?**

- 4.1 The Authority will consider all consultation responses received by the closing date and will decide whether or not to continue with these proposals. Consultation responses will be considered by the Council's Cabinet in January 2009.
- 4.2 If the decision is taken to continue with these proposals, the next step would require the publication of a formal statutory notice outlining the Authority's intentions.
- 4.3 A six week period will follow for representations and objections to be submitted to the Authority. These will be considered by Calderdale's Cabinet prior to reaching a decision.
- 4.4 Once a decision has been reached a four week period will follow where those eligible may formally submit objections to the Schools Adjudicator.
- 4.5 The role of the Schools Adjudicator is to resolve local disputes where there is disagreement over statutory proposals on school organisation issues.

4.6 Those eligible to object are:

- the Diocesan Board of Education for any diocese of the Church of England, and part of which is comprised in the area of the Local Authority; and
- the Bishop of a diocese of the Roman Catholic Church any part of which is comprised in the area of the Local Authority.

4.7 Should an objection be submitted by any of the above, the matter will be referred to the Office of The Schools Adjudicator and the final decision will rest with the Adjudicator. Should there be no objection then the Authority will decide locally when to implement the decision.

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): .....

First Name: .....

Last Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y/N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,

Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

### **Consultation Meetings 25 November 2008.**

Two consultation meetings took place at Walsden School to provide the opportunity to ask questions or make views known regarding the proposals to amalgamate the two Walsden Schools.

The first meeting was at 4pm for school staff and the second took place at 6pm for parents, pupils and members of the community.

The two meetings followed the same format, with introductions followed by the background to the current proposals and finally the opportunity to ask questions or put forward views.

The Headteacher of Walsden Junior School, Mr Peter Stevens introduced those present:

**Alison Parkinson - Headteacher – Walsden Infant**

**Canon Widely - Diocese of Wakefield**

**Marlene Redgwick - Diocese of Wakefield**

**Alan Winstanley - Principal Officer – Access and Capital**

**Andy Booth – HR and Change**

**Richard Morse - School Organisation Officer (Planning of School Places)**

**Simon Blackburn – School Organisation Officer (Capital and Asset Management)**

**Helen Wilson – Chair of Governors, Walsden Infant School.**

Richard Morse opened by explaining the background to the current situation.

The structural problems in 2004 led to the temporary solution of relocating Walsden CE (VC) Infant School in two storey modular accommodation placed on the playground of the Junior School.

Walsden Junior School is housed in the Victorian building adjacent to the modular building in which Walsden CE (VC) Infant School is housed.

The relocation of the infant school has necessitated a considerable amount of close working and co-ordination between the schools particularly over the shared use of facilities, the hall for example is shared for PE and at lunchtimes.

Walsden Infant School is a voluntary controlled school and Walsden Junior School is a community school. There are currently two leadership teams and two governing bodies.

The headteacher of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School is due to retire in July 2009 and therefore a decision needs to be taken as to whether a new appointment of an infant school headteacher should be made and the current arrangements retained, or whether to take the opportunity to consider amalgamating the two schools under one leadership team.

Preliminary discussions took place with the Diocese of Wakefield who agreed that the option should be explored and subsequently in September 2008 officers met with the governing bodies of both schools to obtain their views with regard to a possible amalgamation of the two schools.

The general consensus amongst governors was that in principle they supported the idea.

Richard Morse then explained why proposals were being brought forward at this stage.

There are a number of reasons why an amalgamation in Walsden might be considered beneficial -

- For Parents and Pupils:

Children at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School whose parents wish them to move on to Walsden Junior School currently need to make an application for a school place; they do not automatically transfer from the infant school to the junior school.

The disruption to children's education is less of an issue whilst the two schools share one site, the current arrangement was not intended to be permanent and the disruption to children is greater where schools are situated on different sites. An amalgamation will remove the potential for that disruption when children reach the age of seven.

Children also have regular opportunities to work with, or alongside, younger or older pupils, allowing them to put their own learning into context and develop important social skills;

Finally an amalgamation provides the opportunity for a continued relationship between parents and the school.

- Benefits from a School Organisation perspective

It removes the need to publish separate admission arrangements and for parents to apply for Year 3 places when their child reaches the end of Key Stage 1.

