

**Name of meeting: Cabinet**

**Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015**

**Title of report: Report on the outcomes from the non-statutory consultation for Members consideration on the proposal to change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years.**

<b>Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?</b>	<b>Yes – this impacts on all wards across Kirklees</b>
<b>Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan</a>?</b>	<b>Yes – January 2015</b>
<b>Is it eligible for “call in” by <a href="#">Scrutiny</a>?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Date signed off by <u>Director</u> &amp; name</b>	Alison O’Sullivan 18.5.15
<b>Is it signed off by the Director of Resources?</b>	David Smith 20.5.15
<b>Is it signed off by the Acting Assistant Director - Legal &amp; Governance?</b>	Julie Muscroft 20.5.15
<b>Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a></b>	Childrens Services Councillor Shabir Pandor

**Electoral [wards](#) affected:** All wards

**Ward councillors consulted:** All councillors have been provided with a copy of the consultation document as part of consultation process.

**Public or private: Public**

## **1. Purpose of report**

The report sets out the outcomes from the non-statutory consultation for Members consideration on the proposal to change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years. This proposal is not to establish a general sixth form provision that would be available to all year 11 students on roll at Ravenshall School. This is because a detailed analysis of the needs of the key stage four cohorts for children and young people with complex needs attending Ravenshall School, but also

Longley School and Lydgate School, evidenced that the majority of these children and young people were able to make a successful transition to alternative provision at the end of year eleven. It is expected that those students would continue to leave Ravenshall School at age 16 because they are ready to make the transition. The post-Year 11 places, those which were the subject of the consultation, would continue to be available for students who were not yet ready to leave Ravenshall School.

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## APPENDICES

**Appendix A** - Distribution List for consultation document.

**Appendix B** - Consultation Document

**Appendix C** - Detailed feedback received in response to consultation by stakeholder and notes of a joint consultation meeting with the governing body and staff of Ravenshall School.

## 2. Summary

A four week non-statutory consultation was carried out with all key stakeholders to gather views about Kirklees Council proposal to:-

- Change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years.

The proposal has been designed to enable the existing pilot provision that was established in 2011 in partnership with Kirklees College, for a small number of particularly vulnerable young people to be made permanent. This would require a school re-organisation proposal to change the age range of the school from 16 to 19 years.

As the consultation document made clear, this proposal is not to establish a general sixth form provision that would be available to all year 11 students on roll at Ravenshall School. This is because a detailed analysis of the needs of the key stage four cohorts for children and young people with complex needs attending Ravenshall School, but also Longley School and Lydgate School, evidenced that the majority of these children and young people were able to make a successful transition to alternative provision at the end of year eleven. It is expected that those students would continue to leave Ravenshall School at age 16 because they are ready to make the transition. The post-Year 11 places, those which were the subject of the consultation, would continue to be available for students who were not yet ready to leave Ravenshall School and other special schools who had been identified as requiring some additional support in order to be ready for transition to Kirklees College or an alternative setting.

It is important to note that, as the proposal is not to establish a general sixth form, the decisions about which students are able to remain, or are offered a place, at Ravenshall School beyond Year 11 would continue to be made by the SEN Assessment and Commissioning Team which is part of the Local Authority.

A final decision on eligibility criteria, to determine which students are offered a post-Year 11 place, has not yet been made, eligibility criteria is still in the process of being developed. However, certain criteria have been used successfully at the pilot provision since 2011. These criteria have included academic attainment and progress, and measures of vulnerability. It is expected that these criteria would remain similar in future.

The number of places available in the post 16 provision will be determined shortly and is likely to be similar to the current number of 8 places.

From over 1,600 consultation documents circulated, 126 responses were received. Responses have been received from parents and carers, governors, staff, pupils, and other respondents. A meeting to discuss the proposal was held with the governors and staff at Ravenshall School. Two drop-in sessions were held during the non- statutory consultation period, these were held at Ravenshall School on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2015 and at Huddersfield Town Hall on the 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015. These sessions were designed to support parents and carers in completing consultation response

forms and also provided an opportunity for parents and carers to discuss the proposal with officers from the Council's Learning Service.

### **3. Introduction**

Ravenshall School have been running a pilot provision, working with a small number of vulnerable disabled young people with complex needs, helping them prepare for adulthood, since September 2011. It is proposed to formalise this arrangement by increasing the age range of the school from 16 to 19 years through a statutory school re-organisation proposal. Since 2011, the pilot provision has achieved successful outcomes for those students who were eligible to stay at Ravenshall beyond age 16. The proposal is to make this provision permanent, so that eligible students can continue to benefit. The places would not be available to all students but would cater specifically for those who were not yet ready to move on to college.

Therefore, the proposal under consultation is to change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years.

### **4. Background**

In 2010, an independent report looked into the routes of progress for young people with special educational needs (SEN) in Kirklees. The report highlighted issues affecting a small number of young people moving into further education at 16 years of age. The report made the following recommendations:

- Special Schools and Kirklees College should continue to work together to develop better transitional arrangements for these young people.
- Parental concerns about these young people being vulnerable in large settings should be taken into account.
- The availability of placements, other than at Kirklees College, for those children and young people needing significant support should be considered along with providing greater choice for parents.

#### **4.1 The existing provision**

The existing pilot provision was created at Ravenshall School, in partnership with Kirklees College in September 2011. The focus has been on helping a small number of young people prepare for adulthood. This has included personalised support such as worked based learning, access to leisure activities, independent living and work within the local community. The provision has been successful.

#### **4.2 The benefits of changing the upper age range at Ravenshall School**

- A small number of young people would benefit from a more personalised way of moving into further education in a smaller, more nurturing environment.
- The school would continue to work in partnership with Kirklees College and other special schools.

#### **4.3 Cabinet approved for non-statutory consultation**

On 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015 Cabinet members authorised officers to develop plans for a non-statutory consultation proposal to change the age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years.

#### **4.4 Equalities Impact Assessment**

An initial Equalities and Community Cohesion Impact Assessment (EIA) has been carried out on the proposals, this initial assessment shows that implementation of the proposals would have little if any adverse impact.

There are no changes to the EIA following non-statutory consultation, although this would continue to be revised as appropriate in light of any further matters being raised, should the completion of the subsequent stages of the statutory process be approved by Cabinet.

#### **5: Consultation methodology**

**5.1** A non-statutory consultation took place between 9<sup>th</sup> March and 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2015. Consultation documents were written and produced with due regard to 'The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013' and with reference to the detail contained in the cabinet report from the 10<sup>th</sup> February 2015 consultation documents were made widely available. The consultation is a non-statutory consultation because there is no legally prescribed pre-publication consultation period.

Consultation documents were sent to the families of pupils at Ravenshall School. Documents were also sent to all Ravenshall School staff at the school and via royal mail to Ravenshall School governors. Copies of the consultation document were also sent families of children and young people attending all other Kirklees Special Schools. All staff and governors from these schools also received a copy of the consultation document. Consultation documents were also sent to Kirklees schools with specialist resource provisions, all elected members, trade union representatives, faith groups, neighbouring Local Authorities, local community groups and to interested officers from across the Council. The consultation document was also made available on the Council's website, at each of the consultation events and by request. A complete list of distribution is attached at Appendix A.

