

**Cabinet: 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015**

**Report Title: Decision on the proposals to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision by bringing together Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.**

Is it likely to result in spending or saving £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	Yes
Is it in the <a href="#">Council's Forward Plan?</a>	Yes
Is it eligible for call in by <a href="#">Scrutiny?</a>	Yes
Date signed off by <u>Director</u> and name	Alison O'Sullivan
Is it signed off by the Director of Resources?	David Smith (Debbie Hogg)
Is it signed off by the Assistant Director Legal and Governance?	Julie Muscroft (Karl Larrad)
Cabinet member <a href="#">portfolio</a>	Councillor Shabir Pandor.

**Electoral wards affected:** Crosland Moor and Netherton

**Ward councillors consulted:** Yes

**Public or private:** Public

## 1. Purpose of report

1.1 To advise members on the outcome of the statutory processes for the related statutory proposals by Kirklees Council and the Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales.

- To establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision by bringing together Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

1.2 To advise members of the conclusions and recommendations of the School Organisation Advisory Group (SOAG) regarding the statutory process followed for the proposals.

1.3 To recommend that members approve the related proposals

The report does not provide an update on proposals to establish a new 630 place primary free (academy) school for pupils aged 4-11 years to serve the Huddersfield South West area. This proposal is subject to a separate statutory process and the proposal is to be decided by the Regional Schools Commissioner. It is intended to provide an update on this proposal to Cabinet once a decision has been made.

## **CONTENTS**

Section 1	Purpose of report	<b>page 1</b>
Section 2	Background	<b>page 3-4</b>
Section 3	The statutory process. Proposals to establish a new Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision	<b>page 4-6</b>
Section 4	Review of the proposals and representations using decision makers guidance. Proposals to establish a new voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision.	<b>page 6-16</b>
Section 5	Implications for the Council	<b>Page 17-18</b>
Section 6	Consultees and their opinions	<b>page 18</b>
Section 7	Next steps	<b>page 18</b>
Section 8	Officer recommendations	<b>page 18-19</b>
Section 9	Portfolio holder recommendations	<b>page 20</b>
Section 10	Contact officers	<b>page 20</b>
Section 11	Background papers	<b>page 21</b>
Appendix 1	Statutory Consultation Document	
Appendix 2	Statutory notice to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School	
Appendix 3	Statutory proposals to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School	
Appendix 4	Kirklees SOAG constitution and purpose	
Appendix 5	Report of SOAG meeting 17 August 2015	
Appendix 6	Statutory process check sheets	
Appendix 7	Factors for decision making to be considered- DfE guidance	
Appendix 8	Equalities Impact Assessment	

## 2. Background

### 2.1 The provision of school places to meet “basic need”

Kirklees Local Authority has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient high quality school places to meet the needs of Kirklees families and communities. This is described as “basic need”. Over the last 12-13 years, the school age population in Kirklees has increased by approximately 20% from the smallest pupil age group (which is now in the secondary schools) to the current reception and pre-school age groups. A similar pattern is repeated in most urban authorities nationwide. One of the areas where there is a need for school places is in the Huddersfield South West area.

Following a series of collaborative discussions between Kirklees Council and a strategic group representative of providers in the South West Huddersfield area, and following exploration in outline of what is technically possible and affordable, the statutory proposals to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision has been developed to support the best educational outcomes for children.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> March 2015 Cabinet received a report about the current and proposed position for place planning in Huddersfield South West area and Cabinet approved that statutory process be taken forward for proposals that would secure sufficient high quality places to meet basic need.

### 2.2 The current pattern of primary and secondary schools in the south west Huddersfield area

#### Current primary and secondary schools

- **\*Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School** provides education for 4 to 7 year olds (including nursery provision) with a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 140 pupils per year group. The school is federated with Thornton Lodge Nursery School.
- **Crosland Moor Junior School** provides education for 7 to 11 year olds with a PAN of 150 pupils per year group.
- **\*Thornton Lodge Nursery School** provides education for 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 3-4 years) and has 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children aged 2-5 years). The school is federated with Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School.
- **Mount Pleasant Primary School** provides education for 3 to 11 year olds (including nursery provision). The PAN for the school is 90. This means the school can admit 90 pupils in each year group from ages 4 to 11. There are up to 78 part-time nursery places.
- **Moor End Academy** provides education for 11-16 year olds. The PAN for the school is 180. This means the school can admit 180 pupils in each year group.

\* Schools that are federated have a single governing body and leadership team.

### 2.3 The proposed pattern of primary and secondary schools in the south west Huddersfield area.

- To establish a new 840 place all-through Church of England voluntary controlled

primary school for pupils aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision by bringing together Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

No changes are proposed to either Mount Pleasant Primary School or Moor End Academy.

### **3. The statutory process regarding the related statutory proposals to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision by bringing together Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.**

School organisation decisions for Local Authority maintained schools have to follow a process set out by law. Kirklees Local Authority has had due regard to legislation and followed the 5-stage statutory process in respect of these proposals.

The five stages are:

- Statutory Consultation
- Publication
- Representation
- Decision
- Implementation

For decision making purposes, this section of the report reviews the performance of the first three stages of the statutory process to confirm that they have been carried out in full compliance with the law and relevant Department for Education (DfE) guidance.

The report then analyses any representations received from interested parties submitted during the representation period using the main sections of the DfE Decision Makers Guidance.

The proposals and any representations that are received are presented for the consideration of decision makers so that they can then determine the proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11, with early learning and childcare provision, by bringing together Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

The Cabinet, as decision maker considering this proposal has to have regard to certain guidance issued by the DfE and this is appended to this report.

#### **Appendix 7 School Organisation - Maintained Schools Annex B: Guidance for Decision-makers January 2014**

##### **3.1 Consultation**

The Cabinet decision on 24 March 2015 authorised officers to undertake a statutory consultation that would consider the following:

- Bring together Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School by working in collaboration with The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales to propose a replacement 840 place all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision. It is intended that the 840 places would be established over time.
- The proposed new school would continue to be in the existing site and buildings that are currently used for Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.
- With a Published Admission Number (PAN) of 120 for 4-11 year olds (from Reception

2016) and over time retaining 840 primary school places.

- retaining the 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 3-4 years) and retain the existing 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children aged 2-5 years)

A seven week (six week term time) statutory consultation took place between 20 April and 5 June 2015 to seek the views of parents/carers, school staff, professionals, governors, pupils, the local community and other stakeholders. Please refer to Appendix 1 for the consultation document that was specifically developed for this consultation.

On the 30 June 2015, Cabinet received the outcomes of the statutory consultation and it was agreed to proceed to the next stage of the statutory process, which was for the publication of the related statutory proposals.

### **3.2 Publication and Representation**

On the 9 July 2015 the combined statutory notice (Appendix 2) was published in the Huddersfield Examiner and copies of the statutory notice and statutory proposals (Appendix 3) were posted on the 9th July 2015 at the gates of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The statutory notice and proposals were also sent to Head teachers and Governing Bodies of these three schools. Copies of the statutory proposals were also given to the following venues;

- Thornton Lodge Community Centre
- Crosland Moor Community Learning Centre

From the publication date of 9th July 2015 copies of the complete statutory proposals were available upon request from Kirklees School Organisation and Planning Team, Civic Centre 1, Huddersfield. The proposals were also published on the Councils website. On 5th August 2015 the representation period ended.

### **3.3 Decision : The role of the Kirklees School Organisation Advisory Group (SOAG)**

The Local Authority is the decision maker for these statutory proposals and under Kirklees arrangements, Kirklees Council Cabinet is the decision making body.

The Kirklees School Organisation Advisory Group (SOAG) was established by Cabinet on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2007 to advise the Cabinet on school organisation decision-making matters. The constitution and purpose of SOAG is attached at Appendix 4. SOAG exists to provide advice to Cabinet, but Cabinet is the decision maker.

### **3.4 Review of the statutory processes to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.**

The Kirklees SOAG met on 17 August 2015 to review the statutory process and any representations received for the proposals and to formulate advice for Cabinet as decision maker. The note of the meeting is attached at Appendix 5.

#### **3.4.1 Representations received regarding the statutory process**

No representations have been received during the representation period.

#### **3.4.2 Statutory process check by SOAG**

The details relating to the statutory processes for the related statutory proposals are set out in the check sheets attached at appendix 6.

#### **3.4.3 SOAG conclusions about the process:** The statutory notice, related statutory

proposals and statutory processes are valid and within time limits;

- statutory consultation has been carried out.
- The published statutory notice complies with statutory requirements.
- The related proposals are related to each other but not related to any other proposals for any other school and are not related to any proposals published by the EFA. The proposals are valid and can be decided by Kirklees Council Cabinet.
- The statutory four week period has been allowed for representation.
- The decision has been brought to the cabinet on 22 September 2015, which is within two months after the end of the statutory four week representation period which ended on the 5 August 2015.

**3.4.4 SOAG advice:** Kirklees Council Cabinet can decide the statutory proposals under Paragraph 8 of Schedule 2 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

**4.0 SOAG review of the related proposals and representations using the DfE guidance for decision makers.**

**4.1 Factors to be considered in making the decisions about the related statutory proposals.**

In order to support decision making by Cabinet, a range of factors have been considered. These factors are derived from the guidance issued by the Department for Education. **School Organisation Maintained Schools. Annex B: Guidance for Decision Makers January 2014.** Factors can vary depending upon the nature and type of proposals. The full list is presented in **Appendix 7**, accompanied by responses to the relevant factors for these proposals;

**A: Consideration of consultation and representation period**

**B: Education standards and diversity of provision**

**C: Demand**

**D: School size**

**E: Proposed admission arrangements (including post 16 provision)**

**F: National curriculum**

**G: Equal opportunities issues**

**H: Community cohesion**

**I: Travel and accessibility**

**J: Capital**

**K: School premises and playing fields**

**L: Suitability**

**M: Competition (under section 7 EIA 2006)**

**N: Closure proposals (under s15 EIA 2006)**

**O: Rural schools**

**P: Early years provision**

**Q: Nursery school closures**

**R: Balance of denominational provision**

**S: Community services**

On 17<sup>th</sup> August 2015, the SOAG examined the rationale for the related proposals against each of the above factors. The SOAG reviewed a statement of the rationale for the proposals for each section of the guidance. The guidance and rationale are set out in **Appendix 7**.

#### **4.2 SOAG conclusions for decision makers**

The SOAG agreed that the statutory process had been followed and enabled a detailed presentation of the related statutory proposals to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

The proposal has been designed to enable the Council to work with the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales to establish an all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision by bringing together all three schools into a single school with one governing body and head teacher. The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales are the proposers for the new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision that would replace Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

#### **4.3 Officers' recommendations for decision makers regarding the proposals**

##### **Guidance note: Type of decision**

The decision maker can make one of four types of decision for the statutory proposals:

- reject the proposals;
- approve the proposals without modification;
- approve the proposals with a modification, having consulted the LA and/or governing bodies of the schools (as appropriate); or
- approve the proposals with or without modification subject to certain prescribed events (such as the granting of planning permission) being met.

Following the SOAG review, officers recommend, subject to consideration of any further matters raised at the decision-making meeting, that the related statutory proposals to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School, can be considered for approval for the following reasons (**see Appendix 5- Notes of SOAG meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> August 2015** ).

#### **4.4.1 A: CONSIDERATION OF CONSULTATION AND REPRESENTATION PERIOD**

##### **No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

Kirklees Local Authority has had due regard to legislation and followed the statutory process in respect of these proposals. New School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013 came into force on 28 January 2014. The Council carried out a seven week (six week term time) statutory consultation to

ensure the maximum opportunity was available to all key stakeholders to understand and comment upon the statutory proposals, prior to their publication. On the 30th June 2015 Kirklees Council's Cabinet (decision making authority) received the outcomes report of the statutory consultation and it was agreed to proceed with the statutory process and commence with the publication of the related statutory notice and proposals.

The publication of the statutory notice, statutory proposals and representation period commenced on 9th July 2015 and ended on 5th August 2015 therefore lasting for a period of four weeks and meeting the requirements of School Organisation Regulations.

#### **4.4.2 B: EDUCATION STANDARDS AND DIVERSITY OF PROVISION**

##### **No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

For full details of the rationale for the proposals, please see Appendix 7. The proposed establishment of an all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision in Huddersfield South West is intended to improve the educational standards attained by children. This is achieved through better and more flexible management of learning, without a change of school at age 7. There is the benefit of more continuity and flexibility and more opportunities to meet individual needs by tailoring learning experiences. For example, Year 3 children who require further experience of the Key Stage 1 curriculum and more able Year 2 children requiring the challenge of the Key Stage 2 programmes can be catered for. It means a wider range of resources can be shared and common themes developed across the school. This curriculum flexibility can be particularly important for children with Special Educational Needs. There is more consistency in terms of policies and practice. The school improvement agenda is led by a single leadership team and governing body. There is closer contact for parents and carers with school staff over a longer period of time. A more continuous relationship between the school, parents, carers and outside agencies can ensure that all pupils, but particularly those with special educational needs, are supported effectively from the Foundation Stage through to the end of Year 6.

#### **4.4.3 C: DEMAND**

##### **No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

The proposal is for a technical closure of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School to enable a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision to be established. The proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school's Published Admission Number (PAN) would be 120. Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School has a PAN of 140 starting in Reception.



Crosland Moor Junior School has a PAN of 150 starting at Year 3. The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school would over time become an 840 place primary school from reception through to year 6. Accounting for the proposal to establish a new 630 place primary free (academy) school in Huddersfield South West, there would be no net loss of places in Huddersfield South West, as the proposal to establish a new primary free (academy) school would re-provide these 20 reception places from the 1st September 2016.

The Council's school place planning data for 2014 and 2015 provides clear evidence that there is a continuing need for school places in Huddersfield South West, in order to meet local demand. The Council has adopted a range of strategies in order to meet this need, which includes using spare capacity where available, establishing one off bulge classes, or making permanent expansions to existing schools. There is no surplus capacity in existing schools in Huddersfield South West. In addition to this proposal, the proposal to establish a new 630 place primary free (academy) school in Huddersfield South West would ensure that there would be sufficient capacity to meet demand from 2016 onwards.

#### **4.4.4 D: SCHOOL SIZE**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

The proposed closure of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School is a technical closure in order that the all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision can be established. It is proposed that the all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school would have a PAN of 120 per year group for 4-11 years old (from reception 2016) and over time, retaining 840 primary school places in total. However, the new school would operate in the existing buildings and on the same sites in which the three current schools are located; the proposal therefore is considered viable and cost-effective.

#### **4.4.5 E: PROPOSED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS (including post 16 provision)**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would have a published admission number of 120 pupils per year group for pupils aged between 4-11 years. In addition the school would provide 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 2-4 years) and provide 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children 2-5 years). The admissions policy for the proposed new school would be fully compliant with the Schools Admissions Code.

The Council would consider all admissions application, including any received from

other Local Authorities. If there are fewer applicants than there are places available, everyone who applies would be offered a place. When there are more applicants than there are places available the following admission criteria would be applied in order:

For children of statutory school age, Kirklees admission (over subscription criteria) criteria for voluntary controlled schools are: 1. Children in public care (looked after children) or a child who was previously looked after; 2. Children who live in the school's Priority Admission Area (PAA) who have a brother or sister attending from the same address at the date of admission (the sibling rule); 3. Children who live in the school's PAA; 4. Children who live outside the school's PAA who have a brother or sister attending from the same address at the date of admission (the sibling rule); 5. Children who live outside the school's PAA.

For childcare places, it is expected that the existing policy as applied by Thornton Lodge Nursery School would apply, which means that the proposed new school would control its own admission policy but as children often start at different times in the year the school would usually work on a 'first come first served' basis.

The proposed new school would admit children with statements of special educational needs or an education health and care plan where such statements or plans name the school. It is not proposed to give priority for admissions to pupils on any religious grounds.

#### **4.4.6 F: NATIONAL CURRICULUM**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would meet the general requirements of the National Curriculum including the Early Years Foundation Stage.

#### **4.4.7 G: EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ISSUES**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

A full equalities impact assessment (EIA) has been completed and will be published with the decision report, prior to a final decision being taken on the proposals by Kirklees Council Cabinet (the decision making body). The EIA demonstrates that due regard has been taken and that the proposals would have little, if any adverse impact from an equalities perspective.