There is opportunity to establish a clear ethos and an agreed approach to learning and development which encompasses the wider age range;

There is opportunity to employ a more integrated approach to curriculum planning and assessment;

There is opportunity to develop and improve children's key basic skills in a continuous and progressive way from Foundation Phase to the end of Key Stage 2;

The headteacher and staff will have access to a wider range of facilities and resources to support the education of all pupils with an opportunity to use these more efficiently than when maintaining separate schools and;

Lastly it will support teachers' professional development through increased opportunities to teach across a wider age range within the same school.

- Longer Term Benefits

It is a priority for the Authority to eventually rebuild or substantially improve the existing building of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and move out of modular accommodation. It is likely that this can be achieved through the Primary Strategy for change programme once it receives overall DCSF approval.

Walsden Junior School also requires modernisation and refurbishment or rebuilding.

There are clear benefits to managing this as one project for an amalgamated school rather than running two separate projects.

The favoured approach to capital invested is to spend on a single school site. Arguably there is a greater chance of a successful bid in terms of funding, if dealing with one larger school rather than two smaller schools. The DCSF view generally is that all through primary schools are preferable to separate Infant and Junior Schools arrangements and with this in mind an amalgamation at Walsden could increase the prospects of securing future funding.

Cabinet recommended Calderdale's Primary Strategy for Change to Council on 27 August 2008 and it was approved by Council on 1 October 2008.

This bid has been submitted along with all other Authorities.

Richard Morse then explained how an amalgamation might be achieved should a consensus be reached on this issue. There are a number of ways to achieve an outcome of amalgamation.

Firstly there is the option to close one school completely and expand the other or in other words for one school to incorporate the other.

There is no equity to this process in terms of how staff and governing bodies are affected and this is not the proposal that is being brought forward. This path is generally better suited where a successful school is amalgamated with a failing school in order to raise standards. Clearly this is not the case at Walsden.

The second option is to close both schools in order to reopen as one all through primary school and this is the proposal which is being moved forward.

Who decides?

If local agreement can be reached then the decision makers in this process will be Calderdale council.

Calderdale's Cabinet met on 27 October 2008 to consider whether to begin a period of consultation over a proposal to amalgamate the two schools at Walsden. They agreed that consultation should begin.

This is therefore the first stage of a five stage statutory process.

#### Five Stage Process:

There are technically three proposals being consulted on this evening; the closure of Walsden Infants, the Closure of Walsden Junior and the opening of an all through primary school.

The processes of opening and closing schools both follow a five stage statutory process beginning with consultation.

Whenever it is proposed to open a new school a competition must be run to see if there are any bidders who might want to run the school however within statute, provision is made for proposals (such as this) which relate to the reorganisation of existing provision. Should the Authority wish to establish a new school as part of these proposals, without running a competition then the LA will need to apply to the Secretary of State for consent to publish proposals under Section 10 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 (EIA).

#### Stage 1 of 5 stage process is Consultation

This is the opportunity for anybody who wishes to do so to submit comments or raise questions over what is being proposed.

You can do this by going onto the 'Engage' section of the Authority's website and downloading the relevant pro-forma. You may post these or e-mail them to the Authority before the close date.

These pro-forma's have also been distributed to staff, parents pupils and a number of other recipients so you may complete and return these if you have them.

Any issues raised this evening will be included with consultation responses.

All responses received by the close date will be included in a report to Calderdale's cabinet who will consider all such responses

The options available at this stage will be:

- to discontinue the process;
- to put forward revised proposals; or
- to continue on the basis of the original proposal.

A decision to put forward revised proposals would require the process to start again at Stage 1 with a fresh consultation.

If the decision is taken to proceed then Stage 2 of 5 is the publication of statutory notices.

This involves publishing notices within the local press and posting notices around the school confirming the proposals to close both schools and reopen an all through primary school.

A decision to continue the process will require the publication of a statutory notice. The notice must follow a prescribed format and be placed within the local press, sent to a prescribed list of recipients and also be made available to any person who requests a copy.

### Stage 3 (Period for Representations)

A six week period for representations follows the publication of a statutory notice. During this period representations and objections may be presented to the Authority. This is the final opportunity for people and organisations to express their views.

### Stage 4 (Decision)

The Authority must then take a decision, using the statutory guidance which details those factors which must be taken into account: "Factors to be considered by decision makers".

Closing a Maintained Mainstream School, A Guide for Local Authorities and Governing Bodies.

Establishing a New Maintained Mainstream School, A Guide for Local Authorities.

Where there have been no objections during the six week period and the Authority has considered all of the factors contained within the statutory guidance, a decision to close which is consistent with the proposals published in the statutory guidance

may be taken. No appeal may be submitted to the Schools Adjudicator in this scenario.