Discussion on the proposal and consultation were held with Parents of Children with Additional Needs (PCAN). PCAN is an independent, parent led forum for all parents and carers of children and young people (aged 0-25 years) with additional needs in Kirklees.

During the consultation period more than 1,600 documents were distributed either via royal mail, schools or at consultation events. The documents and an online response form were available throughout the consultation period on the Kirklees webpage: [www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolorganisation](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolorganisation)

**5.2** The consultation material consisted of the document included in Appendix B. - "Non Statutory consultation on proposal to change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years". The consultation document outlined why the Council wants to increase the age range of Ravenshall School. The document detailed the proposals and had a response form that was designed to enable qualitative feedback, and questions to ascertain the type of stakeholder responding. Response forms could be completed in writing or electronically on the Council website. In addition, individuals and groups were encouraged to feedback any

additional views either via email or letter. A 'Freepost' address was available for returning paper forms and/or letters to maximise the opportunities for receiving feedback to the proposals.

**5.3** Consultation 'drop-in sessions' for parents/carers and members of the community were held in both North and South Kirklees. The meetings were planned to enable individuals to speak with officers about the proposals in more detail (and in particular about the potential implications for them as individuals and their families). Parents and carers and members of the community were invited to attend either of consultation sessions.

<b>Table 1 : Count of attendees at drop in events</b>			
Date	Venue	Time	Number of attendees
17 <sup>th</sup> March	Ravenshall School	1pm – 6pm	60
26 <sup>th</sup> March	Huddersfield Town Hall	10.30am-12.3pm	1
Total			<b>61</b>

A meeting for staff and governors was held at Ravenshall School during the consultation period. Notes of this are detailed in Appendix C.

## **6. Response to consultation**

Attached at Appendix C is a comprehensive report which details the responses received to the consultation and is organised by stakeholder.

### **6.1 Analysis of responses received**

<b>Table 2 : Count of responses received</b>	
E-mail	0
On-line form	13
Response Sheet	113
Letters	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>126</b>

126 responses were received via the methods shown in Table 2 above from the range of respondents shown in Table 3 below. (Note: Some respondents are counted more than once in the main tables of responses by stakeholder, if they have declared more than one category).

**Q1) Do you support or oppose the proposals to change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years**

<b>Table 3 Type of respondent</b>		
<b>Respondent</b>	<b>Number of responses</b>	<b>% of responses</b>
Parents/Carers	76	59
Pupils	4	3
Staff Members	32	25
Governors	7	5
Local Residents	1	1
Other	4	3
Not Stated	5	4
	<b>129</b>	

**Some respondents have classified themselves as belonging to more than one stakeholder group and have therefore been counted in more than one group.**

Table 3 shows 59% of responses were from parents and carers, and 25% of respondents were staff mainly from Ravenshall School, but also from other special schools. 5% of the responses were received from governors. A relatively small number of responses were received from other stakeholders as shown in the table.

### 6.1.1 Summary of respondents by response type

**Q1) Do you support or oppose the proposal relating to Ravenshall School?**

<b>Table 4 Summary table by response type</b>	strongly support	support	neither support nor oppose	oppose	strongly oppose	don't know	Total
	<b>113</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>126</b>

### 6.1.2 Responses from parents and carers

<b>Table 5 Responses of parents and carers with children and young people attending</b>	strongly support	support	neither support nor oppose	oppose	strongly oppose	don't know	total	
Castle Hill – A Specialist College for Communication & Interaction	1	1			1		3	4%
Fairfield School		1					1	1%
Longley School	2		2				4	5%
Lydgate School	5						5	7%
Ravenshall School	51	2					53	70%

Not stated	8		1		1		10	13%
	67	4	3		2		76	
<b>Total</b>	88%	5%	4%		3%			

Table 5 shows the distribution of responses from parents and carers (rounded up to nearest whole number). The vast majority of responses, 93% supported or strongly supported the proposal. 4% of respondents neither supported or opposed the proposal and 3% of respondents strongly opposed the proposal. The table identifies that in total 76 responses were received from this stakeholder group with 70% of these responses coming from parents and carers with children and young people attending Ravenshall School.

### 6.1.3 Responses from governors

<b>Table 6 Responses from individual governors at</b>	<b>strongly support</b>	<b>support</b>	<b>neither support nor oppose</b>	<b>oppose</b>	<b>strongly oppose</b>	<b>don't know</b>	<b>total</b>	
Castle Hill – A Specialist College for Communication & Interaction			1				1	14%
Ravenshall School	4						4	57%
Not stated	2						2	29%
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>		<b>1</b>				<b>7</b>	
	86%		14%					

Table 6 shows the distribution of responses from individual governors. In total 7 responses were received. 4 of the 7 responses came from governors at Ravenshall School who were strongly supportive of the proposal.

### 6.1.4 Responses from staff

<b>Table 7 Responses from individual staff at</b>	<b>strongly support</b>	<b>support</b>	<b>neither support nor oppose</b>	<b>oppose</b>	<b>strongly oppose</b>	<b>don't know</b>	<b>total</b>	
Fairfield School		1					1	3%
Lydgate School	4						4	13%
Ravenshall School	23	1					24	75%
Not stated	3						3	9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>2</b>					<b>32</b>	
	94%	6%						

Table 7 shows the distribution of responses from individual staff. It can be seen that of the 32 responses received a 100% of these respondents either strongly supported or supported the proposal.



### 6.1.5 Responses from other respondents (including residents)

Table 8 Responses of other respondents	strongly support	support	neither support nor oppose	oppose	strongly oppose	don't know	total	
Local resident	1						1	20%
not stated	4						4	80%
Total	5						5	
	100%							

Table 8 shows the distribution of responses from other respondents (including residents). Of the five responses received, all respondents strongly supported the proposal.

### 6.1.6 Response from children and young people

Table 9 Responses from children and young people attending	strongly support	support	neither support nor oppose	oppose	strongly oppose	don't know	total	
Ravenshall School	2	1				1	4	100%
Total	2	1				1	4	
	50%	25%				25%		

Table 9 shows the distribution of responses from children and young people attending Ravenshall School. The table shows that 3 of the four responses received from either strongly supported or supported the proposal.

**6.2 Key themes from the consultation responses.** All responses and notes of meetings are included in full in Appendix C. The responses and feedback received during the consultation from written responses and consultation sessions have been summarised in the sections below under key themes along with an officer commentary on the issues raised. Some responses include helpful advice and information that would inform the on-going process should the proposal be approved.

6.2.1 Increased continuity for children with special educational needs	
Summary Responses	Officer Commentary
A large number of respondents who strongly supported or supported the proposal view the proposal as a positive opportunity to continue to support children and young people in a secure environment where they feel safe and have a very good relationship with staff at the school which would continue until the age of 19.	The proposal does provide the opportunity for increased levels of continuity for those children and young people not yet ready to progress to a larger learning environment. This provided the rationale for establishing the pilot provision that has proved to benefit those children and young people that have accessed it.