The proposal to bring together Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School to establish an all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early

learning and childcare provision would have a positive impact as it would facilitate closer contact for parents and carers with school staff over a longer period of time. A more continuous relationship between school, parents, carers, and outside agencies can therefore help to impact positively on community and social cohesion and foster good relations.

The ethnicity profile of the pupil cohorts that would attend the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision are expected to be very similar to the existing cohorts at Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School. This is because children attending the three schools currently would automatically become part of the proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school. The school would provide co-educational places and be all inclusive. The proposal would have no adverse impact on sexual orientation given the new school is proposed to be co-educational. There would be no adverse impact on any children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) as any such children attending one of the three schools now would automatically become part of the proposed new school. In addition, any new children with SEN would be considered for admission in to the proposed new school in the normal way. Therefore it is considered the proposal is not discriminatory and does support the advancement of equality of opportunity.

#### **4.4.8 H: COMMUNITY COHESION**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

The proposal is intended to have a positive impact on the community, by providing the opportunity for an increased level of continuity of services for children and parents through the sustainable provision of primary education in the Crosland Moor area. All the pupils attending the three schools would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision on the 1st May 2016. Therefore, the proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would continue to serve the local community in ensuring sufficient school places for local children and families.

Moreover, it is envisaged that the proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision, would have an important role in the local community, as do the three schools now, by building on existing strengths. The proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would ensure, alongside other schools in the area and the proposed new primary free (academy) school that there are sufficient places for children from the local community that is future proofed for the projected pupil demographic. The school would continue to be a focal point for the community and be integral in ensuring local educational provisions work effectively both with each other as well as with local organisations and groups.

#### **4.4.9 I: TRAVEL AND ACCESSIBILITY**

#### **No representations were received**

**Advice:** The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:

The proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would operate in the existing buildings and on the same sites in which the three current schools are located. Children on roll at the existing three schools would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school. Therefore the proposal should not adversely impact any disadvantaged groups, as the proposal enables a significant level of continuity for travel and accessibility for local children and families and other organisations that may access the existing schools.

During the statutory consultation period, some respondents who strongly opposed the proposals, raised concerns about the possibility of traffic and congestion being increased on Dryclough Road and in the area, which would be significant issue that would need careful consideration if the proposals were to be approved.

In its response to the consultation, the Council explained that it would carefully consider road safety issues and ensure that appropriate extra measures were in place to manage the impact of any potential increased levels of traffic congestion. The Council also explained that it would promote sustainable travel, e.g. encouraging parents, carers and children to walk to school.

#### **4.4.10 J: CAPITAL**

#### **No representations were received**

**Advice:** The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:

There are no direct, essential capital implications arising as a result of these proposals. This is because the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would utilise existing capacity in the three schools that are proposed for technical closure. There is sufficient capacity across the existing three schools to enable this and therefore, there is no requirement for a physical expansion and capital investment. Implementation of the proposals is not therefore reliant on any capital funding being made available from the Education Funding Agency.

However should the proposal be approved for implementation then it is intended that the existing accommodation over the two sites will be reviewed to identify opportunities to support the three schools in coming together. This work may result in future capital expenditure.

#### **4.4.11 K: SCHOOL PREMISES AND PLAYING FIELDS**

#### **No representations were received**

**Advice:** The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland

**Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would continue to use the existing three school sites and therefore the same school premises and playing fields. There is no proposed encroachment on to any existing playing field given that there is no requirement for any physical expansion as a result of implementation of these proposals. Pupils attending the proposed new school would have a mix of hard standing and paying field provision that currently exists across the three schools.

**4.4.12 L: SUITABILITY**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

The proposal is intended to bring together and replace Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School to establish an all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision.

Recognising the foundation of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School the new school would preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church and Parish at diocesan level.

**4.4.13 M: COMPETITION (under section 7 EIA 2006)**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

The proposal is to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision under Section 11 (2) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 which enables new maintained schools to be established without a competition in specific circumstances.

This legislation enables proposals for a new community or foundation primary school (that is to replace a maintained infant and maintained junior school), and proposals for a new school resulting from the reorganisation of existing faith schools in an area, including an existing faith school losing or changing its religious designation. (DfE – Establishing new maintained schools – Departmental Advice for local authorities and new school proposers - June 2013). Secretary of State consent is not required for proposals published under Section 11 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

**4.4.14 N: CLOSURE PROPOSALS (under s15 EIA 2006)**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland**

**Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

There would be no displaced pupils should the proposals be approved for implementation. All the pupils attending Dryclough (CE) VC Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision on the 1st May 2016.

The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would have a published admission number of 120; therefore, over time the school would become an 840 place primary school from reception through to year 6.

Accounting for the proposal to establish a new 630 place primary free (academy) school in Huddersfield South West, there would be no net loss of places in Huddersfield South West, as the Council is seeking proposals to establish a new primary free (academy) school in Huddersfield South West from the 1st May 2016, with pupil places being available from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016. There would be no changes to the existing number of early years places currently offered by Thornton Lodge Nursery School as the exact same number of early years and child care places would be offered by the proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school.

**4.4.15 O: RURAL SCHOOLS**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School are not classified as Rural Primary Schools; therefore this is not a relevant consideration.

**4.4.16 P: EARLY YEARS PROVISION**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

There would be no loss of any existing nursery or early years provision as a result of the implementation of these proposals. The proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11, with early learning and childcare provision would retain the same level and scope of early years provision to that which is currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The provision currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School across both its Yews Hill Road and Dryclough Road site would be retained in full. This means that the proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school would provide the following level of early years provision:

Provide 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 2-4 years)

Provide 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children 2-5 years). The length of sessions

would be the same as offered now by Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The provision would be fully inclusive, but there is no proposed specialised provision reserved for children with special educational needs.

#### **4.4.17 Q: NURSERY SCHOOL CLOSURES**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

The proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would retain the same level and scope of early years provision to that which is currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The provision currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School across both its Yews Hill Road and Dryclough Road site will be retained in full. This means that the proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would provide the following level of early years provision:

Retain 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 2-4 years)

Provide 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children 2-5 years). The length of sessions would be the same as offered now by Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The provision would be fully inclusive, but there is no proposed specialised provision reserved for children with special educational needs.

The proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would build on the existing strengths of the federated Thornton Lodge Nursery school and Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School as it would provide opportunities to successfully integrate early years provision with child care services within an all-through setting and form closer, effective working relationship until the end of Key Stage 2.

There is demand for early years and child care places in the area as can be evidenced via the take up of existing places at Thornton Lodge Nursery School. There is sufficient early learning and childcare places in the local area (see the Crosland Moor and Netherton childcare sufficiency ward profile).

The proposal is for a technical closure of Thornton Lodge Nursery School, to enable a new all-through voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision to be established. The proposed technical closure would maintain the existing number of nursery places offered by Thornton Lodge Nursery School and the existing split site arrangement would also be maintained and so the impact on children and families of this proposed technical closure is considered to be minimal. The impact on other local providers both in and outside of the school sector is also considered to be minimal. Given the nature of the proposal detailed assessments of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools, and in settings outside of the maintained school sector which deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within three miles of the school has not been considered.

#### **4.4.18 R: BALANCE OF DENOMINATIONAL PROVISION**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland**

**Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

Recognising the foundation of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School the new school would preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church and Parish at diocesan level. The proposed new school would maintain Church of England presence with the school system in Huddersfield South West and meet the demand for such places which can be evidenced via the foundations of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School. The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision would aim to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian beliefs and practice. It would encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promote Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales and Kirklees Council are committed to the newly created school being distinctive and inclusive in supporting all children and their families in learning and development. There is a common agreement that the school would be welcoming and accessible to the wider community. It would ensure equality of opportunity and work to remove any barrier to success. The Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales and Kirklees Council believe that in combining the ethos and values of the three schools would impact positively on teaching and learning, provide a firm foundation for cultural, continuous and sustained improvement to offer exciting and innovative opportunities for the whole school and local community.

**4.4.19 S: COMMUNITY SERVICES**

**No representations were received**

**Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School should be approved because:**

The proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would continue to be a focal point for the community and be integral in ensuring local educational provisions work effectively both with each other as well as with local organisations and groups. As the work to develop Community Hubs continues there may be opportunities in the future to provide services in different ways.

**4.5 Officer conclusions and recommendation to the decision makers**

To approve the proposal for Kirklees Council to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School on 30 April 2016

To approve the proposal to establish a new all-through voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision which is to be implemented by the Leeds Diocesan Board of Education, within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016.

As both of these proposals are related the recommendation to Kirklees Council Cabinet is to approve the related statutory proposals.

**5. Implications for the Council**

**5.1 HR Implications**



**5.1.2 The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision.** The related proposals are intended to continue and enhance the current level of provision for children in the area; however there are human resource implications. The proposed new school is likely to require broadly similar levels of staffing albeit with a different staffing structure to suit the larger organisation, HR staff would need to work with the governing bodies and head teachers of the three schools regarding any revision to staffing structures and following this, consultation would need to be held with staff and recognised Trade Unions. Kirklees LA would continue to be the employer.

## **5.2 Financial Implications**

### **5.2.1 Revenue Budget - Advice: The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision**

The proposals are being made for educational not financial reasons.

The Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) budget that the Council receives from government can only be spent on education, there is no revenue implication arising from this proposal for the Council's own budget. The DSG budget for each individual school is determined by a formula that includes a block grant for every school but most of the funding allocation is determined by reference to the number of pupils on roll.

The formula-driven revenue budget allocation for a single 4-11 school with 840 places would actually be lower than that for the two separate schools because only one block grant can be allocated under the formula. The second block grant would be phased out of the new school's allocation over a three year period. The underlying reduction in funding should be offset by potential savings from operating as one school. In addition, funding for the new school's nursery provision would be provided from the DSG Early Years funding block on much the same basis as the funding provided to the current Nursery school, again with some form of transitional protection applied to the specific Nursery school block grant which would cease.

### **5.2.2 Capital**

**The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.**

There is no essential direct capital costs associated with the implementation of this proposal. There is sufficient accommodation across the two sites to establish an 840 place all-through voluntary controlled primary school over time. However should the proposal be approved for implementation then it is intended that the existing accommodation over the two sites will be reviewed to identify opportunities to support the three schools in coming together. This work may result in future capital expenditure.

## **5.3 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 significantly

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.

## **6. Consultees and their opinions**

A statutory consultation on the proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision, took place between 20 April and 5 June 2015 to seek the views of parents/carers, school staff, professionals, governors, pupils, the local community and other stakeholders. Cabinet received the report of the outcomes of the consultation and the views expressed by stakeholders during this consultation are described in detail in that Cabinet report. The Cabinet agreed to proceed with the statutory processes for the proposals to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision by bringing together Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

During the 4 week representation period, no representations have been received.

This report brings stakeholders views and comments regarding the statutory proposals to decision makers attention for full consideration giving due regard to the factors for decision making derived from the guidance issued by the **Department for Education. School Organisation Maintained Schools. Annex B: Guidance for Decision Makers January 2014**

## **7. Next steps**

**7.1 The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years** with early learning and childcare provision. If the Cabinet approve the proposals then officers would support and work with the Governing Bodies of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School to finalise arrangements for pupils, parents, staff and other stakeholders in order to ensure that effective plans are put in place to implement the proposals from the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016.

**8. Officer recommendations and reasons. The related proposals to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.**

**8.1** It is recommended that Members:-

- a. Note the advice of Kirklees SOAG that the related proposals to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and

Thornton Lodge Nursery School are valid and that the required statutory processes have been carried out.

- b. Agree that in their role as decision makers, they will take the decision regarding the proposals within the statutory time period.
- c. Acknowledge the outcomes and recommendations of the Kirklees SOAG meeting from 17 August 2015 and the associated officer recommendations for the proposals.
- d. note the HR and financial implications of approving the proposals
- e. Confirm that in meeting the obligations of the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty 2011 full regard has been given to the Equalities Impact Assessment throughout the statutory process for the proposal including the decision regarding approval.
- f. Authorise the proposer, The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales to make an application to the DfE to designate the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11, with early learning and childcare provision as a school with religious character.

**8.2 It is recommended that Members approve without modification or condition the related statutory proposals:**

**by Kirklees LA;**

1. to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School on 30 April 2016
2. to discontinue Crosland Moor Junior School on 30 April 2016
3. to discontinue Thornton Lodge Nursery School on 30 April 2016

**by The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales to;**

1. Approve the proposal by The Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision on 1 May 2016.

The related proposals should be approved for the following reasons:-

- a. to improve the provision for all children and recognise the value and popularity of the schools with parents and the community;
- b. to strongly support the continued improvement in standards for children at the schools and to consolidate and extend the existing strengths of the schools;
- c. to consolidate, strengthen and secure the range and diversity of primary age provision in Crosland Moor area;
- d. to place every child at the heart of the process of meeting their learning, social and emotional needs;
- e. to assure places for all children in the proposed all- through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision all through primary school without any displacement of pupils and to meet the continuing need for places in the area;
- f. to assure and maintain places for local children in the proposed new school and to maintain the existing services for the local community;
- g. to have no effect on car usage. The proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would operate in the existing buildings and on the same sites in which Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School are located.

- h. to continue and enhance the provision currently available Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School schools;
- i. to meet the criteria of the DfE SEN improvement test. The proposed all- through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision school would result in reducing the number of transition points, which is likely to improve the outcomes for all pupils with SEN;
- j. to support the efficient and effective use of revenue funding and existing school site and premises in meeting the needs of pupils.
- k. to provide opportunities for improving consistency and transition and allow staff to progress and develop.

It is recommended that Members request officers to support and work proactively with the federated Governing Bodies of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Thornton Lodge Nursery School and the Governing Body of Crosland Moor Junior School to finalise arrangements for pupils, parents, staff and other stakeholders in order to sensitively manage changes to implement the proposals from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016.

## **9. Portfolio Holders' recommendation**

We are committed to improve the quality of education in our primary schools to give every child the best possible start. Dryclough CE(VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School are three schools which are geographically very close together, serving the same community, which already have close working relationships and could be easily developed into an all-through primary school for pupils aged 2-11, with early learning and childcare places.

The feedback received during the statutory process confirmed that there is support from local stakeholders and we are pleased to be collaborating with the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales as part of these proposals for the Huddersfield South West area. We are keen that the highest quality provision is available fairly to all children to ensure that they have the very best educational experience.

The proposals to bring together Thornton lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE(VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior into one organisation are intended to make sure that families would gain the advantages of having a single school which would build on the strengths that currently exist.

For these reasons we support the officer recommendations to approve the proposals and would want to ensure that collectively the Council, school leaders, governing bodies and the Diocese work with local families to prepare for the amalgamation to be implemented.

## **10. CONTACT OFFICERS**

Jo-Anne Sanders. Deputy Assistant Director: LA Statutory Duties  
[jo-anne.sanders@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:jo-anne.sanders@kirklees.gov.uk)

### **Assistant Director responsible**

Gill Ellis. Assistant Director for Learning and Skills  
[gill.ellis@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:gill.ellis@kirklees.gov.uk)

## **11. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- **Cabinet Report 30 June 2015** Report on the outcomes from the statutory consultation for members' consideration on the proposal about primary pupil places in the Huddersfield South West
- **Cabinet Report 24 March 2015** Primary pupil places in the Huddersfield South West area
- "Securing sufficient school places to enable access for children and young people to an excellent local education system". Kirklees May 2013 and June 2014



## **A consultation about primary pupil places in Huddersfield South West**

- Bring together Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School and create one primary school.
- Create a new primary academy school on the site of Moor End Academy.
- Retain Mount Pleasant Primary School.

This consultation document tells you the reasons for our proposals and how the decision making process works. Please take time to read the document and tell us your views and comments on the attached consultation response form at the back of this booklet.

The closing date for responses is  
**Friday 5 June 2015**

# Why are we making these proposals?

Kirklees Council has a legal duty to make sure that there are enough high quality school places to meet the needs of Kirklees families and communities. This is described as 'basic need'.

The school age population in Kirklees has been increasing over the last decade. Data shows that there is a need for additional primary school places in Huddersfield South West, ready for September 2016.

The proposals described in this consultation document have been developed in close partnership with schools and providers in Huddersfield South West.

