



**Consultation on the
proposed opening of
Maryport Church of
England
Primary School**



**Maryport
Infant School**



**Maryport Church of
England Junior School**

What is this consultation about?

This consultation document is about the possible establishment of an all-through primary school to replace the existing Maryport Infant School and Maryport Church of England (C of E) Junior School.

The two schools already share a site and use the same building. In reality, parents would see very little change in the way the two schools work together now from the way things would work as a single primary school. We are not proposing to build a new school; the existing building would continue to be used, only with a single headteacher and a single governing body.

The combined school would become a C of E school in the same way that the current junior school is. There are currently no C of E infant schools in Maryport and by extending the age range of the junior school we would be increasing the choices available to parents in the area.

Becoming an all-through primary school would remove the need for parents to apply for transfer to the junior school at the end of the infant stage. Once children have joined the school in the Reception Year they would be guaranteed a place until it was time to go to secondary school.

We are considering the following proposal:

To bring the two schools together on 1 September 2019 as a new all-through primary school the age range of the junior school¹ would be extended to cover the infant phase, and the new school would be registered with the Department for Education (DfE) under the existing code used for the junior school, whilst discontinuing the code used for the infant school. This would happen in two linked stages as the governors of the junior school extend their age range and the county council deals with the changes to the school codes.

The new school would provide 45 places per year group from Reception to Year 6 (315 places in total) plus the existing nursery. This is the same number of places as is currently available in the two existing schools. This would mean that on the 31st August 2019 the infant school would cease to be a separate school and on 1st September it would become part of the extended age range junior school as it converts to an all-through primary. All existing children on either school roll (with the exception of children leaving at the end of Year 6) will transfer onto the roll of the all-through primary school on 1st September 2019; there would be no need for parents to reapply for places.

Both existing schools' governing bodies have discussed the idea of creating an all-through primary school and have asked the county council to undertake this consultation with a view to bringing about the change. The governors believe that a single school will provide a more stable basis for moving forward in the future, with a larger school being better able to cope with fluctuations in pupil numbers and funding. The county council agrees with this view. Both schools are rated 'Good' by Ofsted, and this provides a firm base from which to come together and develop further.

The county council cannot simply decide to make changes to schools without first seeking the views of parents and others. There is a legal process which must be followed before any changes can be made. This consultation is part of that legal process, and it is important that the county council hears your views before deciding whether to proceed.

¹The county council does not have the power to change the age range at a C of E school. On the change of age range, the county council is, therefore, consulting on behalf of the school's governors, who will be responsible later for formally publishing a proposal.

Who is this consultation for?

This document is aimed at parents, staff, governors and everyone else with an interest or stake in primary education in the area.

What would the change mean for children?

Children would see very little difference in their day-to-day schooling. They will go to the same building at the same time each day, and will progress from Nursery and Reception through to Year 6 just as they currently do.

The teachers will be the same teachers they currently see every day, as would other staff in the school, albeit that there would only be one headteacher rather than the current two. Because we will continue to use both existing buildings, the transition would be very smooth, and not at all disruptive.

What would the change mean for parents?

It would give parents in Maryport the option of choosing a Church of England infant education for their children; they currently only have access to C of E places in the junior phase.

It would also mean that parents need not apply for a junior school place when their children are approaching the end of Year 2. Once children are accepted into the Reception class, there would be no need for any further applications until transfer to secondary school at the end of Year 6.

There will still be the opportunity for the school to accept Year 3 applications from parents of children from other infant schools.

Parents who want to seek a place at a different junior school in the town for their children at the end of Year 2 would be entirely free to do so. Being on roll at an all-through primary school does not stop you from transferring elsewhere.

The school would be Voluntary Controlled, which means that decisions on admissions applications would continue to be taken by the county council. It also means that a minority of the governors would be appointed by the Church of England diocese, as is currently the case with the junior school, and the diocese will continue to offer support to the new school to develop its distinctive Christian character.

What would the change mean for staff and governors?

There would be some staff changes. An all-through primary school would require only one headteacher, and there are currently two. It would also require only a single governing body rather than the two which currently exist. The school would remain Voluntary Controlled, so there would no change of employer; staff would continue to be employed by the county council.

Until a decision is made, we cannot be exact about how the staffing structure will look in the future, nor about the governing body. We would expect, however, that a new governing body could include members from both of the existing governing bodies. We would also expect little change elsewhere in the staffing structure, as the new all-through school is likely to require the same number of teachers and all other support staff.

More information

Primary school age population in Maryport

Birth rate numbers for the town have fluctuated over the last 10 years, with figures as high as mid 120s. The average birth rate over the last ten years has been 107. The average over the last five years has been closer to 100, although overall school numbers have smoothed out these ups and downs, remaining relatively stable between 750 and 775 (excluding nursery children).

Maryport Infant School

The infant school is currently graded as 'Good' by Ofsted. The school currently caters for 2 to 7 year olds. The nursery would not be affected by the change to all-through primary.