<p>One of the key reasons identified was that respondents felt that some children and young people would struggle to adapt to a larger new environment.</p>	
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<b>6.2.2 Successful transition to adulthood</b>	
Summary Responses	Officer Commentary
<p>A large number of respondents highlighted that the proposal would help some children and young people who have not yet developed an appropriate level of social and emotional maturity to engage in post 16 learning at another setting. Therefore providing an extended opportunity at the school to develop crucial life skills at their own pace that would provide a wide range of benefits and enable them to make a successful transition to adulthood.</p>	<p>Meeting the needs of these vulnerable children and young people and making sure that they are fully prepared for adulthood is of primary importance. The proposal aims to make permanent the existing pilot provision that would provide some children and young people in future cohorts the same opportunity to progress and develop at a pace that is appropriate for them.</p>

<b>6.2.3 The quality of education provided at Ravenshall School</b>	
Summary Responses	Officer Commentary
<p>Many respondents who strongly supported or supported the proposals highlighted the quality of education provision at the school, giving them high levels of confidence in the schools ability to continue to support their children and young people, beyond the age of 16.</p>	<p>The focus of the provision has always been to ensure that the young people who attend can move on to other options as quickly as possible. This approach would continue.</p>

<b>6.2.4 Transport</b>	
Summary Responses	Officer Commentary
<p>A relatively small level of clarification was sought respondents regarding whether transport would be provided for children attending the proposed</p>	<p>The aim of the provision is to build independence skills in the students who attend. Every effort would be made to ensure that these young people were able to travel</p>

provision.	independently.
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<b>6.2.5 Impact on other schools</b>	
Summary Responses	Officer Commentary
A relatively small level of concern was raised from respondents about the impact the proposal could have at another special school.	The provision at Ravenshall School is aimed at a small and specific group of young people who with some additional support will be able to progress to other options in adulthood. It would not be appropriate for these young people to attend another special school.

<b>6.2.6 Eligibility criteria</b>	
Summary Responses	Officer Commentary
<p>A lack of clarity emerged over eligibility for the provision. Many respondents identified the positive opportunities the proposal would provide, however it is unclear as to whether or not the majority of respondents (particularly parents and carers) clearly understood that the proposal does not provide a post 16 provision that all year 11 students could access.</p> <p>Respondents who did acknowledge that the proposal was designed to meet the needs of a small group of children and young people that were not ready to make the transition to an alternative post 16 setting, other forms of learning or work, sought clarification on what the eligibility criteria would be.</p>	<p>Criteria would be established that made eligibility for entry into the provision clear. These would be shared with all stakeholders. The consultation document made clear that the proposal is not to establish a general sixth form, but further work is being undertaken to ensure stakeholders fully understand who would be eligible for a place.</p>

<b>6.2.7 Lack of post 16 provision in the area</b>	
Summary Responses	Officer Commentary
Respondent who supported the proposal identified a lack of suitable post 16 provisions available in Dewsbury.	This provision would be open to any young person who met the criteria.

## 7. Conclusions to be drawn from the non-statutory consultation

### The main conclusions to be drawn from the consultation are:

The majority of respondents supported the proposals to change the upper age-range of Ravenshall School from 16-19 years. Respondents identified a range of benefits that are aligned with the objectives of the proposal. These have been summarised in the previous section of this report.

For the complete detail of stakeholder responses please see Appendix C.

## 8. Implications for the council

### 8.1 Council priorities

Council policies affected by this proposal include the Children & Young People Plan. The proposals will support the Council priorities which are to;

- **Enhance life chances for young people:** Working in partnership to improve health and educational attainment to enable them to reach their full potential. The proposals offer the opportunity to continue to improve and enhance the overall educational opportunities and achievements of young people in Kirklees.
- **Support older people to be healthy, active and involved in their communities:** Focusing on preventative work, while empowering those with long term conditions to live independent lives to the full and be in control of making their own decisions.
- **Business growth and jobs:** Creating the right conditions for business to sustain the Kirklees economy, facilitating investment in skills, jobs and homes and providing pathways into work.
- **Provide effective and productive services:** Ensuring services are focused on the needs of the community and delivering excellent value for money.

### 8.2 Human Resources implications

There are human resources implications resulting from these proposals. Should the proposals be agreed officers would work with the governing bodies and head teachers regarding any revision to structures to provide professional and technical support. Following this, consultation would need to be held with staff and recognised Trade Unions. It is anticipated that this work could be done within the required timescale.

### 8.3 Financial Implications

Special school places are funded from the “high needs block” of the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) and the number of places now has to be formally agreed with the Education Funding Agency (EFA) each year. The Council would have to apply to the EFA for place funding to the value of £10K per place. The number of places to be provided in the proposed permanent provision will need to be confirmed with the EFA should the proposals be approved.

Schools also receive ‘top-up’ funding on a per pupil basis which relates to standard support needs and the school setting. Should the proposal be approved for implementation then the DSG would be required to provide the required level of additional ‘top-up’ funding.

### Capital

There will not be any capital implications arising from proposal to increase the age range of Ravenshall from 16 to 19.

### 8.4 Information technology (IT) implications

There are no IT implications in relation to this report.

### 9. Consultees and their opinions

The consultation has engaged with a wide range of interested parties including; families of pupils, school staff, governors, healthcare professionals, members of the community and elected members. The full range of stakeholders that were provided with consultation materials is detailed in Appendix A.

### 10. Next steps

The table below shows the next steps and indicative timescales involved in the should cabinet approve the officer recommendations

<b>Table 9 – Steps of the statutory process and indicative timescales*</b>	
<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
Cabinet consider report on consultation outcomes and decide next steps	June 2015
Publication of notices and representation period	September 2015
Decision by Cabinet (within 2 Months)	October 2015
Implementation starts from	September 2016 *

\*Timescales are indicative and are subject to change

### 11. Officer recommendation and reasons

Members are requested to:

Note the feedback in response to the non-statutory consultation and the officer commentary that address the issues that have been raised. Approve that officers publish the statutory proposal and notice to:

- Change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years.

Note the next steps and timescales for the subsequent stage of the statutory process and that a final decision would be required by Cabinet as the decision maker following the representation period.

## **12. Cabinet portfolio holder's recommendations**

As the Cabinet Member for Schools I endorse the recommendations set out by officers in the previous section of this report. Consideration will be given to any further material matters that are brought to Cabinet's attention in advance of, and during, the Cabinet meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 and will make my final, oral, recommendations at the end of the discussion of this item at the meeting.

I welcome the responses received as part of the consultation and appreciate the time taken by parents and carers, school staff, governors and other interested parties who have taken the opportunity to feedback their views, and, would like to acknowledge the support from the group Parents of Children with Additional Needs (PCAN) in facilitating engagement with parents.

I have taken time to consider carefully all the views that have been expressed and am grateful for those who have engaged and contributed their comments and suggestions.

As has been made clear this proposal is not to establish a general sixth form provision at Ravenshall School, but rather to make permanent the existing pilot provision that was established in 2011 in partnership with Kirklees College, for a small number of particularly vulnerable young people to support their transition and progression into adulthood. I note and welcome the work that is being undertaken to determine and make clear the eligibility criteria, to determine which students are able to remain, or are offered a place, at Ravenshall beyond Year 11 and acknowledge that offers of places will continue to be made by the Local Authority.

For this reason I agree that the next step of the process, which is publishing statutory proposals and enabling a final period of representation, should be approved.