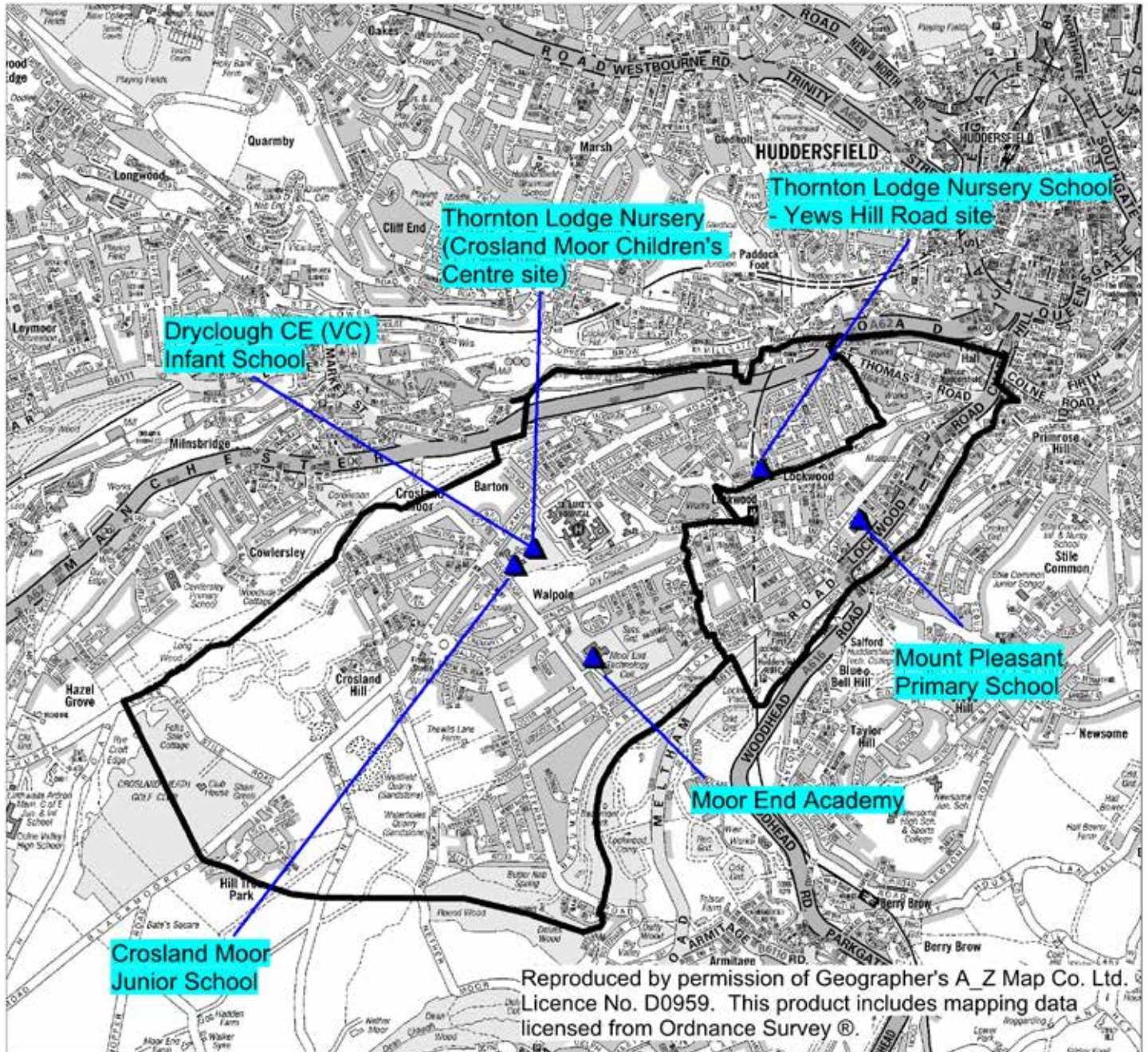
They are designed to meet the additional demand for primary school places, whilst achieving the highest possible standards of care and education for children and their families in the area.

## The current pattern of primary and secondary schools in Huddersfield South West

- Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School provides education for 4 to 7 year olds. The Published Admission Number (PAN) is 140 – this means the school can admit 140 pupils per year group. The school is federated with Thornton Lodge Nursery School, this means that there is one governing body and leadership team responsible for both schools.
- Thornton Lodge Nursery School provides education for 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 3-4 years) and has 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children aged 2-5 years).
- Crosland Moor Junior School provides education for 7-11 year olds with a PAN of 150 pupils per year group.
- Mount Pleasant Primary School provides education for 3-11 year olds (including nursery provision) with a PAN of 90 pupils per year group for ages 4-11. There are also up to 78 part-time nursery places.
- Moor End Academy provides secondary education for 11-16 year olds with a PAN of 180 pupils per year group.



# Where are the existing schools serving Huddersfield South West?



# The proposals

## **Proposal 1: Bringing together Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School**

This is a proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school with nursery provision:

- To cater for children aged 2 to 11.
- With a PAN of 120 pupils per year group for 4-11 year olds (from reception 2016), and over time retaining 840 primary school places in total.
- Retaining 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 3-4 years) as well as:
- Retaining the existing 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children aged 2-5 years).

'Bringing together' means joining all three schools into a single school with one governing body and head teacher.

Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School is a Church of England voluntary controlled school. Education law says that the new school would need to retain voluntary controlled status. The fairest way to bring the schools together would be:

- The Council proposes the technical 'closure' of Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School.
- The Diocese of West Yorkshire & The Dales propose a new replacement all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school. The new school would continue in the existing buildings and on the same sites as are being used now.

However, the new school would be created as part of this legal process and would open on the same day that the existing schools were technically closed. It would continue in the existing buildings and on the same sites in which the three current schools are located. There would be no interruption to the education of children at the three schools.

The new replacement primary school would have 120 places per year group and 840 places in total from reception through to Year 6. This would happen over time, starting with 120 reception places in September 2016.

The table opposite illustrates how total pupil numbers, from reception through to Year 6, would change each year. The numbers would fall annually until settling at 840 (ie. 120 places per year group). However, another proposal outlined in this document would provide an extra 630 places elsewhere in Huddersfield South West. This means there would be an overall increase across the area, meeting the needs of the local community.

It is important to note that all pupils attending Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School would automatically become part of the new all-through primary school. Children who are in key stage 1 would be there until the end of Year 6, giving continuity throughout their time at primary school.

	Dryclough CE (VC) / key stage 1			Crosland Moor Junior / key stage 2				Total primary pupils
	reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	
2015-16	140	140	140	150	150	150	150	1020
All-through CE (VC) primary school from 1 May 2016								
	reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	
2016-17	120	140	140	150	150	150	150	1000
2017-18	120	120	140	150	150	150	150	980
2018-19	120	120	120	150	150	150	150	960
2019-20	120	120	120	120	150	150	150	930
2020-21	120	120	120	120	120	150	150	900
2021-22	120	120	120	120	120	120	150	870
2022-23	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	840
2023-24	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	840

Diagram illustrating how the proposed overall statutory school age pupil numbers would reduce over successive school years as each new reception class joins the school, to give 7 year groups of 120 pupils ie 840 pupils in total.

## Why create an all-through primary school with nursery provision?

The proposal provides an opportunity to explore reducing transition points i.e. the number of changes children make when they transfer from a pre-school setting to foundation stage, to key stage 1 and through to key stage 2. A reduction in transition points can improve educational outcomes. The council has already worked with school leaders, governing bodies, and where applicable The Diocese of West Yorkshire & The Dales, to successfully establish several all-through primary schools.

By bringing the schools together, there would be the opportunity to build on the existing strengths of all three schools to support the improvement of educational outcomes for children.

## The benefits of all-through primary schools

- Improved continuity and progress from Early Learning and key stage 1 to key stage 2 through smoother transition. For example, a single school would have common approaches to curriculum planning, assessment, record keeping and target setting. Staff have longer to get to know the children. Most importantly, the school would have a shared understanding of standards and expectations.
- More flexibility and opportunities to meet individual pupil needs by tailoring learning experiences. For example, Year 3 children who require further experience of the key stage 1 curriculum and more able Year 2 children requiring the challenge of the key stage 2 programmes can be catered for. It means a wider range of resources can be shared and common themes developed across the school. This curriculum flexibility can be particularly important for children with Special Educational Needs.
- More opportunities for social development. For example, older children can have some appropriate pastoral responsibility for younger children, which can impact positively on whole school behaviour and children's self-esteem. Vulnerable children and their parents and carers have greater security from a consistency of staff and provision.
- More consistency in terms of policies and practice. The school improvement agenda is led by a single leadership team and governing body.

- Closer contact for parents and carers with school staff over a longer period of time. A more continuous relationship between the school, parents, carers and outside agencies can ensure that all pupils, but particularly those with special needs, are supported effectively from the Foundation Stage through to the end of Year 6.
- More opportunity for children to attend the same school as older or younger brothers and sisters.
- Increased opportunities for staff to work with a larger team, thus supporting professional development and providing further opportunities to take on new responsibilities.
- More effective use of the accommodation, facilities and resources.
- Reduced duplication and economies of scale in the management of budgets.

## A word from The Diocese of West Yorkshire & The Dales Board of Education

The Diocese of West Yorkshire & The Dales Board of Education welcomes and supports the collaborative way in which the proposals have been developed between Kirklees Council and the three schools.

### What would the admissions policy be for the all-through school?

As a voluntary controlled school, the new all-through primary school would continue to operate admissions in line with the Kirklees Council policy.

Children would not need to fill out a transfer form between key stage 1 and key stage 2 which would mean children who start in reception would be able to remain there until the end of Year 6, giving continuity throughout their time at primary school.

The proposed Priority Admission Area (PAA) for the new school is proposed to be the same as Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School (please see map on page 2).

## How would the proposed changes affect my child presently attending Thornton Lodge Nursery School?

1 May 2016 is the proposed date to establish the proposed all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School.

Those children who are due to start full-time school in a reception class in September 2015 (children with dates of birth between 1 September 2010 and 31 August 2011) will transfer to the places that were allocated on offer day.

Children currently under four years old attending nursery/child care places at Thornton Lodge Nursery School, at the Dryclough Road site or at the Yews Hill Road site would continue to do so, should the new primary school be established on the 1 May 2016.

**In-line with current policy, there would be no automatic transfer from the nursery to the reception class and parents would still need to complete an application form at the appropriate time.**

Those children who are due to start full-time school in a reception class in September 2016 (children with dates of birth between 1 September 2011 and 31 August 2012) will need to complete an application for full-time school by the closing date of 15 January 2016. Children would then transfer to the places that will be allocated on offer day.

Those children who are due to start full-time school in a reception class in September 2017 (children with dates of birth between 1 September 2012 and 31 August 2013) will need to complete an application for full-time school by the closing date of 15 January 2017. Children would then transfer to the places that will be allocated on offer day.

Those children who are due to start full-time school in a reception class in September 2018 (children with dates of birth between 1 September 2013 and 31 August 2014) will need to complete an application for full-time school by the closing date of 15 January 2018. Children would then transfer to the places that will be allocated on offer day.

## How would the proposed changes affect my child currently attending Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School?

1 May 2016 is the proposed date to establish the proposed all-through CE (VC) primary school.

It is proposed that children that are educated in the current infant school building would continue to do so up to the end of year 2, should the proposals be implemented.

The chart below shows how the changes would affect pupils each year as they progress through to the proposed all-through CE (VC) primary school. Find the current year group of your child and follow the row across from September 2014.

School Year beginning	Sept 2014	Sept 2015	*1 May 2016 Proposed implementation date for all-through CE (VC) primary school	Sept 2016	Sept 2017	Sept 2018	Sept 2019	Sept 2020	
Current Reception Year at Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School	Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School			proposed all-through CE (VC) primary school					
	Crosland Moor Junior School (or other Key Stage 2 choices)								
Current Reception Year at Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School	Reception (Age 5)	Year 1 (Age 6)	Year 1 (Age 6)	Year 2 (Age 7)	Year 3 (Age 8)	Year 4 (Age 9)	Year 5 (Age 10)	Year 6 (Age 11)	
Current Year 1 at Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School	Year 1 (Age 6)	Year 2 (Age 7)	Year 2 (Age 7)	Year 3 (Age 8)	Year 4 (Age 9)	Year 5 (Age 10)	Year 6 (Age 11)	Transfer to secondary (Key Stage 3) choices	
Current Year 2 Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School	Year 2 (Age 7)	Year 3 (Age 8)	Year 3 (Age 8)	Year 4 (Age 9)	Year 5 (Age 10)	Year 6 (Age 11)	Transfer to secondary choices		

## How would the proposed changes affect my child currently attending Crosland Moor Junior School?

1 May 2016 is the proposed date to establish the proposed all-through CE (VC) primary school.

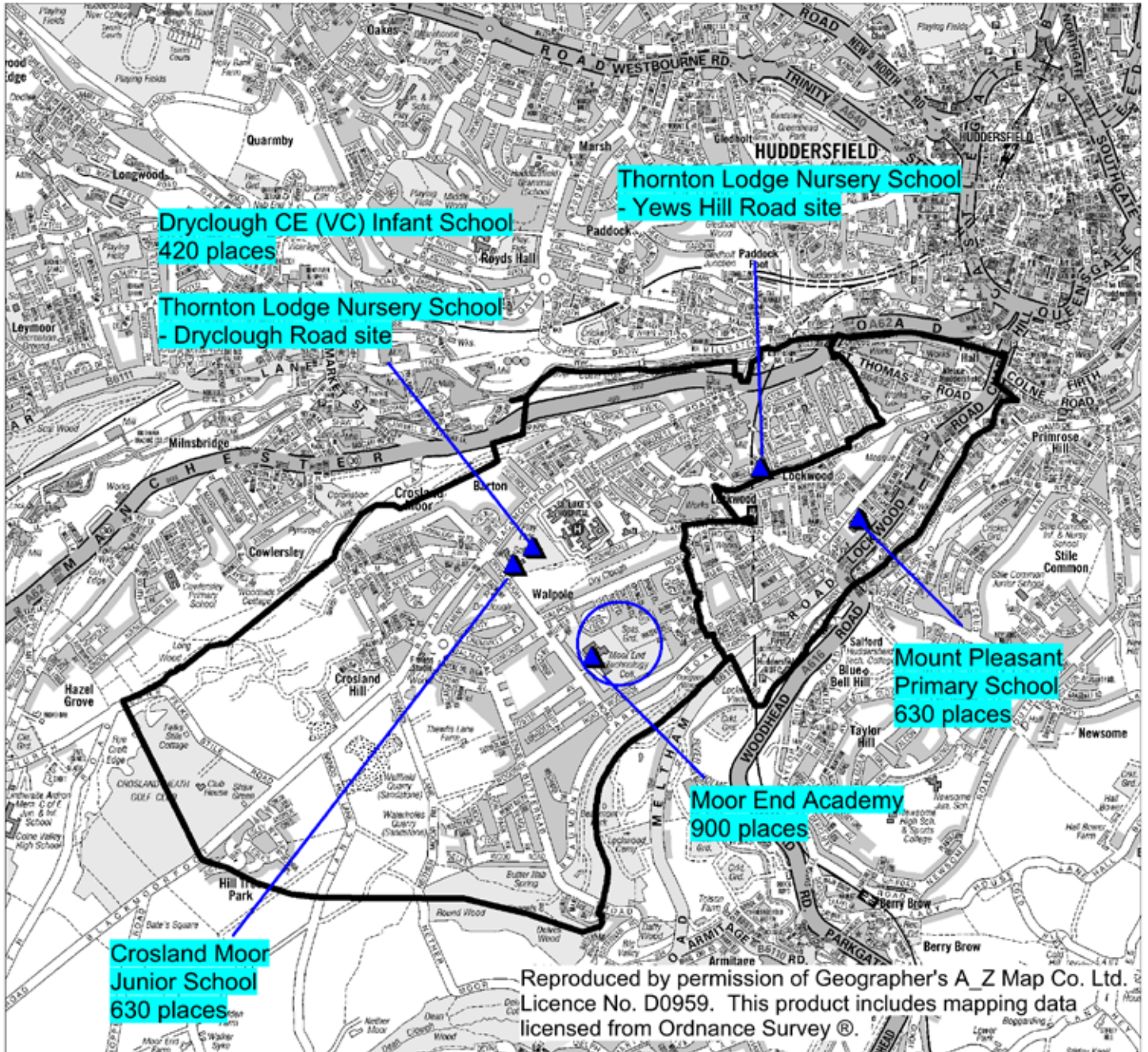
It is proposed that children that are educated in the current junior school building would continue to do so up to the end of year 6, should the proposals be implemented.