Where there are objections or representations, the Authority must consider those objections and representations before taking a decision. If a decision to proceed follows, then the right of appeal to the Schools Adjudicator would exist for those bodies listed within statute.

In the event of an appeal to the Schools Adjudicator, the final decision over the Authority's proposals would rest with the Schools Adjudicator. Only statutory appeals may be considered by the Adjudicator.

### Stage 5 (Implementation)

The final stage would be for the Authority to implement its decision (or in the event of an appeal, the decision of the Schools Adjudicator).

Alan Winstanley then provided an update on the Primary Strategy for change and confirmed that Calderdale's strategy had been provisionally accepted subject to minor amendment. This gave approval for 2009/10 expenditure only. Once the minor amendments have been made we anticipate the DCSF will give full approval.

Cannon Wildey added his comments on behalf of the Diocese of Wakefield. As well as the benefits already outlined the Diocese are keen to build upon the success of the current provision and provide local children with the best possible access to school.

The Diocese is keen to continue to provide a service to this community and are happy to commend and support these proposals. The Diocese will continue to provide advice and support through school governance.

The opportunity was then provided at each meeting for questions to be asked and views to be recorded.

### **Questions raised during both meetings:**

Unison – will there be any staff reductions?

Andy Booth – no, that is not the aim of the exercise. Staff will be retained under their existing conditions of employment and their employment will be continuous. In terms of the appointment of a headteacher for the amalgamated school, this is the responsibility of the new governing body.

Q - Why start the process now?

A – The decision to start the process now stems from the retirement of the headteacher of Walsden Infants. The governing body of Walsden Infants would have to advertise and appoint a new headteacher for September 2009.

Amalgamation had originally been a longer term objective for all of the reasons previously outlined, however the retirement of the headteacher at the infant school has given a new impetus to this process.

NASUWT – Can staff be assured that they will retain their existing terms and conditions?

Andy Booth – Yes, the transfer of management will have to be formally decided by the new governing body but there is no necessity to reduce staff numbers and nobody will be declared redundant or placed under warning of redundancy as a result of these proposals.

Q – Is there any question over who the new headteacher will be?

A - In this scenario the governing body will be able to appoint without advertising the post. This is a decision for governors to take.

Q – What will happen to the old school site?

A – This is a first step and it surrounds organisational changes. Any development on the previous site would involve a feasibility study. Any development on the Junior site, likewise or a third possibility would be a new site for the school. This is some way off however and the important thing here is to resolve organisation issues before we start dealing with the issue of new buildings.

## Appendix 4

Analysis of written responses to consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school

Number of responses on behalf of organisations	1
Number of responses from individuals	13

### Individuals

Staff at Walsden Junior School & Walsden CE (VC) Infant School	5
Pupils of Walsden Junior School & Walsden CE (VC) Infant School	1
Parents of pupils of Walsden Junior School & Walsden CE (VC) Infant School	6
General public	1

### Issues and views raised by organisations

The amalgamation will benefit all children in Walsden. It will be a positive step for the whole school community.

### Issues and views raised by individuals

Pleased to hear that all permanent staff will be kept on.

Glad that the church will continue its supporting role with the VC status extended.

Both schools share an equal level/standard, hopefully this will mean that standards will be maintained if not improved upon.

This will give an opportunity for staff development, increased efficiency and allow staff to implement new strategies / measures throughout the 7 years, reducing any transition problems that can happen moving from infant to junior.

Strongly in favour of the extension of the VC status.

Will there be a deputy head installed?

Will a nursery be appended to the school?

Concerns regarding train times.

Concern that the closure of the two schools does not suddenly result in no primary school provision in Walsden.

The changes should be linked to a new larger, more suitable building to accommodate the school. Nursery provision would significantly enhance services for Walsden residents and children.

The proposal makes sound educational, financial and practical sense.

**Written responses to consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Copies of written consultation responses follow:

The views expressed are the views of the individuals and organisations involved.

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (~~Mr~~ Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): GOODFREY

First Name: CORINNE

Last Name: .....

Address: 185, HOLLINS ROAD

WALSDEN

TODMORDEN

LANCS

OL14 6QL

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y/N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

No Concerns

Replies should be sent to:  
Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): [REDACTED]

First Name: [REDACTED]

Last Name: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y/N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

We think this is a good proposal following on from the close cooperation of the schools and the infant teacher's retirement. We're especially pleased to hear that all permanent staff will be kept on. We're glad that the church will continue its supporting role with the VC status extended.