## **13. Contact officers**

Jo-Anne Sanders  
Deputy Assistant Director-Learning and Skills: LA Statutory Duties  
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Directorate for Children and Adults  
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Email: [gill.ellis@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:gill.ellis@kirklees.gov.uk)

## **14. Background papers**

- Research into Post 16 Progression Routes for Young People with Special Educational Needs in Kirklees
- Cabinet Report: 10th February 2015 Proposal to change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years.

## Appendix A: Consultation distribution list

<b>Kirklees Council Officers</b>	Chief Executive Director for Economy Skills and the Environment Director for Resources Director for Children and Adults Director for Communities, Transformation and Change Director for Commissioning, Public Health and Adult Social Care Assistant Director for Learning Assistant Director for Commissioning and Health Partnerships Assistant Director for Family Support and Child Protection Assistant Director for Social Care and Wellbeing for Adults	Adrian Lythgo Jacqui Gedman David Smith Alison O'Sullivan Ruth Redfern Richard Parry Gill Ellis Keith Smith Paul Johnson Sue Richards
<b>Kirklees Learning service</b>	School Governor service	
<b>Ward members for</b>	All Ward members	
<b>Dioceses</b>	Diocese Of Leeds Diocese Of Wakefield	
<b>Further Education Colleges</b>	Greenhead College Huddersfield New College	Kirklees College
<b>Kirklees Human Resources</b>	Head of HR HR manager	
<b>Kirklees Information, Advice and Support Service (SEND)</b>	Choice Advice	
<b>University</b>	University of Huddersfield	
<b>MPs</b>	Jason McCartney MP Simon Reeve MP	Barry Sherman MP Mike Wood MP
<b>DfE</b>	School Organisation Unit	
<b>Neighbouring LAs</b>	Barnsley Council..... Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council..... Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council..... City Of Bradford Metropolitan District Council..... City Of Bradford Metropolitan District Council..... Leeds City Council..... Leeds City Council..... Oldham Council..... Wakefield Metropolitan District Council..... Wakefield Metropolitan District Council.....	School Organisation School Organisation Director Of children's Services Director of children's services Principle research & policy Director of children services Education Leeds Assistant Executive Director Director Of children's Services School Organisation
<b>The Children's Trust Board Members</b>	Calderdale & Hudds NHS Foundation Trust Kirklees Active Leisure National Children's Centre Calderdale & Kirklees Careers Primary Pupil Referral Service The Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Kirklees University of Huddersfield West Yorkshire Police	West Yorks Fire & Rescue Authority Kirklees College North Kirklees Clinical Commissioning Group Clinical Commissioning Group Children & Adults Services Locala Community Partnerships Job Centre Plus South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS West Yorkshire Probation Trust
<b>Professional Associations and Unions</b>	AEP ASCL ASPECT ATL GMB NAHT	NASUWT NUT UNISON UNITE VOICE THE UNION
<b>Parents and carers of pupils at</b>	Longley School Lydgate School Castle Hill: A Specialist College for Communication and Interaction Fairfield School	



	Nortonthorpe Hall School Ravenshall School
<b>Governors and staff at</b>	Longley School Lydgate School Castle Hill: A Specialist College for Communication and Interaction Fairfield School Nortonthorpe Hall School Ravenshall School
<b>Schools with resourced provision</b>  Head, Chair of Governors and display	Ashbrow School Carlinghow Princess Royal Junior Infant and Nursery School Dalton School Flatts Nursery School Headlands Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior, Infant and Nursery School Honley High School Lowerhouses CofE (Voluntary Controlled) Junior Infant and Early Years School Moldgreen Community Primary School Moor End Academy Nether Hall Learning Campus High School Newsome High School and Sports College Rawthorpe Junior School Rawthorpe St James CofE (VC) Infant and Nursery School Royds Hall High School Thornhill Junior and Infant School Thornhill Community Academy
<b>Independent/Non-maintained special schools in Kirklees</b>	Holly Bank School The Oaks
<b>All primary schools in a 2 mile radius</b> <b>Head + Chair of Governors</b>	Boothroyd Primary Academy Carlton Junior and Infant School Crossley Fields Junior and Infant School Crowlees Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior and Infant School Diamond Wood Community Academy Earlsheaton Infant School Eastborough Junior Infant and Nursery School Headfield Church of England Voluntary Overthorpe CofE Academy Pentland Infant and Nursery School Ravensthorpe Church of England Voluntary Savile Town Church of England Voluntary St John's Church of England Voluntary St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Dewsbury) St Paulinus Catholic Primary School Thornhill Lees Church of England Voluntary Westmoor Primary School
<b>High schools in a 3 mile radius</b> <b>Head + Governors +staff and display</b>	Castle Hall Academy Trust Heckmondwike Grammar School Manor Croft Academy Ossett Academy and Sixth Form College Spenn Valley High School St John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy The Mirfield Free Grammar and Sixth Form Westborough High School
<b>Libraries</b>	All Libraries
<b>Health Centres</b>	Batley Health Centre Cleckheaton Health Centre Dewsbury Health Centre

	<p>           Elmwood Health Centre            Fartown Health Centre            Golcar Clinic            Kirkburton Health Centre            Marsden Health Centre            Mill Hill Community Health Centre            Oaklands Health Centre            Princess Royal Health Centre            Ravensthorpe Health Centre            Skelmanthorpe Health Centre            Slaithwaite Health Centre            Heckmondwike Health Centre         </p>
<b>Community Centres</b>	<p>           ADD/ADHD Support            HSGA - Huddersfield Support Group For Autism            North Kirklees Autism Support Group &amp; Friends            Huddersfield Down Syndrome Support Group            Kirklees Deaf Children's Society            Service for Children with Sensory Impairment            Huddersfield Actionnaires (Action for Blind people)         </p>



**About you**

This section asks you for some information that will help us to analyse the results of the survey and to see who has taken part. You will not be identified by any of the information that you provide.

I am a: (please tick ✓ and complete all those that apply to you)

<input type="checkbox"/> Parent/carer	Your child's/children's school/s:
<input type="checkbox"/> Pupil	Your school:
<input type="checkbox"/> Governor	Your school:
<input type="checkbox"/> Member of staff	Your school:
<input type="checkbox"/> Local resident	Please tell us:
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	Please tell us:

**How would you describe your ethnic origin?** (Please tick ✓ one box)

<b>White</b>	<b>Asian or Asian British</b>	<b>Other ethnic group</b>
English/Welsh/Scottish/ Northern Irish/British <input type="checkbox"/>	Indian <input type="checkbox"/>	Arab <input type="checkbox"/>
Irish <input type="checkbox"/>	Pakistani <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
Gypsy or Irish Traveller <input type="checkbox"/>	Bangladeshi <input type="checkbox"/>	(Please write in) .....
Any other White background <input type="checkbox"/>	Chinese <input type="checkbox"/>	
(Please write in).....	Any other Asian background <input type="checkbox"/>	
	(Please write in).....	
<b>Mixed</b>	<b>Black or Black British</b>	
White and Black Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/>	Caribbean <input type="checkbox"/>	
White and Black African <input type="checkbox"/>	African <input type="checkbox"/>	
White and Asian <input type="checkbox"/>	Any other Black background <input type="checkbox"/>	
Any other Mixed background <input type="checkbox"/>	(Please write in).....	
(Please write in).....		