The chart below shows how the changes would affect pupils each year as they progress through to the proposed all-through CE (VC) primary school.

Find the current year group of your child and follow the row across from September 2014.

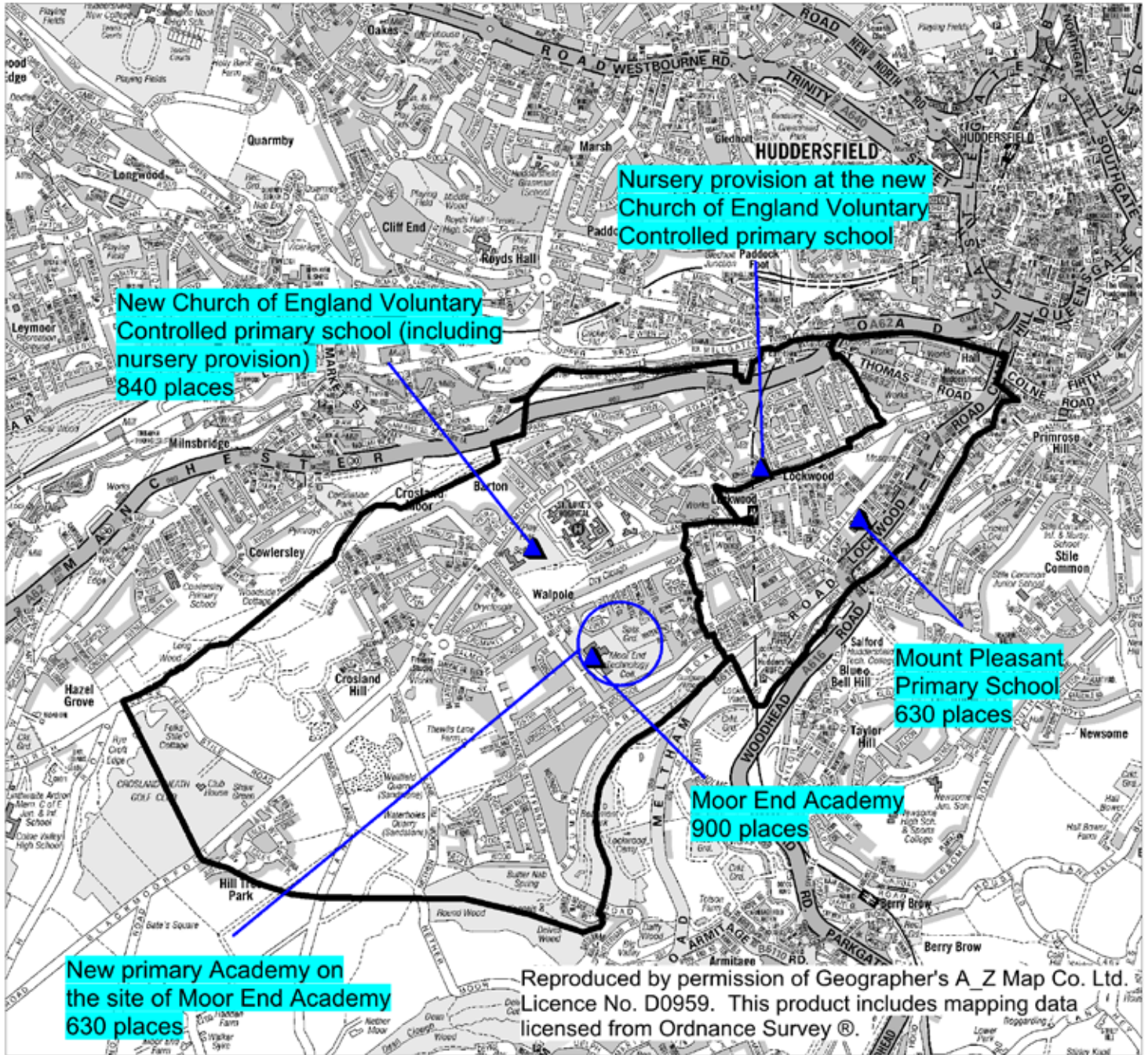
School Year beginning	Sept 2014	Sept 2015	*1 May 2016 Proposed implementation date for all-through CE (VC) primary school	Sept 2016	Sept 2017	Sept 2018
	Crosland Moor Junior School			proposed all-through CE (VC) primary school		
Current year 3 at Crosland Moor Junior School	Year 3 (Age 8)	Year 4 (Age 9)	Year 4 (Age 9)	Year 5 (Age 10)	Year 6 (Age 11)	Transfer to secondary (Key Stage 3) choices
Current year 4 Crosland Moor Junior School	Year 4 (Age 9)	Year 5 (Age 10)	Year 5 (Age 10)	Year 6 (Age 10)	Transfer to secondary (Key Stage 3) choices	
Current year 5 Crosland Moor Junior School	Year 5 (Age 10)	Year 6 (Age 11)	Year 6 (Age 11)	Transfer to secondary (Key Stage 3) choices		
Current year 6 Crosland Moor Junior School	Year 6 (Age 11)	Transfer to secondary (Key Stage 3) choices				

# Map to show current provision of school places and location in Huddersfield South West





# Map to show proposed provision of school places and location in Huddersfield South West



## How would the proposals impact upon travel?

Should the proposals be approved for implementation then it is expected that that there would be no impact on travel for parents and carers of children attending the three schools. This is because no buildings are proposed to close as part of these proposals.

## What would happen to staff?

Staff would be organised within the new school in a way that best supports the needs of the children and the community. It is anticipated that staff at all three schools would be employed within the all-through primary school.

Any future change to the staffing structure would be fully consulted on and endorsed by the governing body of the new school.

## What would happen to governors?

If the decision is made to go ahead with the proposals, the existing governing bodies will continue to govern their separate schools until the implementation date and will also work in collaboration towards establishing the all-through primary school by setting up a temporary governing body. The temporary governing body would be made up from members of the governing bodies of each of the existing schools. It would be responsible for working on the staffing structure and for supporting a smooth transition to the new arrangements.

## Proposal 2: Create a new primary academy school on the site of Moor End Academy

To meet the need in the area, it is proposed to establish a new 630-place primary school in a new building using part of the Moor End Academy site. Moor End Multi Academy Trust has given their agreement in principle for part of the site to be utilised for this purpose.

- To cater for children aged 4-11.
- With a PAN of 90 pupils per year group for 4-11 year olds, from reception 2016 providing 630 primary school places in total.

The primary places would be built up in stages, starting with a 90-place reception class in September 2016, and increasing year by year over 6 further years as the primary pupils progress through the school. This would result in a three-class entry, 630 place primary provision. The table below shows how this would be implemented.

	infant/key stage 1			junior /key stage 2				Total primary pupils
	reception	Y1	Y2	Y3	Y4	Y5	Y6	
2016-17	90							90
2017-18	90	90						180
2018-19	90	90	90					270
2019-20	90	90	90	90				360
2020-21	90	90	90	90	90			450
2021-22	90	90	90	90	90	90		540
2022-23	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	630
2023-24	90	90	90	90	90	90	90	630

Diagram illustrating how the proposed pupil numbers would build up over successive school years as each new reception class joins the school, to give 7 year groups of 90 pupils ie 630 pupils in total.

Up to 30 of the places that are proposed are places that would have been available at Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School. This means that over time there are an extra 60 new primary places per year to serve the Huddersfield South West area.

Current legislation for establishing new schools (The Education Act 2011) means that the new school would be an academy (more information can be found at [www.gov.uk/government/publications/academy-and-free-school-presumption](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/academy-and-free-school-presumption)).

The new school would be part of the Kirklees Family of Schools and work collaboratively with other schools and providers in the area as well as the council.

The new school would not be maintained by the council but would be funded directly from central government. It remains the council's role to plan and secure sufficient school places and this is why the council is publishing these proposals.

The council is carrying out this period of consultation to establish the principles and explain the rationale for the proposal. At the end of the consultation period the council will invite proposals from groups and organisations who might be interested in working with us to establish the new primary academy.

## Who could attend the new primary Academy?

The new primary academy is being proposed to meet the growing need for primary school places in the South West area of Huddersfield. As an Academy, the school's academy trust would be the admission authority and be responsible for deciding the admissions policy and oversubscription criteria in line with government regulations and local authority policy; however, the council wishes to commission admission arrangements that would complement those of other primary schools in the area to support parents being able to access local places.

The admissions policy would be reviewed annually (as is now) as the proposed primary academy built up all of the primary year groups.

The proposed number of places in the reception class for the 2016-17 school year would be 90. There would be no places available in years 1 to 6 in 2016-17. The year groups would be built up year on year as pupils progressed through the academy.

If there are fewer applicants than there are places available, everyone who applies would be offered a place. If there are more applicants than there are places available, children would be offered places in priority order of oversubscription.

Children in public care (looked after children) and children who were previously looked after are always the highest priority for admission to any school.

The school would admit children with an Education Health and Care Plan or a statement of Special Educational Needs where the school is named on the statement.

As part of this consultation, the council wishes to seek views about how the admissions policy should operate.

Many schools in Kirklees have a Priority Admission Area (PAA) or a catchment area.

**Option 1** is for the new primary academy school and the new voluntary controlled all-through primary school to share the same PAA (please see the map on page 10 to show the area suggested). This would mean that families who live in the PAA would have priority for admission to both schools.

**Option 2** is for the new primary academy school not to have a PAA, but for oversubscription to be decided by those applicants living nearest to the school (measured in a straight line).

Feedback from the consultation process will be used to shape the proposed admission policy.

## How would the proposals impact upon travel?

The proposal seeks to ensure that there are sufficient school places for local families which would minimise the need for travel whilst encouraging children, parents and carers to walk to school.

The council would also consider road safety issues and ensure that appropriate extra measures are in place before the new school provision opens. There are a number of tools that have been successfully used to achieve this, for example School Travel Plans, safe walking routes and “walking buses” as well as discussions with public transport providers.

## Retain Mount Pleasant Primary School

There are no statutory proposals being made about Mount Pleasant Primary School.

Mount Pleasant Primary School is a close partner of other schools in the area and, in recent years, additional pupil places have been added to meet the growing basic need. The school now caters for 630 pupils from Reception to Year 6, admitting up to 90 pupils per year group.

The council was successful as part of the government’s Priority Schools Building Programme, in securing funding to rebuild the school on its current site. The school, the council and the Education Funding Agency are currently working towards this.

## What happens next?

This consultation is open between **20 April-5 June**. You have until then to express your views in writing, or in person at meetings. Once the consultation has finished, all feedback will be considered by The Diocese of West Yorkshire & The Dales Board of Education and by Kirklees Cabinet (the council's main decision making body), who will decide whether to move to the next stages which are set out in the table below.

<b>Establishing a new primary academy</b>		<b>Bringing together Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School</b>	
<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Activity</b>		<b>Timeline</b>
April-May 2015	Consultation period about proposal and outline the specification required for the new school	Statutory consultation on proposals in collaboration with the Diocese of West Yorkshire and The Dales	April-May 2015
June 2015	Consultation outcomes to Kirklees Council Cabinet	Consultation outcome to Kirklees Council Cabinet	June 2015
July 2015	Seek proposals from academy sponsors to run the new academy school	Publication of statutory notices and proposals and period of representation	July 2015
August - September 2015	Engagement with Department for Education and locally preferred proposer	No activity	August - September 2015
September-October 2015	Department for Education Sponsor approval	No activity	September-October 2015
October 2015	Successful proposer consultation on whether they should enter into a funding agreement for the new school with the Secretary of State	Report to Cabinet for final decision about proposals	October 2015
October 2015 -August 2016	Pre-opening processes	Preparation time for bringing the schools together	October 2015 -April 2016
From May 2016	Implementation (new build would follow)	Implementation	From May 2016

## Consultation events

The following informal events are open to anyone who would like to find out more and discuss the proposals, including local families and members of the community.

Please come along and see us between the times indicated below.

Date	Venue	Time
29 April	Thornton Lodge Nursery School	9:00-10:00am
30 April	Moor End Academy	4:00-5:00pm
6 May	Thornton Lodge Nursery School (Yews Hill Road Site)	8:45-9:30am
6 May	Crosland Moor Junior School	2:30-3:30pm
7 May	Mount Pleasant Primary School	8:45-9:15am 2:45-3:15pm
12 May	Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School	3:00-4:00pm
19 May	Crosland Moor Junior School	8:30-9:30am

Officers from the council will be present to answer questions and hear your views. As the people most concerned with your children's education, we want to know what you think. You can also take part in the consultation on our website [www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolorganisation](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolorganisation). Alternatively, you can complete and return the attached response form.

In addition to these events, there will be opportunities for consultation with staff and governors.

## 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 at one of the schools.

**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 these proposals. Please send your emails to  
**[school.organisation@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@kirklees.gov.uk)**

Please make sure you respond by **5 June 2015** to ensure that your views are heard.

# Consultation response form

Do you support or oppose the proposals to:

- Bring together Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School to form a single Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision for pupils aged 2-11.

Please ✓ tick one of these boxes. When answering please continue on a separate sheet if necessary.

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know

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

Do you support or oppose the proposal to create a new primary academy on the site of Moor End Academy ?

Strongly support	Support	Neither support nor oppose	Oppose	Strongly oppose	Don't know

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

As explained on page 13, there are 2 options for the admission policy for the new primary academy. Which option do you prefer?

Option 1	Option 2	Don't know

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



## 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 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)

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

(We will not use this information to contact you)

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# Linked proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School

## 1) Linked proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years.

Notice is given that the Leeds Diocesan Board of Education, within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales, Church House, 1 South Parade, Wakefield, WF1 1LP, intends to establish a new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school under section 11 (2) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

It is proposed that the school will open on 1 May 2016. The proposed school would bring together and replace Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

The school would be situated in the premises of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School at Dryclough Road, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield, HD4 5HX and 128A Yews Hill Road, Lockwood, Huddersfield, HD1 3SP. The school would serve the Crosland Moor community as defined in the current Priority Admission Area for the existing schools.

Recognising the foundation of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School the new school would preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church and Parish at diocesan level. The school would aim to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian beliefs and practice. It would encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promote Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales and Kirklees Council are committed to the newly created school being distinctive and inclusive in supporting all children and their families in learning and development. There is a common agreement that the school would be welcoming and accessible to the wider community. It would ensure equality of opportunity and work to remove any barrier to success. The Leeds Diocesan Board of Education and Kirklees Council believe that combining the ethos of the current schools to form the ethos of the new school would impact positively on teaching and learning, provide a firm foundation for cultural, continuous and sustained improvement to offer exciting and innovative opportunities for the whole school and community.

The proposed school would have a Church of England religious character and it is confirmed that as Proposer, the Leeds Diocesan Board of Education intends to ask the Secretary of State for Education to designate the school as a school with religious character.

The new school would cater for pupils between 2-11 years, with a published admission number of 120 pupils per year group for 4-11 years (from reception 2016) and over time reaching 840 primary school places in total. 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 3-4 years) as well as 52 full time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children 2-5 years).

There is no proposal for the proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school

to have specific provision reserved for pupils with specific special educational needs.

Kirklees admission criteria for Voluntary Controlled schools are: 1. Children in public care (looked after children) or a child who was previously looked after; 2. Children who live in the school's Priority Admission Area (PAA) who have a brother or sister attending from the same address at the date of admission (the sibling rule); 3. Children who live in the school's PAA; 4. Children who live outside the school's PAA who have a brother or sister attending from the same address at the date of admission (the sibling rule); 5. Children who live outside the school's PAA. It is not proposed to give priority for admissions to pupils on religious grounds.

The new school would occupy the same premises as the existing three separate schools and there would be no change to the travel arrangements for existing or future pupils. This proposal is related to proposals (2), (3) and (4) below to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

This notice is an extract from the completed proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be obtained from Revd Canon Ian Wildey, Deputy Diocesan Director of Education, The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales, Church House, 1 South Parade, Wakefield, WF1 1LP or Kirklees Council School Organisation and Planning Team, Civic Centre 1, Ground Floor, Huddersfield, HD1 2NF.

## 2) Linked proposal to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School

Notice is given in accordance with Section 15 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Kirklees Council, Civic Centre 1; High Street, Huddersfield HD1 2NF intends to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School Dryclough Road, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield, HD4 5HX, a voluntary controlled school, on 30-April 2016.