It's important that staff get support for the extra work involved in the process of combining the schools. The children are happy with the idea.

Both schools are successful with a pleasant atmosphere and it makes sense to bring them together under one management.

Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school

Title (Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): MR

First Name: JOHN

Last Name: POWER

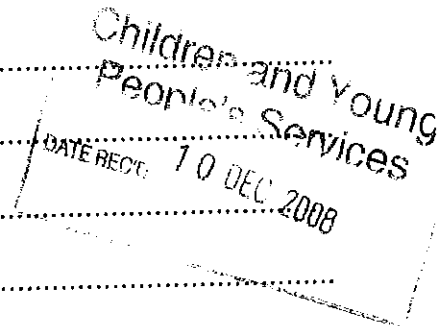
Address: 5 CLOUGH MILL

ROCHDALE ROAD

WALSDEN

TODMORDEN

OL14 7QX



Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.

Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published. [ ]

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation [X]/N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? [X]/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? [X]/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? [X]/N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? [X]/N

Comments:

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

Walsden Schools are a very important part of the local community. It is the last stop before the Yorkshire/Lancs boundary and serves an ever expanding rural town, allowing children to be able to walk to school.

My children (12 and 9) have attended both schools (Infant & Junior, and I have been very happy with the high levels of education and care they have both received (one of which is still receiving) and this is shown in both their Ofsted reports

I see this 'amalgamation' as a consolidation of the schools position in the local community at a time where both schools share an equal level/standard. Hopefully this will mean that standards will be maintained if not improved upon.

This will also give them an opportunity for staff development, increased efficiency and allow staff to implement new strategies/measures throughout the 7 years, reducing any transition problems that can happen moving from infant to junior and allowing staff and parents to see the progression through the school.

Having noticed that there are very few male infant school staff, this move will also allow children to be aware of and experience a wider 'pool' of teaching staff.

My child is very happy about the proposed merger and looks forward to having more to do with the infants school pupils.

With the huge cultural and practical transition problems/differences between primary and secondary schools, this merger will get rid of an additional and unnecessary "blip" in the smooth progression through primary school.

I am also strongly in favour of the extension of the VC status to the junior school as it is an important element of the school identity and role in the community.

Replies should be sent to:  
Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): [REDACTED] .....

First Name: [REDACTED] .....

Last Name: [REDACTED] .....

Address: [REDACTED] .....

.....

.....

.....

.....

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.  X**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? N

Are you a pupil attending another local school? N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

Will there be a deputy head installed?

Would it be possible for school leaving times to be made more similar, currently 15 min gap between the two finish times.

In future would a nursery be appended to the school. Next year I will have real difficulty collecting and dropping off my other child to the nearest nursery provision at Shade School. I know others who are in this situation.

Will the council seriously consider the train station and the impact of the timetable changes will have on the school. The changes from next week will impact on people wanting to catch the train after taking the children to school and for school trips. For example, the trains going to Manchester now leave at 9:39am and to Todmorden at 9:49am, not at all useful for workers and the children for mornings out. They need to be departing every 30mins to give people the chance of using the trains.

I am pleased that the school is retaining its VC status and am happy for the amalgamation to take place.

Replies should be sent to:  
Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): [REDACTED] .....

First Name: [REDACTED] .....

Last Name: [REDACTED] .....

Address: [REDACTED] .....

[REDACTED] .....

[REDACTED] .....

[REDACTED] .....

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y/N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? (Y/N)

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? (Y/N)

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? (Y/N)

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? (Y/N)

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? (Y/N)

Are you a pupil attending another local school? (Y/N)

If yes which school? .....

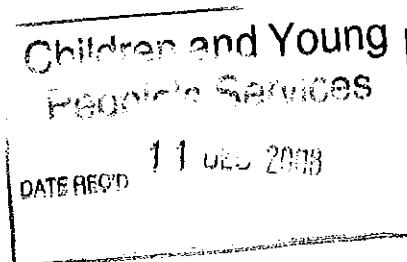
Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? (Y/N)

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? (Y/N)

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

I really like this idea of  
merging the schools together.



Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): .....

First Name: .....

Last Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

.....

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y/N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

A logical economical argument is an all-through V.C primary school.

One major concern is that the closure of the two individual schools does not suddenly result in "no" primary school provision in Walsden.

The changes should be linked to a new larger, more suitable building to accommodate the school. Nursery provision at the new school would significantly enhance services for Walsden residents and children.

Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): ..... MS  
First Name: ..... MAGGIE  
Last Name: ..... Ellis  
Address: ..... 1 TOPOTH HILL  
..... Walsden  
..... Todmorden  
..... LANCAS  
..... OL14 6QA

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y(N)

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? Y(N)

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y(N)

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? Y(N)

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? Y(N)

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y(N)

Are you a pupil attending another local school? Y(N)

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? Y(N)

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y(N)

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

I am a childminder of 20 years  
and have supported both schools

No Problems at all.

M. Ellis

Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): ..... [redacted]

First Name: ..... [redacted]

Last Name: ..... [redacted]

Address: ..... [redacted]

..... [redacted]

.....

.....

.....

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**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y/N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

I am in support of the Walsden schools amalgamation.

Replies should be sent to:  
Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr Mrs Miss ~~Ms~~ Dr etc): .....

First Name: ..... JANET .....

Last Name: ..... GILFORD .....

Address: ..... 804 ROCHDALE ROAD .....

..... TODMORDEN .....

..... OL14 7UA .....

.....

.....

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y/N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

I fully support the amalgamation  
of both schools

Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr/Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): .....

First Name: ..... Karen .....

Last Name: ..... Burns .....

Address: ..... 6 Speer Field .....

..... Littleborough .....

..... OL15 8TY .....

.....

.....

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation

Y/N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School?

Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School?

Y/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school?

Y/N

If yes which school? ..... Todmorden High School .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School?

Y/N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School?

Y/N

Are you a pupil attending another local school?

Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School?

Y/N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School?

Y/N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

I am 100% in favour of the proposal.

Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools  
and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (~~Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc~~): ..... [redacted] .....

First Name: ..... [redacted] .....

Last Name: ..... [redacted] .....

Address: ..... [redacted] ..... [redacted] .....

.....  
 .....  
 .....

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y/N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School?  Y  N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School?  Y  N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

Are you a pupil attending another local school? Y/N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? Y/N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y/N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

BASED ON THE INFORMATION PROVIDED THROUGH THE WRITTEN INFORMATION AND ALSO THE MEETING HELD ON 25<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER I HAVE NO MAJOR CONCERNS OR OBJECTIONS TO BOTH SCHOOLS BEING REPLACED BY AN ALL-THROUGH PRIMARY. HOWEVER, I FEEL THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONTINUE THE EXCELLENT WORK OF BOTH SCHOOLS IN TERMS OF BOTH THE ACADEMIC AND PASTORAL ACHIEVEMENTS. IT IS IMPORTANT TO MY FAMILY & MOST IMPORTANTLY MY CHILDREN THAT THERE BE A CONSISTENCY OF STAFF & THAT THESE STAFF ARE FULLY SUPPORTED IN WHATEVER WAY THEY REQUIRE DURING THE TRANSITION PROCESS & DURING THE EARLY DAYS OF THE 'NEW' SCHOOL. THE STAFF ARE A HAPPY AND ENTHUSIASTIC TEAM AND THIS SHOULD NOT BE UNDERMINED IN ANY WAY.

Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): ..... MRS .....  
First Name: ..... SUSAN .....  
Last Name: ..... WAINWRIGHT .....  
Address: ..... 10, SHAKESPEARE AVE .....  
..... KIDMORDEEN .....  
..... LEWIS .....  
..... OLIVIA SAO .....  
.....

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y/N

If yes please state which organisation: ..... BRADFORD COLLEGE .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? ~~Y~~/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? ~~Y~~/N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? ~~Y~~/N

If yes which school? ..... / .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? ~~Y~~/N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? ~~Y~~/N

Are you a pupil attending another local school? ~~Y~~/N

If yes which school? ..... / .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? ~~Y~~/N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? ~~Y~~/N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

The amalgamation will benefit all children  
in Walsden now & in the future.

It will be a positive step for  
the whole school community.

The children are at the heart of  
the community and their needs

will be better met by the  
proposal.

Susan Wright

Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools  
and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr/Mrs/Miss Ms Dr etc): .....

First Name: ..... LYNN

Last Name: ..... STANSFIELD

Address: ..... 5 BUCKLEY COURT

..... BUCKLEY VIEW

..... TODMORSON

..... OL14 5JR

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation Y(N)

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School? Y(N)

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y(N)

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school? Y(N)

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School? Y(N)

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y(N)

Are you a pupil attending another local school? Y(N)

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School? Y(N)

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School? Y(N)

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

I am 100% in favour of the closure of Walsden Junior & Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school.