The table below shows the numbers on roll as at January 2018.

School	Nursery	Reception	Year 1	Year 2
Maryport Infant	39	23	17	34

Maryport CE Junior School

The junior school is also currently graded as 'Good' by Ofsted. The school currently caters for 7+ to 11 year olds. The new primary school will still accept applications at Year 3 from other infant schools across the local area and will publish an admission number for Year 3 (as well as for Reception) each year to indicate how many additional Year 3 places are available.

The table below shows the numbers on roll as at January 2018.

School	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Maryport CE Junior	30	27	33	40

Maryport Primary Schools



Why change?

Both schools share the same building on the same site in Maryport. Despite this, there can be no guarantee that a child enrolled at the infant school will be able to transfer to the junior school in the case of over-subscription at the junior school. This may go against parents' expectations.

Benefits of forming a single school:

- An all-through primary school would guarantee a child's place throughout the primary phase.
- Consistent vision and values would be shared across the school.
- A single headteacher to oversee the whole primary phase.
- Consistent engagement for parents across the whole school with no need to transfer records at the end of Key Stages.
- Expertise from the whole school can be better targeted across the whole age range.
- Roles and services can be spread across the full school to allow more concentration of resources on teaching and learning.
- Better personal development opportunities for staff across the whole primary age range.
- Improves the sustainability of the new school by safeguarding against fluctuations in numbers on roll and funding changes.
- Existing catchment areas would remain unaffected.

Next steps

Regulations mean that if the county council or school governors propose significant changes to a school there must be a consultation process and publication of those proposals in a statutory notice.

There are five stages to the statutory process that must be followed;

Consultation

The issue of this document marks the start of a period of six weeks of consultation during which the views of any interested parties are sought. These views will be considered before any further stages in the process are undertaken.

Publication

Following consideration of the results of the consultation, a decision must be made by Cumbria County Council's Cabinet and Maryport C of E Junior School's governors on whether to publish statutory notices about the proposed change.

Representation

A period of representation following the publication of a statutory notice allows interested parties another opportunity to submit their views before a final decision is made. This period lasts for four weeks.

Decision

Within two months of the end of the representation period Cumbria County Council's Cabinet must make a decision on the proposal.

Implementation

If the proposal is approved then the changes would come into effect on 1st September 2019.

Timetable (should all stages take place)

Consultation period	30 April to 8 June 2018
Publication of notices	17 August 2018
Representation period	17 August to 14 September 2018
Final decision by Cabinet	18 October 2018
Implementation	1 September 2019

How can you respond to this consultation?

It's important that we hear your views before any decisions are made.

The consultation period runs from Monday 30 April to Friday 8 June 2018

Meetings will be held at **Maryport C of E Junior School on Thursday 17th May** where you can find out more information about the proposal and speak to people face to face about your views.

- The meeting for staff and governors will be held from 5pm until 6pm.
- The meeting for members of the public will be held from 6.30pm until 8pm.

You can respond to this consultation using the questionnaire that is at the back of this document, or you can complete it online by going to the web address shown below.

Online version of questionnaire: <https://cumbria.citizenspace.com>

Completed paper questionnaires should be returned to;

Cumbria County Council,
School Organisation,
First Floor, East Wing,
Parkhouse Building,
Kingmoor Business Park,
Carlisle, Cumbria. CA6 4SJ

Please note that it is not possible to enter into individual correspondence.

Further information is available at:

www.cumbria.gov.uk/childrensservices/school-organisation

If you require this document in another format (eg CD, audio cassette, Braille or large type) or in another language, please telephone 01228 226013

আপনি যদি এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় পেতে চান তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে 01228 226013 নম্বরে টেলিফোন করুন।

如果您希望通过母语了解此信息，
请致电 01228 226013

**Jeigu norétumète gauti šią informaciją savo kalba,
skambinkite telefonu 01228 226013**

**W celu uzyskania informacji w Państwa języku proszę
zatelefonować pod numer 01228 226013**

**Se quiser aceder a esta informação na sua língua,
telefone para o 01228 226013**

**Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde görmek istiyorsanız lütfen
01228 226013 numaralı telefonu arayınız**

Proposed Establishment of Maryport C of E Primary School

Please return by Friday 8 June 2018 to Cumbria County Council, School Organisation, First Floor, East Wing, Parkhouse Building, Kingmoor Business Park, Carlisle, Cumbria CA6 4SJ.

In order that your response can be considered please answer all questions listed below.

1. Your relationship to the schools (please tick all that apply). Are you a:

	Maryport Infant	Maryport Junior
Parent/carer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Member of staff	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Governor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If 'Other' please specify

2. Given the information contained in this document do you agree with the following proposal:

A new all-through primary school should be established by extending the age range of Maryport C of E Junior School and discontinuing the use of the Maryport Infant School DfE code.

Agree Disagree

Supporting and additional comments can be entered overleaf if required.

Name (please print)

Address

Postcode

Please supply any supporting or additional comments in the space provided below.