This proposal is related to proposal (1) above to establish a new Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school in the same premises and proposal (3) below, to discontinue Crosland Moor Junior School and proposal (4) below, to discontinue Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

All pupils would be transferred to the roll of the new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school proposed to be established in the same premises on 1 May 2016. The proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school would use the same premises as the existing buildings, therefore there are no travel implications arising from this proposal.

There is no specialised provision reserved for pupils with special educational needs at this school.

Statutory consultation requirements relating to this proposal have been complied with.

## 3) Linked proposal to close Crosland Moor Junior School

Notice is given in accordance with Section 15 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Kirklees Council, Civic Centre 1; High Street, Huddersfield HD1 2NF intends to discontinue Crosland Moor Junior School, Dryclough Road, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield, HD4 5HX, a community school, on 30 April 2016.

This proposal is related to proposal (1) above to establish a new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school in the same premises and proposal (2) above, to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and proposal (4) below, to discontinue Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

All pupils would be transferred to the roll of the new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school proposed to be established in the same premises on 1 May 2016. The proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school would use the same premises as the existing buildings therefore there are no travel implications arising from this proposal.

There is no specialised provision reserved for pupils with special educational needs at this school.

Statutory consultation requirements relating to this proposal have been complied with.

## 4) Linked proposal to close Thornton Lodge Nursery School

Notice is given in accordance with Section 15 (1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Kirklees Council, Civic Centre 1, High Street, Huddersfield HD2 1NF intends to discontinue Thornton Lodge Nursery School, 128A Yews Hill Road, Lockwood, Huddersfield, HD1 3SP, a local authority nursery school, on the 30th April 2016.

This proposal is related to proposal (1) above to establish a new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school in the same premises and proposal (2) above, to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and proposal (3) above, to discontinue Crosland Moor Junior School.

All pupils would be transferred to the roll of the new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school proposed to be established in the same premises on 1 May 2016. The proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school would use the same premises as the existing buildings therefore there are no travel implications arising from this proposal.

There is no specialised provision reserved for pupils with special educational needs at this school.

Statutory consultation requirements relating to this proposal have been complied with.

All applicable statutory consultation requirements relating to these proposals have been complied with. The proposals within this notice are related and therefore reliant upon each other and have therefore been considered together during the statutory consultation period. This notice is an extract from the complete proposals. Copies of the complete proposals can be obtained from: Kirklees Council, School Organisation and Planning Team, Civic Centre 1, Ground Floor, Huddersfield, HD1 2NF. Tel: 01484 221000. Copies of the full proposals are available on the Kirklees Council website [www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolorganisation](http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/schoolorganisation)

Within four weeks from the date of publication of these proposals i.e. 5th August 2015 any person may object to or make comments on the proposals by sending them to Alison O'Sullivan, Director for Children and Young People, c/o Kirklees Council, School Organisation and Planning Team, Civic Centre 1, Ground Floor, Huddersfield, HD1 2NF, or via Council email at: [school.organisation@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:school.organisation@kirklees.gov.uk)

**Signed:** Revd Canon Ian Wildey, Deputy Diocesan Director of Education Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales  
**Signed:** Alison O'Sullivan – Director for Children and Young People, Kirklees Council  
**Publication Date:** 9th July 2015

**Explanatory notes** Kirklees Council intends to create a new primary academy school on the site of Moor End Academy. It is proposed to cater for children aged 4-11 years, with a published admission number of 90 pupils per year groups for 4-11 years old, from reception 2016 providing 630 primary school place in total. It is intended that the new primary academy school will meet the basic need for primary school places in Huddersfield South West and allow the published admission number at the proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school to be set at 120 as described under item 1 of this statutory notice. The proposal to establish a new primary academy school on the site of Moor End Academy is to be decided by the Secretary of State for Education.



## **PART 1: Proposal to discontinue Thornton Lodge Nursery School on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

Information specified in Schedule 2 of The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013.

### **Contact details**

1. The name and contact address of the local authority or governing body publishing the proposals and the name, address and category of the school it is proposed that should be discontinued.

Kirklees Council, Civic Centre 1, Huddersfield, HD1 2NF intends to discontinue Thornton Lodge Nursery School, 128A Yews Hill Road, Lockwood, Huddersfield, HD1 3SP, a Local Authority nursery school.

### **Implementation**

2. The date on which it is proposed to close the school, or where it is proposed that the closure be implemented in stages, the dates of and information about each stage.

It is proposed to discontinue Thornton Lodge Nursery School on the 30th April 2016

### **Objectives and reason for closure**

3. A statement explaining the reason why closure of the school is considered necessary.

The proposal is for a technical closure of Thornton Lodge Nursery School to enable a new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision to be established as described in Part 4 of this proposal.

The council has a policy to explore opportunities for reducing transition points, and has worked with school leaders, governing bodies and where applicable the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales (its predecessor organisation the Diocese of Wakefield) to successfully establish an all-through primary school, that has effectively reduced transition points between key stages of education.

In addition, the establishment of all-through primary schools is intended to improve the educational standards attained by children through better and more flexible management of learning, without a change of school at age 7. Single all-through institutions can establish longer term relationships with pupils and families, provide more opportunities for staff development and better manage resources to support learning and smooth transition to each stage of learning. Please refer to Part 4 of this proposal for further information on the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision.

The proposed technical closure would maintain the existing number of nursery places offered by Thornton Lodge Nursery School and the existing split site arrangement would also be maintained and so the impact on children and families of this proposed technical closure is considered to be minimal.

In line with the current admissions policy there would be no automatic transfer from nursery to the reception class and parents would need to complete the Primary Common Application Form at the appropriate time. This does not affect the right of parents or carers to seek admission to other schools which have places available.

This proposal has been developed in partnership with the federated governing body of Thornton Lodge Nursery School and Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School.

### **Pupil numbers and admissions**

4. The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is currently made at the school.

At the time of the publication of this proposal, there are 108 full-time equivalent pupils on roll, 48 girls and 60 boys. There are 28 full time equivalent boys and girls in day-care.

The provision at Thornton Lodge Nursery School is inclusive but does not include specialist services for children with a disability. There are no boarding pupils at this nursery school.

### Displaced Pupils

5. A statement and supporting evidence about the need for school places in the area including whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

There would be no displaced pupils should the proposals be approved for implementation. All the pupils attending Thornton Lodge Nursery School would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision on 1 May 2016. Pupils currently attending Thornton Lodge Nursery School at either the Yews Hill Road site or Dryclough Road site would continue to do so.

The existing number of places in Thornton Lodge Nursery School would be replaced directly with places in the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision. This includes the equivalent level of provision to that which is presently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School. As a result, there would be no need for any displacement of current pupils.

There is a clear and continuing need for early years places in Huddersfield South West. During the course of 2015 the council has carried out a significant level of engagement with the schools community in Huddersfield South West, as well as with parents and carers, elected members and other key stakeholders to ensure a wide understanding was achieved regarding the need for additional school places in Huddersfield South West. In partnership with the schools community in Huddersfield South West the council has developed and consulted upon a proposal to establish a new 630 place primary academy school in the area from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016. A copy of the consultation report has been widely circulated to the schools community in Huddersfield South West. A link to the report is available in the consultation section of this proposal.

The proposed closure of Thornton Lodge Nursery School is not intended to change the number of early year's places available but to enable the direct replacement of places in the closing school with places in the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision.

In line with the current admissions policy there would be no automatic transfer from nursery to the reception class and parents would need to complete the Primary Common Application Form at the appropriate time. This does not affect the right of parents or carers to seek admission to other schools which have places available.

6. Details of the schools or further education colleges at which pupils at the school to be discontinued will be offered places, including:
- any interim arrangements;
  - the provision that is to be made for those pupils who receive educational provision recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs; and
  - in the case of special schools, the alternative provision made by local authorities other than the local authority which maintains the school.

All the pupils who attend Thornton Lodge Nursery School on 30 April 2016 would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision and so no interim arrangements are necessary. In line with the current admissions policy there would be no automatic transfer from nursery to the reception class and parents will need to complete the Primary Common Application Form at the appropriate time. This does not affect the right of parents or carers to seek admission to other schools which have places available.

There is no specialised provision reserved for pupils with special educational needs at Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

Thornton Lodge Nursery School is not a designated Special School.

7. Details of any other measures proposed to be taken to increase the number of school or further education college places available in consequence of the proposed discontinuance.

Please see items 5 and 6 above which explain the nature of the proposal and outlines the strategy for meeting the need for primary school places in Huddersfield South West.

### Impact on the Community

8. A statement and supporting evidence about the impact on the community of the closure of the school and any measures proposed to mitigate any adverse impact.

As explained under items three and five of this proposal, there would be no loss of early year's provision to the local community as a result of these proposals being implemented. The proposal is intended to have a positive impact on the community by providing the opportunity for an increased level of continuity of services for children and parents through the sustainable provision of primary education in the Crosland Moor area of Huddersfield South West.

It is envisaged that the proposed all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision would have an important role in the local community, as does Thornton Lodge Nursery School now. The proposal aims to build on existing strengths of the school. The proposed all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision would ensure, alongside other schools in the area and the proposed new primary academy school that there are sufficient places for children from within the local community that is future proofed for the projected pupil demographic. The school would continue to be a focal point for the community and be integral in ensuring local educational provisions work effectively both with each other as well as with local organisations and groups. As the work to develop Community Hubs continues there may be opportunities in the future to provide services in different ways.

During the statutory consultation period many respondents (including local residents) raised concerns about the possibility of traffic and congestion being increased on Dryclough Road and in the area, which would be a significant issue that would need careful consideration if the proposal were to be approved for implementation.

The council would carefully consider road safety issues and ensure that appropriate extra measures are in place to manage the impact of any potential increased levels of traffic congestion.

### Rural Primary Schools

9. Where proposals relate to a rural primary school designated as such by an order made for the purposes of section 15, a statement that the local authority or the governing body (as the case may be considered section 15(4)).

Under The Designation of Rural Primary Schools (England) 2014 Order Thornton Lodge Nursery School is not designated a Rural School.

### Balance of denominational provision

10. Where the school has a religious character, a statement about the impact of the proposed closure on the balance of denominational provision in the area and the impact on parental choice.

Thornton Lodge Nursery Schools is a Local Authority Nursery School without any religious character.

**Maintained nursery schools**

11. Where proposals relate to the discontinuance of a maintained nursery school, a statement setting out—

- (a) the local authority's assessment of the quality and quantity of the alternative provision compared to the school proposed to be discontinued and the proposed arrangements to ensure the expertise and specialism continues to be available; and
- (b) the accessibility and convenience of replacement provision for local parents.

Thornton Lodge Nursery Schools most recent full Ofsted inspection was in November 2013, in which the school's overall effectiveness was judged as 'Requires improvement'. As explained under item 3 of this proposal the Council has a policy to explore opportunities for reducing transition points and in partnership and collaboration with schools and other key stakeholders, has successfully established another all-through primary school in the borough. Items 5 and 6 that deal with displaced pupils explain that there will be no net loss of nursery places, should the proposals be approved for implementation. Existing expertise in early years at Thornton Lodge Nursery School would continue to be harnessed in the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision.

All of the existing places available at Thornton Lodge Nursery School would be available in the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision as described under Part 4 of this proposal and would provide the following benefits.

- A wider range of learning resources can be shared and the greater curriculum flexibility makes it easier to tailor learning experiences to meet individual needs.
- A wider age range of pupils can give more opportunities for social development which can raise self-esteem and help to promote responsible behaviour.
- Longer term relationships between the school, parents, carers and outside agencies to support pupils effectively from early years and through Key Stages 1 and 2.
- Staff would have longer to get to know the children and the consistency of staffing and provision for vulnerable children gives greater security for parents and carers.
- Children can attend the same school as older or younger brothers and sisters for longer.
- More effective use of the accommodation, facilities and resources.

As described under Item 5 of this proposal pupils currently attending Thornton Lodge Nursery School at either the Yews Hill Road site or Dryclough Road site would continue to do so should the proposal be approved for implementation.

**Sixth form provision**

12. Where the school proposed to be discontinued provides sixth form education, the effect for 16 to 19 year olds in the area that the closure will have in respect of —

- (a) their educational or training achievements;
- (b) their participation in education or training; and
- (c) the range of educational or training opportunities available to them.

Thornton Lodge Nursery School has no designated sixth form provision.

**Special educational provision**

13. Where existing provision that is recognised by the LA as reserved for pupils with special educational needs is being discontinued, a statement as to how the LA or the governing body believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for these children.

Thornton Lodge Nursery School has no specialised provision reserved for pupils with special educational needs.

**Travel**

14. Details of the length and journeys to alternative provision

The current buildings of Thornton Lodge Nursery School at Yews Hill Road and Dryclough Road would continue to be used, should the proposal be approved for implementation and therefore travel arrangements are not affected.

15. The proposed arrangements for travel of displaced pupils to other schools including how they will help to work against increased car use.

With reference to item 14 above – not applicable.

### Consultation

16. Decision-makers will need to be assured that consultation has taken place, and that the statutory process has been adhered to. Therefore proposals should include evidence that the period of statutory consultation took place, and the results of that consultation.

A seven week (six week term time) statutory consultation took place between 20th April 2015 and 5th June 2015. Consultation documents were written and produced with due regard to 'The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013'. Consultation documents were made widely available. Consultation documents were sent to the families of pupils, governors and staff at Moor End Academy, Crosland Moor Junior School, Mount Pleasant Primary School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School. Copies of the consultation document were also sent to elected members, trade union representatives, 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. Eight consultation events were developed for parents and carers, members of the local community and other interested parties to have an opportunity to discuss the proposals with officers from the Council. From over 3,133 consultation documents circulated, 33 responses were received. Responses have been received from parents and carers, governors, staff and other stakeholders. In addition, meetings have been held with staff and governors of Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

The majority of respondents to the consultation either strongly supported or supported this proposal. However a modest number of respondents strongly opposed the proposals or neither supported nor opposed the proposals. Respondents who supported the proposals identified several benefits associated with all-through schools. These included a reduction in the number of transition points, increased levels of continuity and also providing the opportunity for teaching staff to get to know the children for longer and thus help to raise educational outcomes.

Many respondents who were both supportive and in opposition to the proposals, expressed significant levels of concern over the possibility of increased levels of traffic congestion and also road safety. Respondents wanted assurances that the Council would implement the right measures to mitigate potential impacts to ensure the safety of children and members of the local community.

During the consultation period, no new issues have come to light that would challenge the rationale of the proposals.

For further information please use the link below to access the report for the consultation that was decided on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s3833/b.%202015-06-30%20Outcomes%20Hudds%20SW%20-%20final%20combined%20file.pdf>



## **PART 2: Proposal to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School on 30th April 2016**

Information specified in Schedule 2 of The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013.

### **Contact details**

1. The name and contact address of the local authority or governing body publishing the proposals and the name, address and category of the school it is proposed that should be discontinued.

Kirklees Council, Civic Centre 1, Huddersfield, HD1 2NF intends to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Dryclough Road, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield, HD4 5HX, a Voluntary Controlled school.

### **Implementation**

2. The date on which it is proposed to close the school, or where it is proposed that the closure be implemented in stages, the dates of and information about each stage.

It is proposed to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School on the 30th April 2016

### **Reason for closure**

3. A statement explaining the reason why closure of the school is considered necessary.

The proposal is for a technical closure of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School to enable a new all-through primary school with nursery provision to be established as described in Part 4 of this proposal. This proposal has been developed in partnership with the federated governing body of Thornton Lodge Nursery School and Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School.

The schools most recent Ofsted inspection in February 2015 judged the school's overall effectiveness as 'Requires improvement'. The schools prior inspection was also Requires Improvement.

The council has a policy to explore opportunities for reducing transition points, and has worked with school leaders, governing bodies and where applicable the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales (its predecessor organisation the Diocese of Wakefield) to successfully establish an all-through primary school in the borough, that has effectively reduced transition points between key stages of education.

The establishment of all-through primary schools is intended to improve the educational standards attained by children through better and more flexible management of learning, without a change of school at age 7. Single all-through institutions can establish longer term relationships with pupils and families, provide more opportunities for staff development and better manage resources to support learning and smooth transition to each stage of learning. Please refer to Part 4 of this proposal for further information on the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school.

### **Pupil numbers and admissions**

4. The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is currently made at the school.

For the January 2015 school census Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School had a number on roll of 413 (189 boys and 224 girls).

The provision at Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School is inclusive but does not include specialist services for children with a disability. There are no boarding pupils at the school.

