

Julie Firth, Director of Children's Services Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business Park, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY

Tuesday 17 September 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

RE: Consultation on the future of Monkseaton High School

We are writing to you as the parent or carer of a pupil who is currently attending Monkseaton High School.

This evening (Tuesday 17 September) North Tyneside Council has launched a public consultation on the future of Monkseaton High School. This includes potential closure from 31 August 2026.

Over recent years the Council has worked alongside school leaders to explore a range of options to secure the future of the school from an educational and financial perspective.

The Council is now clear that without long term changes to pupil numbers and Government funding which are beyond its control, it is not possible to make the school viable.

Falling pupil numbers at the school is having an impact on the amount of funding the schools receives, and the school is predicted to have a £7m deficit by 2026, despite significant work from school leaders and the Council to reduce this.

Moving to this consultation is not a decision that has been taken lightly and we know that you selected this school for your child for a reason and we value your feedback.

This decision is not a reflection of the education and support delivered to your child(ren) and we recognise the hard work of all staff at the school.

We understand you will have more questions. By visiting our 'have your say' website you can find a set of Frequently Asked Questions and more information around the work we have completed prior to this consultation.

Attached to this letter is a consultation document which provides details on the background to this decision and the next steps.

The online consultation will be open until 12pm on Wednesday 30 October 2024. You can take part <u>using this link</u> or via the QR code below.



We recognise the impact this may have on your child, and they will receive an assembly tomorrow (18 September) from school leaders and the Council. If you feel it's appropriate, please have a conversation with your child to make them aware.

We will be hosting two information sessions on Tuesday 8 October and a further two on Thursday 10 October where you are invited to come along and speak to us about the consultation. As we expect there will be a high level of interest, we are asking people to book in advance using this link.

No final decisions have been made and this consultation provides you with the opportunity to submit alternative proposals to prevent the closure of the school.

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Thank you.

Julie Firth Jon Ritchie

Director of Childrens Service Director of Resources

North Tyneside Council North Tyneside Council