Please write in your postcode:

(We will not use this information to contact you)

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Non Statutory consultation on:  
**Proposal to change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years**

Please tell us your views on our proposal

This document tells you the reasons that Kirklees Council is making this proposal. It also explains how the decision making process works.

Please take time to read it and let us know your views. Comments can be made on the response form at the back of this booklet.

The closing date for responses is  
**3 April 2015**

## Why are we making this proposal?

### Background

In 2010, an independent report looked into the routes of progression for young people with special educational needs (SEN) in Kirklees. The report highlighted issues affecting a small number of young people moving into further education at 16 years of age. The report made the following recommendations;

- Special Schools and Kirklees College should continue to work together to develop better transitional arrangements for these young people.
- Parental concerns about these young people being vulnerable in large settings should be taken in to account.
- The availability of placements, other than at Kirklees College, for those children and young people who need significant support should be considered, along with providing greater choice for parents.

Further work identified a small number of young people who did not yet have the appropriate social and emotional maturity to engage in post 16 learning at another setting. It said these young people would benefit from a more personalised way of moving into further education. This would be through a smaller, more nurturing environment.

To meet this need, temporary provision was created at Ravenshall School, in partnership with Kirklees College, in September 2011. The focus has been on helping a small number of young people prepare for adulthood. This has included personalised support, such as work-based learning, access to leisure activities, independent living skills and work within the local community. The provision has been successful.

### The proposal

Kirklees Council proposes that this provision for a small number of particularly vulnerable young people is made permanent. This would require a change to the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years.

The provision would continue to work in partnership with Kirklees College and other special schools. It would continue to offer the right personalised package of support for this group of young people to move on to further education and other activities as soon as they are ready.

This proposal is not to establish a general sixth form provision that would be available to all Year 11 students at Ravenshall School, it is our expectation that the majority of young people will attend Kirklees College as they do now.

### What happens next?

This consultation is open between **9 March - 3 April**. During that time, you can express your views in writing, online or in person at the consultation events.

Once the consultation has finished, all feedback will be reported to Kirklees Council's Cabinet (the council's main decision making body). They will then decide whether to move to the next stage. This would mean the publication of legal notices and another chance to view the proposal and comment on this before a final decision is made.

The following table shows the next steps involved in the process. Dates are subject to change and would be dependent on Cabinet approval to move to each stage.

Activity	Date
Non-statutory consultation	March-April 2015
Feedback reported to Cabinet and approval to next stage*	May 2015
Publication of notices and representation period*	May-June 2015
Final decision by Cabinet (within 2 months)*	July 2015
Implementation starts*	September 2016

\*Subject to scheduling of Cabinet meetings which means dates might change

### Consultation events

All the following informal 'drop-in' events are open to everybody: families of pupils attending the school, other members of the community and anyone who would like to hear more and discuss the proposal. Officers from the council will be present to answer questions and hear your views.

Anyone is welcome to attend any of the events. Anyone who would like some help in taking part in the consultation will receive it. Please come along and see us any time between the times below.

Date	Venue	Time
<b>17 March</b>	<b>Ravenshall School</b>	<b>1pm -6pm</b>
<b>26 March</b>	<b>Huddersfield Town Hall - Meeting Room 1</b>	<b>10:30am- 12:30pm</b>

In addition to these events, there will be separate opportunities for consultation with staff and governors. Kirklees Council wants to know what you think.

Alternatively, you can complete the response form at the back of this document.

## Response Form

Please send this form or a letter to:

- By post:** FREEPOST, Kirklees Council, RTBS-CYHU-LSEC, School Organisation and Planning Team. (Postage is free; you do not need a stamp)
- In person:** At one of the consultation drop-in sessions or hand it in to the school.
- Online:** You can also take part in the consultation on our website: **[www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolorganisation](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolorganisation)**
- Email:** Please note that you can contact us via email should you have any queries regarding this proposal. Please send your emails to **[school.organisation@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@kirklees.gov.uk)**

Please make sure you respond by **3 April 2015** to ensure that your views are heard.

## Your views

### Q) Do you support or oppose the proposal to change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years of age?

Please ✓ tick one of these boxes.

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Why have you decided that is your view? Please tell us about it along with anything else you would like us to consider relating to this proposal.