**Displaced Pupils**

5. A statement and supporting evidence about the need for school places in the area including whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

There would be no displaced pupils should the proposals be approved for implementation. All the pupils attending Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision on the 1st May 2016. Pupils at Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School would remain in the same building as they are in currently.

There is a clear and continuing need for primary school places in Huddersfield South West. During the course of 2015 the council has carried out a significant level of engagement with the schools community in Huddersfield South West, as well as with parents and carers, elected members and other key stakeholders to ensure a wide understanding was achieved regarding the need for additional school places in Huddersfield South West. In partnership with the schools community in Huddersfield South West the council has developed and consulted upon a proposal to establish a new 630 place primary academy school in the area from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016. A copy of this report has been widely circulated to the schools community in Huddersfield South West. A link to the report is available in the consultation section of this proposal.

Dryclough CE (VC) has a published admission number of 140 starting in Reception. The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision, would have a published admission number of 120; therefore, over time the new school would become an 840 place primary school from reception through to year 6. Accounting for the proposal to establish a new 630 place primary school academy school in Huddersfield South West, there would be no net loss of places in Huddersfield South West, as the proposal to establish a new primary academy school would re-provide these 20 reception places from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016.

There would be no need for any displacement of current pupils; all pupils currently on roll at Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School would be guaranteed a place in the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision.

6. Details of the schools or further education colleges at which pupils at the school to be discontinued will be offered places, including:
- (a) any interim arrangements;
  - (b) the provision that is to be made for those pupils who receive educational provision recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs; and
  - (c) in the case of special schools, the alternative provision made by local authorities other than the local authority which maintain the school.

All the pupils who attend Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2016 would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school with nursery provision. Pupils would be entitled to a place at the proposed new all through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school with nursery provision up to the age of 11.

This does not affect the right of parents or carers to seek admission to other schools which have places available.

There is no specialised provision reserved for pupils with special educational needs at Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School.

Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School is not a special school.

7. Details of any other measures proposed to be taken to increase the number of school or further education college places available in consequence of the proposed discontinuance.

With reference to item 5 and 6 above there would be no net loss of places in Huddersfield South West as the council is seeking proposals to establish a new primary academy school in Huddersfield South West that would re-provide these 20 reception places from the 1st September 2016.

### Impact on the Community

8. A statement and supporting evidence about the impact on the community of the closure of the school and any measures proposed to mitigate any adverse impact.

The proposals are intended to have a positive impact on the community, by providing the opportunity for an increased level of continuity of services for children and parents through the sustainable provision of primary education in the Crosland Moor area.

It is envisaged that the proposed all-through primary school, with nursery provision, would have an important role in the local community, as does Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School now. The proposal aims to build on existing strengths of the school. The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision would ensure, alongside other schools in the area and the proposed new primary academy school that there are sufficient places for children from the local community that is future proofed for the projected pupil demographic. The school would continue to be a focal point for the community and be integral in ensuring local educational provisions work effectively both with each other as well as with local organisations and groups. As the work to develop Community Hubs continues there may be opportunities in the future to provide services in different ways.

During the statutory consultation period many respondents raised concerns about the possibility of traffic and congestion being increased on Dryclough Road and in the area, which would be a significant issue that would need careful consideration if the proposals were to be approved.

The council will carefully consider road safety issues and ensure that appropriate extra measures are in place to manage the impact of any potential increased levels of traffic congestion.

### Rural Primary Schools

9. Where proposals relate to a rural primary school designated as such by an order made for the purposes of section 15, a statement that the local authority or the governing body (as the case may be considered section 15(4)).

Under The Designation of Rural Primary Schools (England) 2014 Order Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School is not designated a Rural School.

### Balance of denominational provision

10. Where the school has a religious character, a statement about the impact of the proposed closure on the balance of denominational provision in the area and the impact on parental choice.

It is proposed that the closure of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School would be linked to the establishment of the proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision. Provision for reception and key stage one would remain on the same site. Denominational provision for infant school age pupils in the area would be maintained and there should be no impact on parental choice. There would be an increase in denominational places for junior school age pupils in the area. The new school would preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church at Parish and Diocesan level. The school would aim to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian beliefs and practice. It would encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith, and promote Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales, Leeds Diocesan Board

of Education and Kirklees Council are committed to the newly created school being distinctive and inclusive in supporting all children and their families in learning and development. There is a common agreement that the school would be welcoming and accessible to the wider community. It would ensure equality of opportunity and work to remove any barrier to success. Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales and Kirklees Council believe that combining the ethos and values of the school and the other two schools that are subject to this proposal, to form the ethos and values of the new school would impact positively on teaching and learning, provide a firm foundation for culture of continuous, sustained improvement, and to offer an exciting and innovative opportunity for the whole school community.

### Maintained nursery schools

11. Where proposals relate to the discontinuance of a maintained nursery school, a statement setting out—
- the local authority's assessment of the quality and quantity of the alternative provision compared to the school proposed to be discontinued and the proposed arrangements to ensure the expertise and specialism continues to be available; and
  - the accessibility and convenience of replacement provision for local parents.

Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School is not a maintained nursery school.

### Sixth form provision

12. Where the school proposed to be discontinued provides sixth form education, the effect for 16 to 19 year olds in the area that the closure will have in respect of —
- their educational or training achievements;
  - their participation in education or training; and
  - the range of educational or training opportunities available to them.

Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School does not have a sixth form provision.

### Special educational provision

13. Where existing provision that is recognised by the LA as reserved for pupils with special educational needs is being discontinued, a statement as to how the LA or the governing body believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for these children.

Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School has no specialised provision reserved for pupils with special educational needs.

### Travel

14. Details of the length and journeys to alternative provision

The current building on Dryclough Road would continue to be used and therefore travel arrangements are not affected.

15. The proposed arrangements for travel of displaced pupils to other schools including how they will help to work against increased car use.

With reference to item 14 above – not applicable.

### 16. Consultation

Decision-makers will need to be assured that consultation has taken place, and that the statutory process has been adhered to. Therefore proposals should include evidence that the period of statutory consultation took place, and the results of that consultation.

A seven week (six week term time) statutory consultation took place between 20th April 2015 and 5th June 2015. Consultation documents were written and produced with due regard to 'The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013'. Consultation documents were made widely available. Consultation

documents were sent to the families of pupils, governors and staff at Moor End Academy, Crosland Moor Junior School, Mount Pleasant Primary School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School. Copies of the consultation document were also sent to elected members, trade union representatives, 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. Eight consultation events were developed for parents and carers, members of the local community and other interested parties to have an opportunity to discuss the proposals with officers from the Council. From over 3,133 consultation documents circulated, 33 responses were received. Responses have been received from parents and carers, governors, staff and other stakeholders. In addition, meetings have been held with staff and governors of Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

The majority of respondents to the consultation either strongly supported or supported this proposal. However a modest number of respondents strongly opposed the proposals or neither supported nor opposed the proposals. Respondents who supported the proposals identified several benefits associated with all-through schools. These included a reduction in the number of transition points, increased levels of continuity and also providing the opportunity for teaching staff to get to know the children for longer and thus help to raise educational outcomes.

Many respondents who were both supportive and in opposition to the proposals, expressed significant levels of concern over the possibility of increased levels of traffic congestion and also road safety. Respondents wanted assurances that the Council would implement the right measures to mitigate potential impacts to ensure the safety of children and members of the local community.

During the consultation period, no new issues have come to light that would challenge the rationale of the proposals.

For further information please use the link below to access the report for the consultation that was decided on the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2015.

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s3833/b.%202015-06-30%20Outcomes%20Hudds%20SW%20-%20final%20combined%20file.pdf>

### **PART3: Proposal to discontinue Crosland Moor Junior School on 30th April 2016**

Information specified in Schedule 2 of The School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013.

#### **Contact details**

1. The name and contact address of the local authority or governing body publishing the proposals and the name, address and category of the school it is proposed that should be discontinued.

Kirklees Council, Civic Centre 1, Huddersfield, HD1 2NF intends to discontinue Crosland Moor Junior School, Dryclough Road, Crosland Moor, Huddersfield, HD4 5HX, a community school.

#### **Implementation**

2. The date on which it is proposed to close the school, or where it is proposed that the closure be implemented in stages, the dates of and information about each stage.

It is proposed to discontinue Crosland Moor Junior School on the 30th April 2016

#### **Reason for closure**

3. A statement explaining the reason why closure of the school is considered necessary.

The proposed technical closure of Crosland Moor Junior School would enable the establishment of a new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision which would create new opportunities to raise standards of teaching and learning and raise educational outcomes for children.

A recent Ofsted inspection of Crosland Moor Junior School in which the school's overall effectiveness was judged as Good.

The proposal is for a technical closure of Crosland Moor Junior School to enable a new all through primary school with nursery provision to be established as described in Part 4 of this proposal.

The proposal has been developed in partnership with the governing body of Crosland Moor Junior School.

The council has a policy to explore opportunities for reducing transition points, and has worked with school leaders, governing bodies and where applicable the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales (its predecessor organisation the Diocese of Wakefield) to successfully establish an all-through primary school in the borough, that have effectively reduced transition points between key stages of education.

The establishment of all-through primary schools is intended to improve the educational standards attained by children through better and more flexible management of learning, without a change of school at age 7. Single all-through institutions can establish longer term relationships with pupils and families, provide more opportunities for staff development and better manage resources to support learning and smooth transition to each stage of learning. Please refer to Part 4 of this proposal for further information on the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school.

#### **Pupil numbers and admissions**

4. The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is currently made at the school.

As per the published January 2015 school census, numbers on roll for 7-11 year olds at Crosland Moor Junior School was 484 (260 Boys and 224 girls).

The provision is inclusive but does not include specialist services for children with a disability.

There are no boarding pupils at the school.

#### **Displaced Pupils**

5. A statement and supporting evidence about the need for school places in the area including whether there is sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

There would be no displaced pupils should the proposals be approved for implementation. All the pupils attending Crosland Moor Junior School would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision on the 1st May 2016. Pupils at Crosland Moor Junior School would remain in the same building.

There is a clear and continuing need for primary school places in Huddersfield South West. During the course of 2015 the council has carried out a significant level of engagement with the schools community in Huddersfield South West, as well as with parents and carers, elected members and other key stakeholders to ensure a wide understanding was achieved regarding the need for additional school places in Huddersfield South West. In partnership with the schools community in Huddersfield South West the council has developed and consulted upon a proposal to establish a new 630 place primary academy school in the area

from the 1st September 2016. A copy of this report has been widely circulated to the schools community in Huddersfield South West. A link to the report is available in the consultation section of this proposal.

Crosland Moor Junior School has a published admission number of 150 starting in Year 3. The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school would have a published admission number of 120, therefore, over time the school would become an 840 place primary school from reception through to year 6. Accounting for the proposal to establish a new 630 place primary school academy school in Huddersfield South West, there would be no net loss of places in Huddersfield South West, as the council is seeking proposals to establish a new primary academy school in Huddersfield South West from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016.

6. Details of the schools or further education colleges at which pupils at the school to be discontinued will be offered places, including:
- (a) any interim arrangements;
  - (b) the provision that is to be made for those pupils who receive educational provision recognised by the local authority as reserved for children with special educational needs; and
  - (c) in the case of special schools, the alternative provision made by local authorities other than the local authority which maintain the school.

All the pupils who attend Crosland Moor Junior School on 1st May 2016 would automatically become part of the proposed new all through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, with nursery provision. Pupils would be entitled to a place at the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school up to the age of 11.

This does not affect the right of parents or carers to seek admission to other schools which have places available.

There is no specialised provision reserved for pupils with special educational needs at Crosland Moor Junior School.

Crosland Moor Junior School is not a special school.

7. Details of any other measures proposed to be taken to increase the number of school or further education college places available in consequence of the proposed discontinuance.

With reference to item 5 and 6 above there would be no net loss of places in Huddersfield South West as the council is seeking proposals to establish a new primary academy school in Huddersfield South West from the 1st September 2016.

### **Impact on the Community**

8. A statement and supporting evidence about the impact on the community of the closure of the school and any measures proposed to mitigate any adverse impact.

The proposals are intended to have a positive impact on the community, by providing the opportunity for an increased level of continuity of services for children and parents through the sustainable provision of primary education in the Crosland Moor area.

It is envisaged that the proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school would have an important role in the local community, as does Crosland Moor Junior School now. The proposal aims to build on the existing strengths of the school. The proposed all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision, would ensure, alongside other schools in the area and the proposed new academy school that there are sufficient places for children from the local community that is future proofed for the projected pupil demographic. The school would continue to be a focal point for the community and be integral in ensuring local educational provisions work effectively both with each other as well as with local organisations and groups. As the work to develop Community Hubs continues

there may be opportunities in the future to provide services in different ways.

During the statutory consultation period many respondents raised concerns about the possibility of traffic and congestion being increased on Dryclough Road and in the area, which would be a significant issue that would need careful consideration if the proposals were to be approved.

The council will carefully consider road safety issues and ensure that appropriate extra measures are in place to manage the impact of any potential increased levels of traffic congestion.

### Rural Primary Schools

9. Where proposals relate to a rural primary school designated as such by an order made for the purposes of section 15, a statement that the local authority or the governing body (as the case may be considered section 15(4).

Under The Designation of Rural Primary Schools (England) 2014 Order Crosland Moor Junior School is not designated a Rural School.

### Balance of denominational provision

10. Where the school has a religious character, a statement about the impact of the proposed closure on the balance of denominational provision in the area and the impact on parental choice.

Crosland Moor Junior Schools is a community school without any religious character.

### Maintained nursery schools

11. Where proposals relate to the discontinuance of a maintained nursery school, a statement setting out—
- (a) the local authority's assessment of the quality and quantity of the alternative provision compared to the school proposed to be discontinued and the proposed arrangements to ensure the expertise and specialism continues to be available; and
  - (b) the accessibility and convenience of replacement provision for local parents.

Crosland Moor Junior School has no nursery provision.

### Sixth form provision

12. Where the school proposed to be discontinued provides sixth form education, the effect for 16 to 19 year olds in the area that the closure will have in respect of —
- (a) their educational or training achievements;
  - (b) their participation in education or training; and
  - (c) the range of educational or training opportunities available to them.

Crosland Moor Junior School does not have a sixth form provision.

### Special educational provision

13. Where existing provision that is recognised by the LA as reserved for pupils with special educational needs is being discontinued, a statement as to how the LA or the governing body believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of the educational provision for these children.

Crosland Moor Junior School is not a school that is reserved for children with special educational needs.

### Travel

14. Details of the length and journeys to alternative provision

The current building on Dryclough Road would continue to be used and therefore travel



arrangements are not affected.

15. The proposed arrangements for travel of displaced pupils to other schools including how they will help to work against increased car use.

Not applicable

## 16. Consultation

Decision-makers will need to be assured that consultation has taken place, and that the statutory process has been adhered to. Therefore proposals should include evidence that the period of statutory consultation took place, and the results of that consultation.

A seven week (six week term time) statutory consultation took place between 20th April 2015 and 5th June 2015. Consultation documents were written and produced with due regard to 'The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013'. Consultation documents were made widely available. Consultation documents were sent to the families of pupils, governors and staff at Moor End Academy, Crosland Moor Junior School, Mount Pleasant Primary School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School. Copies of the consultation document were also sent to elected members, trade union representatives, 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. Eight consultation events were developed for parents and carers, members of the local community and other interested parties to have an opportunity to discuss the proposals with officers from the Council. From over 3,133 consultation documents circulated, 33 responses were received. Responses have been received from parents and carers, governors, staff and other stakeholders. In addition, meetings have been held with staff and governors of Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

The majority of respondents to the consultation either strongly supported or supported this proposal. However a modest number of respondents strongly opposed the proposals or neither supported nor opposed the proposals. Respondents who supported the proposals identified several benefits associated with all-through schools. These included a reduction in the number of transition points, increased levels of continuity and also providing the opportunity for teaching staff to get to know the children for longer and thus help to raise educational outcomes.

Many respondents who were both supportive and in opposition to the proposals, expressed significant levels of concern over the possibility of increased levels of traffic congestion and also road safety. Respondents wanted assurances that the Council would implement the right measures to mitigate potential impacts to ensure the safety of children and members of the local community.

During the consultation period, no new issues have come to light that would challenge the rationale of the proposals.

For further information please use the link below to access the report for the consultation that was decided on the 30th June 2015.