Children and Young  
People's Services

DATE REC'D 12 DEC 2008

Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

**Consultation on the closure of Walsden Junior and Walsden CE (VC) Infant Schools and the opening of an all-through voluntary controlled primary school**

Title (Mr Mrs Miss Ms Dr etc): ..... [redacted] .....

First Name: ..... [redacted] .....

Last Name: ..... [redacted] .....

Address: ..... [redacted] .....

..... [redacted] .....

..... [redacted] [redacted] .....

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.....

Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope if you would like us to acknowledge receipt of your comments.

**As a public body, all information held can be or may be subject to publication. This might include your response to this consultation.**

**Please tick here if you do not want your personal details to be published.**

Please state if you are responding on behalf of an organisation  Y  N

If yes please state which organisation: .....

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden Junior School?  Y  N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending Walsden CE (VC) Infant School?  Y  N

Are you a parent of a pupil attending another local school?  Y  N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a pupil of Walsden Junior School?  Y  N

Are you a pupil of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School?  Y  N

Are you a pupil attending another local school?  Y  N

If yes which school? .....

Are you a member of staff at Walsden Junior School?  Y  N

Are you a member of staff at Walsden CE (VC) Infant School?  Y  N

**Comments:**

(Please use this space to record any information which you feel the Council should take into account when deciding whether or not to continue with this process)

The proposal to reorganise provision into one all-through primary school makes sound educational, financial and practical sense. It will build on established patterns of good practice and further develop the strong links that exist between the two schools.

All the comments I have had from pupils, parents, governors and staff (both schools) have been in favour of the reorganisation. Indeed, local opinion seemed so united that I suspect many stakeholders may neglect to respond to this consultation exercise, believing that the through-primary idea is such an obviously appropriate one that it needs no comment! I have encouraged everyone to participate in the process, regardless of their opinion, so that a representative sample of views is taken into account.

Replies should be sent to:

Access and Capital Team, Children and Young People's Services,  
Northgate House, Northgate, Halifax HX1 1UN. (01422) 392617

### **The Objectives of the Proposal to Close Walsden CE (VC) Infant School & Walsden Junior School and to open an all-through Voluntary Controlled Primary School**

The Authority has a strong commitment towards ensuring that all Calderdale's children and young people are given the best possible opportunity to succeed and achieve.

Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and Walsden Junior School are located on the same site. The headteacher of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School is due to retire in July 2009 and this provides the opportunity to consider amalgamating the two schools to form an all-through primary school rather than appointing a new headteacher.

The new primary school will provide 161 places to serve both boys and girls aged 4 – 11. The admission number for the reception year will remain at 23. The proposed ethos of the school will be Church of England and the educational philosophy will be consistent with the principles and values appropriate for a Church of England School.

The new primary school will continue to serve Walsden and the surrounding area. The admission arrangements and over-subscription criteria for the new school will be as stated in Calderdale Council's published admission arrangements, which comply with the School Admissions Code.

### **Effects on Standards and Contributions to School Improvement**

The Authority has a strong commitment towards ensuring that all of Calderdale's children and young people are given the best possible opportunity to succeed and achieve.

It is anticipated that the new all-through primary school will open in September 2009 within the buildings of the current Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and Walsden Junior School. The new all-through primary school will be founded upon the best traditions and standards of Walsden CE (VC) Infant School and Walsden Junior School.

The Local Authority and Diocese of Wakefield believe that the benefits of this proposal are:

- The disruption to children's education when they transfer school at 7 will be removed;
- there will be the opportunity to establish a clear ethos and an agreed approach to learning and development which encompasses the wider age;
- the opportunity to employ a more integrated approach to curriculum planning and assessment;

- the opportunity to develop and improve children's key basic skills in a continuous and progressive way from Foundation Phase to the end of Key Stage 2;
- give children regular opportunities to work with, or alongside, younger or older pupils, allowing them to put their own learning into context and develop important social skills;
- offer parents an opportunity for a longer quality relationship with the school;
- support teachers' professional development through increased opportunities to teach across a wider age range within the same school;
- offer the head teacher and staff a wider range of facilities and existing resources to support the education of all pupils with an opportunity to use these more efficiently than when maintaining separate schools; and
- remove the need for separate admission and transfer arrangements at the end of Key Stage 1.

### **Travel**

There are no travel implications connected to this proposal. A new all-through primary school will occupy the same location as the current school.

### **Special Educational Needs**

There is currently no specialist SEN provision within either of the schools and there are currently no pupils with a statement of special educational needs attending either school.