<b>Responses from parents / carers from Ravenshall School</b>	
Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ravenshall is a special school for children with complex needs. Lately, the needs of many of these children is extremely complex and many are not able at 16 to leave a school environment to go to college and giving them that extra two years boosts their self-esteem and enables them to mature enough and ready themselves for that move. The children at Ravenshall are in the main behind their mainstream peers in maturity, education and social skills by several years and there are not enough places at other settings for them. It is proving to be a very successful resource and it has my full backing. I know other parents feel exactly the same</li> <li>• Because pupils settle here and it's a good environment and staff know them well</li> <li>• This will give pupils more time at the school to learn</li> <li>• Will there be taster course for collage?</li> <li>• Children don't know their career paths what's available to them and some need longer to gain a "C" in GCSE's. A longer term at school gives a growing person time to do this</li> <li>• My child will very much have an advantage staying at Ravenshall School after 16 years old as X would not be able to cope in a main stream college so his education will finish at 16 if he could not stay at Ravenshall School till 19</li> <li>• It's a good thing because they will get further education instead of sitting round at home</li> <li>• This will be good for my child, to have a place at Ravenshall. This is good as we know the staff and children are happy at the school.</li> <li>• Pupils have more time to learn</li> <li>• Really good school has helped my son. My Son doesn't deal well with change</li> <li>• The school has the staff and resources required to best suit the needs of the children. The Children are happy and confident here, and I feel this would benefit any future learning</li> <li>• Not all children are able to manage in a "mainstream" school. As there age range for leaving school, has change there needs to be provision for children who would struggle.</li> <li>• My Boy is in Year 10 so next year is his last year and I'd like him to stay here. He has got autism. It's a familiar safe environment and he will benefit life skills programme.</li> <li>• This will allow children to understand and progress to learning and develop skills for future education and will also provide them with skills for the future.</li> <li>• It will give children extra support and education and help them progress into the next stage of their education or employment</li> <li>• This will give the young people more support at the school</li> <li>• Would be difficult to take my child to collage, he has transport at this school. Would he get transport to collage? My child wants to learn and I would like him to stay at the school. I don't drive and transport is an issue so if he doesn't get a place at school how will I get him to collage?</li> <li>• The school will get more support until they are 19. The school will support them with their reading and writing. There are not many places that children with special needs get the support for education this is an opportunity for post 16.</li> <li>• This will help pupils that need the extra time at school until they are 19 years old</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If post 16 is in the same school, this will be a lot better as pupils know staff, layout of the school and feel safe in the school</li> <li>• We would find that a 6th form would allow continuity at school for our son. The 6th form provision would also enhance a brilliant school</li> <li>• Because it will give the children a better start in life if they stay on in school</li> <li>• I think it's a good idea, they are used to the teachers so stability is good for them and helps with their education</li> <li>• I know my son will not be ready to get a job or live independently at this age but having help so he can learn life skills will be a huge impact in helping him and allow me a peace of mind that there is someone there. Best thing I have done is send my son to this school. I found huge improvements in his education and social skills that know he can still have this level of support at the age 16-19 is the best feeling. I know that teachers here will always have his best interests at heart and have the skills to help him</li> <li>• For everyone rather than a selected few. If you are in a special school you are there for a reason</li> <li>• My child would not settle in college so welcome the upper age range. Happy with the support from the school</li> <li>• If stay at Ravenshall this will give them more time to learn. Also got friends at the school. College is big and this will be good to stay at school as they now the lay out of the school, staff and where the toilets are. In the school they have staff that know them. Going to new place they may get scared. Pupils know everyone in school.</li> <li>• this will be good for my child in the long term</li> <li>• My daughter, due to her disability would benefit from this in her later teens. Because little is known about Trisomy 9 Mosaicism Development in teenage years can either be lost or slow. If at the age of 16/17 my daughter needs further help both educationally and mentally then we would like this to be at Ravenshall</li> <li>• Would love to send my child. My child has made lots of progress and will continue to exceed if the proposal goes ahead</li> <li>• Ravenshall School has provided first class education, stability, safety, activities suited to our child's needs. It would benefit our child to stay at school as college would be difficult with the needs she has. We would be delighted if our child is able to stay until 19 years of age. We strongly support this proposal. The needs of our children are paramount</li> <li>• I strongly support because it is the most appropriate school for us because this is the right way for our children that they would benefit from moving into further education</li> <li>• I think my child and other children will be in a better environment at Ravenshall until they are 19 years of age. There will be less change to deal with and my child finds it particularly difficult to integrate I think he would feel happier and safer staying at Ravenshall</li> <li>• My son is autistic and doesn't cope with change and the world very well. The thought of him leaving school next year and onto college worries me as I know he isn't ready mentally and physically ready for this and by staying on at a school he is familiar with as well as the people, would benefit him enormously to be able to further his education</li> <li>• Ravenshall is a brilliant school. There are only two schools in Kirklees for children with complex needs. Children with special needs need continuity and are still very vulnerable and may not be ready for the outside world at 16. Post 16 is a brilliant idea and Ravenshall is a fantastic school so it makes sense to keep it here!</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have decided this because this would help children at Ravenshall to extend on their education. Therefore, allowing them to gain more knowledge in their studies. In the long term this would prepare children with learning difficulties for future work placements or even higher education. Therefore giving the children a chance to go to university or higher education and preparing them for the right skills and knowledge for work placements.</li> <li>• My son who's autistic and profoundly deaf, who goes to Ravenshall school and its best for my son, he feel comfortable in this school and also the teachers know what needs he has, so there should be more support like for the pupil and parents what if the pupil wants more of sixth form they should have more choices for them to stay on. Thank you</li> <li>• Having a child who has attended Ravenshall for 4 years and having worked in the Post 16 provision for the past 2 years, I have first-hand experience of the wonderful work the school does. My family life has improved no end due to the happiness and security my son feels in this school. I have seen the Post 16 students flourish due to the experiences the provision provides them with. As a parent of an SEN Child could not wish for a better provision.</li> <li>• I think it's a good idea</li> <li>• I strongly support the proposal to change the upper range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years of age. My first point is that certain individuals may not be fully developed, due to their personal special needs, which therefore means they need more time to develop and achieve their full potential. Those certain individuals may also not be ready for college, as they have not fully developed, which means if they were to move to another college, they would have to adjust to a change, in terms of learning, getting used to the teaching which could be very difficult due to their special need. Therefore, changing the upper range age at Ravenshall School would result in individuals developing at their pace, feeling more comfortable as well as achieving their full potential. Finally, the level of help individuals would get at college compared to the help received from the teachers at Ravenshall would be poor. This is due to the fact that there would be more students in a classroom at college, which means attention can't be given to those students who are in need of it. However at Ravenshall School there is a role of 1 teacher to 9 students which means each individual can get the correct level of assistance required</li> <li>• This kind of provision is desperately needed for those young people, like my daughter who is currently in the sixth form, who are too vulnerable to move onto college etc. at the end of year 11. They need the kind of support provided to help them mature and become more independent and have the time to work towards moving on to the next stage. Ravenshall is an ideal setting for this, and my daughter is thoroughly enjoying her experience of sixth form so far</li> <li>• My child is happy in this school and she receives good support from teachers in lessons, it is more closer to home also an my child is well settled in Ravenshall</li> </ul>
Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A lot of children are behind their age. So if they stay a year or two it will be better for them. After they leave school it can be quite hard for them if they don't stay on at school</li> </ul>

Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>I do fully support this local based school in Dewsbury with the extended age of leaving from 16 to 19. Children with special needs do better with a continuation of education, familiar settings and people. Less stress of finding further education at the current age of 16. It's a very daunting place. 19 seems a more appropriate leaving age encouraging a more adult view and ability to cope with the transition from school to work, or perhaps further education. Vulnerable young adults need extra support</li> <li>My own child with special needs and others I know are most certainly maturing more slowly than other children of their age. At 16 they still wont be ready for the environment of further education. Some of our children struggle understanding personal space and the attitudes of their peers towards them. I feel our children would benefit greatly from the extra time to mature in a safer more understanding environment.</li> </ul>
Neither Support nor Oppose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It would be nice if young people could stay on because this would mean that it would mostly benefit those who are already at Ravenshall School as they would be used to being there.</li> </ul>

#### Responses from parents and carers from Lydgate School

Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Children who have special needs are more vulnerable and to have an environment which is nurturing and safe is paramount. Yet within this setting they are developing their skills, awareness and potential. The scheme at Ravenshall seems very positive and successful. My daughter is now 13 years old and her progression is always on my mind. She is emotionally around 7 years of age; she has learning disability and yet is very physically able. In adulthood she will be very vulnerable and will require safeguarding and support throughout her life - however I am sure that she will develop independence and have a full and productive life. A place at Ravenshall would be ideal for her and for others who require this environment. Within a safe environment they will flourish</li> <li>I feel it's crucial that our special needs children have a safe, stimulating environment. This proposal will enable the children to continue with their education and social skills in a setting they feel happy and comfortable in</li> <li>I feel very strongly that increasing the age range to 19 at Ravenshall would be of great benefit to special need children in Kirklees. At present there is no parity between areas Calderdale have a sixth form college at Ravenscliffe this service enables young people with complex needs to build their confidence and learn skills to integrate them into the working environment. Ravenshall school has been running a sixth form for the last two years with great success (I have seen for myself how much this sixth form college benefitted a friends daughter who attended it.) Unfortunately the numbers have been limited. Having met Ravenshall Head Teacher I was very impressed. She understands what young people like my daughter need to continue to build their confidence and places a strong emphasis on developing life skills and provides the opportunity for work based placements. I appreciate there is Huddersfield college but this is not suitable for all special need children. There is a need for a sixth form at Ravenshall it offers a superb learning experience and meets the needs of young people like my daughter who require a more supportive environment. The transition from a special school to Huddersfield College is too great for someone with my daughters complex needs.</li> <li>I feel strongly that Ravenshall School should provide education up to the age of 19. At present there is no parity of provision across Kirklees. Calderdale have provision up to 19 at Ravenscliffe, which offers excellent</li> </ul>
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	<p>opportunities for young people with complex needs to fulfil their potential and provides suitable work placements. I am aware that Huddersfield has Kirklees College but this is not appropriate for young people with more complex needs who require a more structured supportive learning environment. When my daughter visited Huddersfield College she found it very large and noisy. I was very impressed by Ravenshall's facilities and the calibre of its Head Teacher; she really understands what young people with complex needs require. The course is flexible enough to meet individual needs and aims to develop student's confidence. A strong emphasis is placed on developing life skills and provides opportunities for suitable work based placements. I have seen for myself my friend's daughter mature from attending this sixth form college and her new found confidence has improved her quality of life. Transition from a small special school to a large technical college is too overwhelming for many young people with complex needs. Provision to the age of 19 at Ravenshall would meet the needs of so many young people like my daughter who require a more structured supportive learning environment.</p>
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#### Responses from parents and carers from Fairfield School

Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Also identified as staff* Students will remain in familiar surroundings with staff whom they are familiar and who know them well</li> </ul>
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#### Responses from parents and carers not stated a school

Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Most of these children have attended this school for years. They are understood and cared for 100% for their education to continue in this way is superb. They should be allowed to continue their education in a solid safe environment such as Ravenshall</li> <li>I strongly believe children leave school too early and that's why some of them commit crimes and end up in trouble a few more years at school is extra education to try and get some skills to start an apprenticeship or job for the future</li> <li>I think this is a very good idea. I think it will greatly help my daughter to have an extra few year's education.</li> <li>Because there are not enough schools in Kirklees for Post 16, young adults with special needs</li> <li>My child has been going to this school now for over 3 years and I'm very happy with the support he gets from this school. I want him to continue with his work in the same school because he is so used to here and likes it, so I'd rather have him in here until he's 19 years old. It will benefit him, he won't like the change</li> <li>As it stands the Government is having children stay in further education. Therefore we feel strongly for the proposal to be carried through. At this time there is no suitable provision for our son in this area. This provision would mean a secure next stage in our child's further education. We feel it is vital for children like our son with special educational needs and would benefit even more staying in education until they are 19+. It would give them the chance to gain more life skills alongside much needed academic subjects such as Maths and English</li> <li>This will benefit all special needs children and my daughter. This opportunity would be excellent for these vulnerable children. It would benefit these children socially and their emotional development</li> <li>I strongly support the changes for the upper age range from 16 to 19 years of age for Ravenshall School. It's a great idea, I'm all for it. You've got my support. It will keep them in school for learning more subjects</li> </ul>
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<b>Responses from staff at Ravenshall School</b>	
Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils can access a provision which caters for their individual needs and also support them in developing like skills which will equip them for life after school. Many of the pupils attending the post 16 provision need the environment and support provided in a small provision that they may already be familiar with rather than larger provision like college.</li> <li>• So children with special needs can extend their learning opportunity in a safe and secure surrounding. Benefit form a personalised learning programme in a nurturing environment</li> <li>• Children are familiar with staff, surroundings and are comfortable in their learning environment. These children take a long time to settle, some even up to a year. It is a good thing for them to be able to stay with their friends/peers</li> <li>• The pupils who are not ready to leave the nurturing environment of school, will benefit from being able to continue at Ravenshall</li> <li>• There are a selection of pupils that are not ready to leave the nurturing environment of school life</li> <li>• A selection of pupils still need life skills taught to them in a school environment</li> <li>• Ravenshall School provides excellent facilities to a huge range of children. I would like to see them extended to include a wider range of children and young adults</li> <li>• The Post 16 provision at Ravenshall has proved to be a highly successful provision which has ensured the preparation of the more vulnerable students into adulthood. Students have successfully made the transition to college provision after a personalised accredited programme at 18 where a transfer at 16 was not appropriate. The school has ensured and maintained an outstanding provision which now needs to be permanent to secure the opportunities for similar students requiring that extra support and personalisation at 16.</li> <li>• Over the years, I have seen students who were vulnerable by their immaturity and simply not ready for Kirklees College or other training provisions, fail to thrive in what is a very adult environment. The resulting NEET will undo the hard work and successful progress a student has made whilst at Ravenshall. Typically, these students number around 10 and so are a very small but highly significant minority. The 3 years of the pilot project have demonstrated that with an appropriate curriculum and support from a dedicated, caring staff, these vulnerable young people may be prepared for adulthood and successfully integrated into an appropriate post 16 provision a little later in life. These students only have one chance at a successful transition and deserve the opportunity to make that transition when they are emotionally and socially ready rather at a set chronological age.</li> <li>• Provides a platform for a small number of identified students who would otherwise find the transition to Kirklees College very challenging. The aim is to develop these students' skills and encourage their independence and confidence to progress successfully into future provisions and onto adulthood</li> <li>• The provision that is provided for a small number of vulnerable children is outstanding. The pupils who attend have the opportunity to make progress and move on further education at their own pace. The staff who work with these young people do an excellent job.</li> <li>• I strongly support Ravenshall School having an upper range of 16 19 year</li> </ul>

	<p>old. This is highly beneficial to pupils within Kirklees.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have witnessed the success of the pupils who have attended the sixth form and can say that the staff are very motivated and provide an excellent provision. The pupils mature and it helps them take their next step in life.</li> <li>• Vulnerable students need a continued provision to provide a nurturing environment to ensure a more personalised learning pathway. The provision will provide opportunities to develop students' social skills and work towards emotional maturity. It is essential that vulnerable young people are prepared for adulthood and the wider world</li> <li>• It helps bridge the gap for students and young adults who require additional support to what is provided at college</li> <li>• The school provides such good provisions with pupils from the school and throughout Kirklees</li> <li>• Provides an essential service for young adults with SEN. Provision at Ravenshall has already proved in Post 16 to be outstanding</li> <li>• I think that this would be an extremely positive development as it addresses a clear need. The provision would directly benefit parents by offering a high quality education tailored to the needs of students and thereby providing them with the skills required in adult life. The provision is most suitable based upon exemplary track record and an outstanding cohort of staff trained to ensure the success of the additional development.</li> <li>• As a teacher at the school I see the enormous benefits the provision has provided to pupils who would otherwise, in my opinion, have no suitable alternative to this excellent provision. A provision that meets the needs of the cohort; a provision in step with the requirement for progressing students; a provision with insight as it has recognised a 'gap' where pupils are not being catered for and it does. I understand that this is not a provision for 'all' pupils - and the criteria for selection has to be sensitive and clear about how pupils fit in for this provision to be the right choice for pupils and parents</li> <li>• The Post16 provides extra time for a small cohort of vulnerable students to gain personal skills and confidence needed in their future lives, whether it be in further education, employment or for independent living. I believe it is better for them to feel safe and secure to learn life skills instead of feeling scared, especially if they are not ready for the transition, which could impede their learning and put them back even further. I think it is a great opportunity for such vulnerable young people to be guided by professionals with great experience we have at Ravenshall. It has proved very successful so far, producing rounded, more confident adults ready to move on in their lives. Each young person is different and reach this 'readiness' at different stages and so this Post 16 19 provides so much more flexibility and therefore I wholeheartedly support this proposal.</li> <li>• I believe that having continuous educational provision up to 19 years of age would be beneficial to a large cohort of our pupils. There is currently a lack of choice for Post 16 in this area particularly for those pupils who are not yet ready to make the transition from school to college. Ravenshall has already run and delivered a highly successful, quality provision which now needs to have stability and a secure future.</li> <li>• This type of provision will definitely benefit a group of pupils at Ravenshall as well as pupils from surrounding schools allowing a smooth, caring and enjoyable transition to adulthood.(*respondent also a governor).</li> </ul>
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**Responses from staff at Fairfield School**

Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *also identified as Parent* Students will remain in familiar surroundings with staff</li> </ul>
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	whom they are familiar and who know them well
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**Responses from staff at Lydagte School**

Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every year a small number of young people with additional needs are not ready or mature enough to successfully make the transition to Kirklees College. They require a smaller more nurturing environment for a little while longer to enable their eventual transition more successfully. Ravenshall School is currently their only option so it is vital that this choice remains available</li> <li>• I think the pupils deserve the choice to continue their education in a 'safe' special needs environment if they wish as opposed to going to college</li> </ul>
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**Responses from staff -not stated which school**

Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pupils at Ravenshall who are particularly vulnerable need educations which focus to aid the transition to adulthood.</li> </ul>
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**Responses from Governor at Ravenshall School**

Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vulnerable pupils will be better supported as a result of this proposal. The small but significant number of students, who lack appropriate social skills and emotional maturity to cope with transition at 16 years, will have a wonderful opportunity to engage with a personal and individual pathway to develop further. Ravenshall school has the experience and expertise to give these vulnerable young people the best chances to succeed within the wider adult community</li> <li>• Ravenshall School is an outstanding school providing education for pupils with complex needs. I strongly support changing the age range from 16 to 19 years because young adults will have the opportunity to develop and learn skills for later life in a safe but challenging environment. Pupils who are able to access a 16-19 provision at Ravenshall will be able to experience all aspects of Life Skills, enabling them to develop as a person. By providing a provision for 16-19 year olds young people will be able to take a more active part in society with confidence. What a brilliant opportunity for those young people!</li> <li>• Ravenshall is a special school for children with complex needs. Lately, the needs of many of these children is extremely complex and many are not able at 16 to leave a school environment to go to college and giving them that extra two years boosts their self-esteem and enables them to mature enough and ready themselves for that move. the children at Ravenshall are in the main behind their mainstream peers in maturity, education and social skills by several years and there are not enough places at other settings for them. It is proving to be a very successful resource and it has my full backing. I know other parents feel exactly the same (*respondent also a parent and carer)</li> <li>• Historically the transition of our pupils, 16+ have not their needs met very well in Kirklees College, especially those with greater needs. The excellent provision provided at Ravenshall for 16+ education allows them to mature at their pace and they can move to a college environment as more mature and confident students at 18-19 years</li> </ul>
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**Responses from Governor at Castel Hill School**

Neither Support nor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In principle I strongly support this, however as a governor at Castle Hill School I do have some concerns that the increase in 16-19 provision at Ravenshall might negatively impact on pupil numbers at Castle Hill</li> </ul>
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Oppose	
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**Responses from Governor not stated which school**

Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ravenshall School is an outstanding school which already provides its students with outstanding education at all current key stages. 16 to 19 years of age provision would ultimately provide pupils with skills required to integrate successfully into community life. This opportunity will allow the pupils to build on their KS4 needs in a secure and warm learning establishment, where all students are made to believe that they can succeed. The outstanding staff at Ravenshall, have the ability to teach specialised subjects at Post 16 level. Pupils themselves are familiar with these staff so further helping them progress in a safe environment. Moreover, they can become mature adults. Ravenshall School is a truly magical place and incorporating Post 16 provision will further add to this magic! I sincerely hope that this proposal is strongly supported by all</li> <li>• I believe that having continuous educational provision up to 19 years of age would be beneficial to a large cohort of our pupils. There is currently a lack of choice for Post 16 in this area particularly for those pupils who are not yet ready to make the transition from school to college. Ravenshall has already run and delivered a highly successful, quality provision which now needs to have stability and a secure future (*respondent also a staff member)</li> </ul>
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**Responses from Other category of respondents**

Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Believe that this would provide continuity of care for young people with special needs</li> <li>• Member of PCAN Kirklees - This is a much needed Post 16 provision for people who can't access Kirklees College. There isn't much choice or availability of Post 16 provision for additional needs in Kirklees generally - feel that this is an area for broader consideration</li> <li>• Parent of a child at Honley High - I think this is a great idea particularly for children who may not be ready for FE (Kirklees College) because of their additional/emotional needs. This would give them a chance to have a chance then to follow up at College after they are 19 - progression route. However, I feel this provision should be larger as often parents want choice of where their children go -Kirklees College may not be the choice. Other schools may also send their children to this provision so numbers from other schools may be large! Will this provision be able to accommodate numbers?</li> <li>• I feel that pupils who do not have the social and emotional maturity be able to make the transition to college straight away after 16 should be given the support in school where they are already familiar with staff and surroundings where they can be supported to have personalised transition programmes for them to be ready for college.</li> </ul>
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**Responses from respondents not specified a category**

Strongly Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feel son would struggle to make the change to college</li> <li>• I have observed how the children gain more confidence in the Post 16 provision.</li> </ul>
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## Ravenshall School

Governing Body Consultation Meeting on the non-Statutory consultation on: Proposals to change the upper age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19 years  
Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 6.00pm

Present: 13 Governors, 4 LA Officers

The LA gave an overview of the proposal. The school has been working in partnership with Kirklees College to support a small number of young people to prepare for adulthood. The LA is carrying out a non-statutory consultation on a proposal to increase the age range of Ravenshall School from 16 to 19. To make permanent the existing pilot provision that has proved a success, this will continue to support a small number of vulnerable young people at the school. The non-statutory consultation opened on 9<sup>th</sup> March until 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

This was followed by questions from Governors

Q) There have only been 51 responses to the consultation so far, is this a normal amount?

A) This depends on the proposals. The LA did a parent drop-in at the school that was on the same day as a parent open day which help maximise opportunities for engagement with parents and helped increase the number of responses to the consultation; this did capture a lot of parents who filled out the consultation response form on the day. The consultation is open until Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April and it was explained that further responses were expected.

Q) If all the responses are from Ravenshall School, will this have an impact on the consultation outcome?

A) No. Documents were distributed widely and made available to a broad number of stakeholders, in order for them to have the opportunity to comment on the proposal.

Q) Were documents circulated to parents, Governors and staff at other Special schools?

A) Yes they were and a distribution list will be added to the consultation outcome report which gives full details of who was consulted.

Q) We would like to read the responses?

A) This will be detailed in the outcome report that will be part of the appendices. A copy of the consultation outcomes report will be provided to the school prior to publication.

### **Governing Body Comments**

Before the provision it was difficult for young people to make the transition to Kirklees College and other post 16 provisions. The extra 2 years has helped students to prepare for transition and give them time to mature. The increase in the age range has been on the agenda and the school are very keen for the proposals to be finalised. There have been talks about how the increase in the age range will be funded which is well documented in the Governing Body meetings. This process will make this finalised.