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s3833/b.%202015-06-30%20Outcomes%20Hudds%20SW%20-%20final%20combined%20file.pdf>

## Part 4 - Complete Proposal to establish a Church of England Voluntary Controlled 2-11 primary school to serve Huddersfield South West

Proposals published under section 11 (2) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

### Contact details

1. The name and contact address of the local authority or the proposers (as the case may be).

Leeds Diocesan Board of Education, within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales,  
Church House, 1 South Parade, Wakefield, WF1 1LP

### Implementation

2. The date on which it is proposed that the school be opened or, where it is proposed that the opening be implemented in stages, the dates of and information about each stage.

The proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school would open on 1st May 2016, subject to approval.

3. Where the proposals are to establish a voluntary, foundation or foundation special school, a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local authority or by the proposers, and if the proposals are to be implemented by both,

- a) a statement as to the extent that they are to be implemented by each body, and.
- b) a statement as to the extent to which the capital costs of implementation are to be met by each body.

The proposal to establish a new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision is to be implemented by the Leeds Diocesan Board of Education, within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales and Kirklees Council. Officers from the Council will develop detailed plans to ensure a successful implementation in partnership with Diocesan officers and school leadership, should the proposal be approved for implementation.

There are no capital costs associated with the implementation of this proposal as the proposal aims to utilise existing school buildings and sites for which there is already sufficient and suitable physical capacity that is required to establish the proposed all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled Primary School.

### Reason for the new school

4. A statement explaining the reason why the new school is considered necessary and whether it is to replace an existing school or schools.

The proposal is intended to bring together and replace Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School to establish a new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school that would also include nursery provision that is equivalent to that which is currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

The council has a policy to explore opportunities for reducing transition points, and has worked with school leaders, governing bodies and where applicable the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales (its predecessor organisation the Diocese of Wakefield) to already establish another all-through primary school. The establishment of all-through primary schools is intended to improve the educational standards attained by children through better and more flexible management of learning, without a change of school at age 7. Single all-through institutions can establish longer term relationships with pupils and families, provide more opportunities for staff development and better manage resources to support learning and smooth transition to each stage of learning. In addition, all-through primary schools have the following benefits.

- A wider range of learning resources can be shared and the greater curriculum flexibility makes it easier to tailor learning experiences to meet individual needs.
- A wider age range of pupils can give more opportunities for social development which can raise self-esteem and help to promote responsible behaviour.
- Longer term relationships between the school, parents, carers and outside agencies to support pupils effectively from early years and through Key Stages 1 and 2.
- Staff would have longer to get to know the children and the consistency of staffing

- and provision for vulnerable children gives greater security for parents and carers.
- Children can attend the same school as older or younger brothers and sisters for longer.
  - More effective use of the accommodation, facilities and resources.

### Category

5. The category of school that it is proposed be established (a foundation or foundation special school and, if so, whether it is to have a foundation, a voluntary school, a community or community special school, or a local authority maintained nursery school) and, if required by section 10, a statement that the Secretary of State's consent has been obtained to publish the proposals.

The proposal is to establish a new Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision under Section 11 (2) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 which provides for the following:

Proposals for a new community or foundation primary school that is to replace a maintained infant and maintained junior school. Proposals for a new school resulting from the reorganisation of existing faith schools in an area, including an existing faith school losing or changing its religious designation. (DfE – Establishing new maintained schools – Departmental Advice for local authorities and new school proposers - June 2013). Secretary of State consent is not required for proposals published under Section 11 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

### Ethos and religious character

6. A short statement setting out the proposed ethos of the school, including details of any educational philosophy, which it is proposed that the school will adhere to.

7. If it is proposed that the school is to have a religious character, confirmation of the religion or religious denomination in accordance with whose tenets religious education will, or may be required to be provided at the school; and a statement that the proposers intend to ask the Secretary of State to designate the school as a school with such a religious character.

8. Where it is proposed that the school—

- a) has a religious character, evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion; or
- b) adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with that philosophy that is not already met in other maintained schools or Academies in the area.

Recognising the foundation of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School the new school would preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church and Parish at diocesan level. The proposed new school would maintain Church of England presence with the school system in Huddersfield South West and meet the demand for such places which can be evidenced via the foundations of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School. The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision would aim to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian beliefs and practice. It would encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promote Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales and Kirklees Council are committed to the newly created school being distinctive and inclusive in supporting all children and their families in learning and development. There is a common agreement that the school would be welcoming and accessible to the wider community. It would ensure equality of opportunity and work to remove any barrier to success. The Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales and Kirklees Council believe that in combining the ethos and values of the three schools that are identified in Parts 1-3 of this statutory proposal, to form the ethos and values of the new school would impact positively on teaching and learning, provide a firm foundation for cultural, continuous and sustained improvement to offer exciting and innovative opportunities for the whole school and local community.

The proposed school would have a Church of England religious character and it is confirmed that as Proposer, the Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales intends to ask the Secretary of State for Education to designate the

school as a school with religious character.

### Pupil numbers and admissions

9. The numbers (distinguishing between compulsory and non-compulsory school age pupils), age range, sex, and special educational needs of pupils (distinguishing between boarding and day pupils) for whom provision is to be made at the school.

The proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision would provide the following :

- Cater for pupils between 2-11 years.
- Have a published admission number of 120 pupils per year group for 4-11 years (from reception 2016) and over time reaching 840 primary school places in total.
- Provide 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 2-4 years)
- Provide 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children 2-5 years).

There is no proposal for the proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision to have specific provision reserved for pupils with specific special educational needs, or have any boarding provision.

### Admission arrangements

10. Except in relation to proposals for special schools, the proposed admission arrangements and over-subscription criteria for the new school including, where the school is proposed to be a foundation or voluntary school which is to have a religious character—

- a) the extent to which priority for places is proposed to be given to children of the school's religion or religious denomination; and.
- b) the extent, if any, to which priority is to be given to children of other religions or religious denominations or to children having no religion or religious denomination. .

If there are fewer applicants than there are places available, everyone who applies will be offered a place. When there are more applicants than there are places available there has to be a way of deciding which children are offered places. This is done by having admission criteria, also known as oversubscription criteria, which are considered in order.

For children of statutory school age, Kirklees admission (over subscription criteria) criteria for Voluntary Controlled schools are: 1. Children in public care (looked after children) or a child who was previously looked after; 2. Children who live in the school's Priority Admission Area (PAA) who have a brother or sister attending from the same address at the date of admission (the sibling rule); 3. Children who live in the school's PAA; 4. Children who live outside the school's PAA who have a brother or sister attending from the same address at the date of admission (the sibling rule); 5. Children who live outside the school's PAA.

For nursery children the school control their own admission policy.

For childcare places the school again control their own admission policy but as children often start at different times in the year they will usually work on a 'first come first served' basis.

Schools will admit children with statements of special educational needs where the statement names the school.

It is not proposed to give priority for admissions to pupils on any religious grounds.

### Early years provision

11. Where the proposals are to include provision for pupils aged two to five—

- a) details of how the early years provision will be organised, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number of places, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered; .

- b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services, and how the proposals for the establishment of the school are consistent with the integration of early years provision with childcare;.
- c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early year's provision;
- d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools, and in settings outside of the maintained school sector which deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within three miles of the school; and .
- e) the reasons why schools and settings outside the maintained school sector which deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within three miles of the school and which have spare capacity, cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the numbers of such children.

The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision would retain the same level and scope of early year's provision to that which is currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The provision currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School across both its Yews Hill Road and Dryclough Road site will be retained in full. This means that the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled Primary School, with nursery provision would provide the following level of early year's provision:

Provide 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 2-4 years)

Provide 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children 2-5 years). The length of sessions would be the same as offered now by Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The provision would be fully inclusive, but there is no proposed specialised provision reserved for children with special educational needs.

The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled Primary School, with nursery provision would build on the existing strengths of the federated Thornton Lodge Nursery school and Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School to successfully integrate early year's provision with child care services within an all-through setting and form closer, effective working relationship until the end of Key Stage 2.

There is demand for early years and child care places in the area as can be evidenced via the take up of existing places at Thornton Lodge Nursery School. There are sufficient early learning and childcare places in the local area (see the [Crosland Moor and Netherton childcare sufficiency ward profile](#)).

As the proposal is for a technical closure of Thornton Lodge Nursery School to enable a new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision to be established. The proposed technical closure would maintain the existing number of nursery places offered by Thornton Lodge Nursery School and the existing split site arrangement would also be maintained and so the impact on children and families of this proposed technical closure is considered to be minimal. The impact on other local providers both in and outside of the school sector is also considered to be minimal. Given the nature of the proposal detailed assessments of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools, and in settings outside of the maintained school sector which deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within three miles of the school has not been considered.

### Sixth form provision

12. Where it is proposed that the school will provide sixth form education, how for 16 to 19 year olds in the area the proposals will—

- a) improve the educational or training achievements;
- b) increase participation in education or training; and.
- c) expand the range of educational or training opportunities available to them.

The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school will not include a sixth form provision.

### Special educational needs provision

13. Whether the school will have provision that is recognised by the local authority as reserved for

children with special educational needs and, if so, the nature of such provision.

**14.** Details of the proposed policy of the school relating to the education of pupils with special educational needs.

**15.** Where the school will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs—

- a)** a statement on how the proposer believes the proposal is likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and range of educational provision for these children; .
- b)** details of the improvements that the proposals will bring in respect of—
  - (i) access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local authority's Accessibility Strategy; .
  - (ii) access to specialist staff, both education and other professionals, including any external support or outreach services; .
  - (iii) access to suitable accommodation; and .
  - (iv) supply of suitable places.

The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school will have no specialised provision reserved for pupils with special educational needs.

### Single sex school

**16.** Where the school is to admit pupils of a single sex—

- a)** evidence of local demand for single sex education and how this will be met if the proposals are approved; and .
- b)** a statement giving details of the likely effect the new school will have on the balance of provision of single sex education in the area.

The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school will be a school that caters for both boys and girls.

### Curriculum

**17.** Confirmation that the school will meet the general requirements in relation to the curriculum contained in section 78 of EA 2002(1) and an outline of any provision that will be in addition to the basic curriculum required by section 80 of EA 2002(2), in particular any 14-19 vocational education.

The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school will meet the general requirements of the National Curriculum.

### Relevant experience of proposers

**18.** Evidence of any relevant experience in education held by the proposers including details of any involvement in the improvement of standards in education.

The historic Diocese of Wakefield and its successor, The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales have been closely involved in education provision for very many years. The council has already worked closely with Diocese officers to successfully establish another all-through primary school in the borough. As explained throughout these proposals the Council has a policy to explore opportunities for reducing transition points, and has worked with school leaders, governing bodies and where applicable the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales (its predecessor organisation the Diocese of Wakefield) to successfully establish an all-through primary school. The establishment of all-through primary schools is intended to improve the educational standards attained by children through better and more flexible management of learning, without a change of school at age 7. Single all-through institutions can establish longer term relationships with pupils and families, provide more opportunities for staff development and better manage resources to support learning and smooth transition to each stage of learning.

### Effects on standards and contributions to school improvement

**19.** Information and supporting evidence on—

- a)** how the school will contribute to enhancing the diversity and quality of education in the area; and
- b)** how the school will contribute to school improvement.

The proposed all through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school would maintain Church of England based school places in Huddersfield South West. It is envisaged that the proposed all-through primary school would have an important role in Huddersfield South West, as do the existing three schools now, the proposal aims to build on the existing strengths that already exist. The proposed all-through school would ensure, alongside other schools in the area and the proposed new primary academy school that there are sufficient quality places for children from the local community that is future proofed for the projected pupil demographic.

The proposed establishment of an all-through primary school in Huddersfield South West is intended to improve the educational standards attained by children. This is achieved through better and more flexible management of learning, without a change of school at age 7.

There is the benefit of more continuity. For example, a single school would have common approaches to curriculum planning, assessment, record keeping and target setting. Staff have longer to get to know the children. Most importantly, the school would have a shared understanding of standards and expectations.

There is the benefit of more flexibility and more opportunities to meet individual needs by tailoring learning experiences. For example, Year 3 children who require further experience of the Key Stage 1 curriculum and more able Year 2 children requiring the challenge of the Key Stage 2 programmes can be catered for. It means a wider range of resources can be shared and common themes developed across the school. This curriculum flexibility can be particularly important for children with Special Educational Needs.

There are more opportunities for social development. For example, older children can have some appropriate pastoral responsibility for younger children, which can impact positively on whole school behaviour and children's self-esteem. Vulnerable children and their parents and carers have greater security from a consistency of staff and provision.

There is more consistency in terms of policies and practice. The school improvement agenda is led by a single leadership team and governing body.

There is closer contact for parents and carers with school staff over a longer period of time. A more continuous relationship between the school, parents, carers and outside agencies can ensure that all pupils, but particularly those with special needs, are supported effectively from the Foundation Stage through to the end of Year 6.

There is more opportunity for children to attend the same school as older or younger brothers and sisters.

There are more opportunities for staff to work with a larger team, thus supporting professional development and providing further opportunities to take on new responsibilities.

## Location and costs

20. A statement about—

- a) the area or particular community or communities which the new school is expected to serve;
- b) the location of the site or sites including, where appropriate, the postal address or addresses;
- c) the current ownership and tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease;
- d) whether the site is currently used for the purposes of another school and if so why the site will no longer be required by the other school;
- e) the estimated capital costs of providing the site and how those costs will be met (including the extent to which the costs are to be met by the proposers and the local authority) and how the proposers intend to fund their share of the costs of implementing the proposals (if any); .
- f) whether planning permission is needed under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and when it is anticipated that it will be obtained;

- g) confirmation from the Secretary of State or local authority (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

The proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school would occupy the same premises as Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School. The proposed new school would continue to serve the Crosland Moor community as defined in the current Priority Admission Area for the existing schools. There are no anticipated capital costs or other costs for site acquisition in establishing the new school. The implementation of this proposal is not subject to any planning permission being granted.

In accordance with the Schedule 2, Part 4 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 for school land and buildings ownership for Voluntary Controlled schools, ownership of the land and buildings (except playing fields) of Thornton Lodge Nursery School and Crosland Moor Junior School would transfer to the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales.

### Travel

21. The proposed arrangements for travel of pupils to the school.

The new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school would occupy the same premises as the existing three separate schools and there would be no change to the travel arrangements for existing or future pupils.

### Federation

22. Details of any proposals for the school to be established as a federated school.

It is proposed the new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school with nursery provision will have a single leadership team and governing body. Therefore federation does not form any aspect of these proposals.

### Voluntary aided schools

23. Where the school is to be a voluntary aided school—
- details of the trusts on which the site is to be held; and
  - confirmation that the governing body will be able and willing to carry out their obligations under Schedule 3 to SSFA 1998.(3)

The proposed new all-through Church of England primary school, with nursery provision is to have a Voluntary Controlled status.

### Foundation schools

24. Where the school is to be a foundation or foundation special school, confirmation as to—
- whether it will have a foundation and if so, the name or proposed name of the foundation;
  - the rationale for the foundation and the particular ethos that it will bring to the school; .
  - the details of membership of the foundation, including the names of the members;
  - the proposed constitution of the governing body; and
  - details of the foundation's charitable objects.

With reference to item 23 the proposed new school is to be a Church of England Voluntary controlled all-through primary school, with nursery provision.

### Independent schools entering the maintained sector

25. Where a school is an independent school entering the maintained sector—
- a statement that the requirements of section 11(3) are met;
  - a statement as to whether the premises will meet the requirements of the School Premises (England) Regulations 2012(4) and, if not,.
    - details of how the premises are deficient; and
    - details of how it is intended to remedy the deficiency.



With reference to items 23 and 24 above this question is not applicable.

## 26. Consultation

Decision-makers will need to be assured that consultation has taken place, and that the statutory process has been adhered to. Therefore proposals should include evidence that the period of statutory consultation took place, and the results of that consultation.

A seven week (six week term time) statutory consultation took place between 20th April 2015 and 5th June 2015. Consultation documents were written and produced with due regard to 'The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2013'. Consultation documents were made widely available. Consultation documents were sent to the families of pupils, governors and staff at Moor End Academy, Crosland Moor Junior School, Mount Pleasant Primary School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School. Copies of the consultation document were also sent to elected members, trade union representatives, 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. Eight consultation events were developed for parents and carers, members of the local community and other interested parties to have an opportunity to discuss the proposals with officers from the Council. From over 3,133 consultation documents circulated, 33 responses were received. Responses have been received from parents and carers, governors, staff and other stakeholders. In addition, meetings have been held with staff and governors of Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

The majority of respondents to the consultation either strongly supported or supported this proposal. However a modest number of respondents strongly opposed the proposals or neither supported nor opposed the proposals. Respondents who supported the proposals identified several benefits associated with all-through schools. These included a reduction in the number of transition points, increased levels of continuity and also providing the opportunity for teaching staff to get to know the children for longer and thus help to raise educational outcomes.

Many respondents who were both supportive and in opposition to the proposals, expressed significant levels of concern over the possibility of increased levels of traffic congestion and also road safety. Respondents wanted assurances that the Council would implement the right measures to mitigate potential impacts to ensure the safety of children and members of the local community.

During the consultation period, no new issues have come to light that would challenge the rationale of the proposals.

For further information please use the link below to access the report for the consultation that was decided on the 30<sup>th</sup> June.

<https://democracy.kirklees.gov.uk/documents/s3833/b.%202015-06-30%20Outcomes%20Hudds%20SW%20-%20final%20combined%20file.pdf>

## **Kirklees School Organisation Advisory Group Constitution & Purpose**

The Education and Inspections Act 2006 confirms Local Authority responsibility for school organisation decision-making.

To assist the Local Authority in reaching decisions on school organisation statutory notices, a School Organisation Advisory Group will be established to consider and advise Cabinet, as the decision-making body, on statutory proposals related to school organisation.

The Advisory group will not have decision-making powers.

### **Constitution of the School Organisation Advisory Group**

Membership of the Advisory Group will be as follows:

1. Member representation in line with the current political ratio of the Council (6)
2. Schools representative (1)
3. Governing Body representative (1)
4. Diocesan representatives. (Catholic and Anglican) (2)
5. Learning Skills Council (1)
6. Minority Community representative (1)

The Chair of the School Organisation Advisory Group will be the lead member for Children and Young People Service.

The group may decide to invite other individuals to attend the group to receive information related to the school organisation proposal as appropriate.

As an Advisory group, the Council's quorum guidelines do not apply.

### **Purpose of the School Organisation Advisory Group**

The proposed draft terms of reference for the School Organisation Advisory Group are detailed below.

At the end of the 4 week statutory notice period where the notice outlines a school organisation proposal, the School Organisation Advisory Group will meet as soon as possible to:

- Check and confirm that all required information is available regarding the school organisation proposal;
- Check and confirm that the published notice complies with statutory requirements;
- Check and confirm that the statutory consultation (where applicable) has been carried out prior to the publication of the Notice;
- Consider the prescribed information related to the proposal to change the pattern of school provision;
- Consider the proposal for change with regard to the DfE guidance on implementing change to the pattern of school organisation; (School Organisation Maintained Schools Annex B: Guidance For Decision Makers).
- Consider any objections received during the statutory notice period and the Local Authority response to these objections;
- Receive a presentation on the proposal for change from the Proposer;
- Having considered the statutory proposal with regard to the above, prepare a list of reasons for the decision they would recommend to Cabinet in respect of the school organisation proposal. This should be prepared using the factors to be considered in the statutory guidance as the framework for their collective view

Notes of School Organisation Advisory Group – 17<sup>th</sup> August 2015

1. Introductions and membership apologies

Present: Councillor Shabir Pandor (chair)  
Councillor Marielle O'Neill

Officers in support: Jo-Anne Sanders (School Organisation and Planning)  
Rajesh Singh (School Organisation and Planning)  
Shahzia Ashraf (School Organisation and Planning)

Apologies: Councillor Pinnock  
Councillor Karen Allison  
Councillor Erin Hill  
Councillor Lisa Holmes  
Jane Acklam Head of Moor End Academy  
Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales  
Diocese of Leeds

2. Overview of the meeting-Purpose of SOAG:

- Review of the statutory process regarding the related statutory proposals to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision by bringing together Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

For the benefit of new members of the group Jo-Anne Sanders explained how the group had evolved and also the group's role in the context of decision making.

Rajesh Singh explained that the proposal to establish a new primary free (academy) school in Huddersfield South West was subject to a separate statutory process and as such was not under review at this meeting.

3. (1,2,3) Review of the statutory process using check list 1 – Proposal to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School

- Comments under section 2.8 (h) it was acknowledged that statutory notice and proposal were submitted late to the DfE however the DfE have acknowledged receipt and raised no issues over the proposals.

4. Review of the statutory process using check list 2. Proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision.

4. (c) SOAG conclusions and recommendations to decision makers:

- Statutory consultation has been carried out.
- The published statutory notice complies with statutory requirements.
- The related proposals are related to each other but not related to any other proposals. for any other school and are not related to any proposals published by the EFA.
- The proposals are valid and can be decided by Kirklees Council Cabinet.
- The statutory four week period has been allowed for representation.

- The decisions have been brought to the cabinet on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015 , which is within two months after the end of the statutory four week representation period which ended on the 5<sup>th</sup> August 2015.

SOAG Advice: Kirklees Council Cabinet can decide the proposals under its current decision making powers.

5. Review of factors from DfE guidance to be considered in making the decisions. These factors are derived from the guidance issued by the Department for Education. School Organisation Maintained Schools. Annex B: Guidance for Decision Makers January 2014. Factors can vary depending upon the nature and type of proposals. The full list of factors is presented in Appendix 7, accompanied by responses to the relevant factors for these proposals. The relevant factors for these proposals are:

A: Consideration of consultation and representation period  
B: Education standards and diversity of provision.  
C: Demand  
D: School size  
E: Proposed admission arrangements (including post 16 provision)  
F: National curriculum  
G: Equal opportunities issues  
H: Community cohesion  
I: Travel and accessibility  
J: Capital  
K: School premises and playing fields  
L: Suitability  
M: Competition (under section 7 EIA 2006)  
N: Closure proposals (under s15 EIA 2006)  
O: Rural schools  
P: Early year's provision  
Q: Nursery school closures  
R: Balance of denominational provision  
S: Community services

- The rationale for the proposals was examined against each of the above factors and associated guidance.
- The factors, guidance and rationale for the proposals are set out in Appendix 7.

#### Comments

- It was agreed that the rationale for the proposals was clear and it was acknowledged that statutory consultation had enabled all key stakeholders to develop an understanding of the proposals.

#### 6. Final conclusions and recommendations.

SOAG conclusions for decision makers: SOAG agreed that:

- The statutory process had enabled a full and detailed presentation of the proposals to interested parties and that views and comments had been presented for consideration at all stages of the process.
- The rationale for the proposals had been clearly articulated against the factors in the decision maker's guidance (see appendix 7).
- Issues raised in consultation had been presented for full consideration against the factors in decision maker's guidance.
- Cabinet are able to reach a decision regarding the proposals.



## 2. Statutory process Check List 1.

Schools	Statutory Proposal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School</li> <li>Crosland Moor Junior School</li> <li>Thornton Lodge Nursery School</li> </ul>	Proposal to discontinue Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School on the 30th April 2016

1. CONSULTATION		Y,N,N/A	NOTES/EVIDENCE
1.1 Has formal consultation taken place?		Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report :30.06.15
1.2 Consultation process	a. Has adequate time been allowed for the consultation process?	Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report :30.06.15 A seven week (six week term time) statutory consultation took place between the 20.04.2015 and 05.06. 2015.
	b. Do the consultation documents provide sufficient information to those who are being consulted?	Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report 30.06.15 (Appendix B)
	c. Do the consultation materials make it clear how interested parties can make their views known?	Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report 30.06.15 (Appendix B)
	d. Does the report that summarises the outcome of the consultation demonstrate how the views expressed during the consultation have been taken into account in reaching any subsequent decision as to the publication of proposals?	Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report 30.06.15
1.3 New Option	a. Did a new option emerge during consultation?	N	Statutory Consultation Outcome report 30.06.15
	b. If so did a further consultation take place?	N/A	N/A
1.4 Evidence that interested parties have been consulted.  To Include	a. the governing body of any school which is the subject of proposals (if the LA are publishing proposals);	Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report 30.06.15 (Appendix A,B,C) The report provides details of the distribution of consultation material to these key stakeholder groups as well as formal engagement with officers from the Council at a number of consultation events that were held during the consultation period.  The proposal affects Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School. This proposal has been developed in partnership with the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales.
	b. the LA that maintains the school (if the governing body is publishing the proposals);	N/A	
	c. families of pupils, teachers and other staff at the schools	Y	
	d. any LA likely to be affected by the proposals, in particular neighbouring authorities where there may be significant cross-border movement of pupils;	Y	
	e. the governing bodies, teachers and other staff of any other school that may be affected;	Y	
	f. families of any pupils at any other school who may be affected by the proposals including where appropriate families of pupils at feeder primary schools;	Y	
	g. any trade unions who represent staff at the school; and representatives of any trade union of any other staff at schools who may be affected by the proposals;	Y	
	h. (if proposals involve, or are likely to affect a school which has a particular religious character) the appropriate diocesan authorities or the relevant faith group in relation to the school;	Y	
	i. the trustees of the school (if any)	N/A	
	j. (if the proposals affect the provision of full-time 14-19 education) the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA);	N/A	
k. MPs whose constituencies include the schools that are the subject of the proposals or whose constituents are likely to be affected by the proposals;	Y		
l. the local district or parish council where the school that is the subject of the proposals is situated;	Y		

	m. any other interested party, for example, the Early Years Development and Child Care Partnership (or any local partnership that exists in place of an EYDCP) where proposals affect early years provision, or those who benefit from a contractual arrangement giving them the use of the premises; and	Y	
	n. such other persons as appear to the proposers to be appropriate.	Y	
1.5 Pupils	Have pupils been formally consulted?	N	

2. PUBLICATION		Y,N,N/A	NOTES/EVIDENCE
2.1	Have formal proposals been published by the appropriate body (i.e. LA/GB etc) and explain how copies can be obtained, how anybody can object to or comment on the proposals, the date by which comments should be received and the address to which comments should be submitted?	Y	The LA can propose the closure of Community and Controlled schools
2.2	a. Does the complete proposal contain all the specified information?	Y	See statutory proposal
	b. Has proposal been published within 12 months of the consultation end	Y	Statutory consultation period ended 05.06. 2015 and statutory proposals published 09.07.15
2.3 Statutory notice	a. Has a statutory notice been prepared?	Y	See Statutory Notice
	b. Has the statutory notice been published in a local newspaper?	Y	The statutory notice was published in Huddersfield Examiner on 09.07.15
	c. Has the statutory notice been posted at the main entrance of the school (or all entrances if there are more than one)?	Y	Posted at the entrances to the three schools on the 09.07.15 (see photo's in the pack for further information)
	d. Has the statutory notice/proposal been posted in other conspicuous areas in the area served by the school (eg local library, community centre, post office etc.)?	Y	Thornton Lodge community centre and Crosland Moor Community Learning Centre
2.4 Related proposals	a. Is this proposal interdependent on another proposal?	Y	The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school – see check sheet 2
	b. If so, is the related proposal included on the same Statutory Notice?	Y	Statutory Notice
	c. If so, is this clearly identified in the Statutory Notice?	Y	Statutory Notice
	d. If so, is it clear who is proposing what on the Statutory Notice?	Y	Statutory Notice
2.5 Implementation date	a. Is the implementation date for the proposal specified on the statutory notice?	Y	Statutory Notice
	c. Is the time scale for implementation reasonable (proposals should be implemented within 3 years of their publication with the possible exception of Authority wide re-organisations.)?	Y	Proposals published 09.07.15 for implementation on 01.05.2016
2.6 Explanatory note	a. Is the full effect of the proposals clear to the general public?	Y	Statutory Notice
	b. If not, has an explanatory note been included alongside the Statutory Notice?	Y	Statutory Notice
2.7	Has the council's legal team advised on the validity of the Statutory Notice? <i>* If a published notice has not been properly formulated in accordance with regulations, the notice may be judged invalid and therefore ineligible to be determined by the LA or the schools adjudicator. Should this be the case a revised notice must be published clearly stating that it is a replacement notice.*</i>	Y	Council's legal officer has reviewed the Statutory Notice in conjunction with the School Organisation and Planning Team
2.8 Have the proposers distributed the complete proposal and notice to all relevant parties?	a. <b>On date of publication</b> (closure) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to governing body of school proposed for closure - LA publishes proposals</li> <li>to LA that maintains the school- where governing body publishes the proposals.</li> </ul>	Y	On date of publication 09.07.15 delivered to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School</li> <li>Crosland Moor Junior School</li> <li>Thornton Lodge Nursery School</li> </ul>
	<b>Within a week of publication</b>		
	b. any other LA likely to be affected by the proposals;	N	N/A
	c. the Diocesan Board of Education for any diocese of the Church of England which is comprised in the area of the LA;	Y	The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales

## Appendix 6

	d. the bishop of a diocese of the Roman Catholic Church which is comprised in the area of the LA;	N	N/A
	e. the Education Funding Agency for England if the school provides 14-16 education or sixth form education;	N/A	N/A
	f. where the school is a voluntary or foundation - the trustees or foundation body	N/A	N/A
	g. any person who requests a copy.	Y	*NB no copies have been requested
	h. Department for Education	N	Submitted late to the DfE. But the DfE have acknowledged receipt and raised no issues over the proposal.

3. REPRESENTATION		Y,N,N/A	NOTES/EVIDENCE
3.1	Has an appropriate period been allowed for representation?	Y	4 weeks - 09.07.15 – 05.08.15
3.2	Have any representations been received during this period?	N	

4. DECISION – A decision must be made within 2 months (by the LA, or this must be referred to the schools adjudicator).		Y,N, N/A	NOTES/EVIDENCE
4.1	Is this a decision to be made by the LA or the schools adjudicator?	LA	Representation period ended <b>05.08.15</b> and decision-making cabinet is scheduled for 22 <sup>nd</sup> September Recommendation made by SOAG and reported to cabinet for approval within a 2 month time frame.
4.3	<b>Closure</b> - Is this a decision determined under Paragraph 19 of Schedule 2 to EIA 2006? <i>Where proposals are published by the LA and there are no objections and the proposals are not "related" to other proposals, the proposals must be determined by the LA under Paragraph 19 of Schedule 2 to EIA 2006. The proposals should then be decided within 2 months (and if not, the proposals must be referred to the schools adjudicator) and there is no provision for an appeal against the LA's decision. A conditional approval cannot be given where proposals are decided under this paragraph.</i>	N	This proposal is related to a proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school. See Check List 2
4.4	<b>Closure</b> - Is this a decision decided under Paragraph 8 of Schedule 2 to EIA 2006? <i>If there are objections to the proposals, or there are no objections but the proposals are "related" to other proposals, the proposals must be decided under Paragraph 8 of Schedule 2 to EIA 2006.</i>	Y	This must be a decision under paragraph 8 of Schedule 2 because these are related proposals.



## 2. Statutory process Check List 2.

Statutory Proposal to establish a new Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school for pupils aged between 2-11 to serve Huddersfield South West

1. CONSULTATION		Y,N,N/A	NOTES/EVIDENCE
1.1 Has formal consultation taken place?		Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report :30.06.15
1.2 Consultation process	a. Has adequate time been allowed for the consultation process?	Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report :30.06.15 A seven week (six week term time) statutory consultation took place between the 20.04.2015 and 05.06. 2015.
	b. Do the consultation documents provide sufficient information to those who are being consulted?	Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report 30.06.15 (Appendix B)
	c. Do the consultation materials make it clear how interested parties can make their views known?	Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report 30.06.15 (Appendix B)
	d. Does the report that summarises the outcome of the consultation demonstrate how the views expressed during the consultation have been taken into account in reaching any subsequent decision as to the publication of proposals?	Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report 30.06.15
1.3 New Option	a. Did a new option emerge during consultation?	N	Statutory Consultation Outcome report 30.06.15
	b. If so did a further consultation take place?	N/A	N/A
1.4 Evidence that interested parties have been consulted.  To Include	a. the governing body of any school which is the subject of proposals (if the LA are publishing proposals);	Y	Statutory Consultation Outcome report 30.06.15 (Appendix A,B,C) The report provides details of the distribution of consultation material to these key stakeholder groups as well as formal engagement with officers from the Council at a number of consultation events that were held during the consultation period.  The proposal affects Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School. The proposer is The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales.
	b. the LA that maintains the school (if the governing body is publishing the proposals);	N/A	
	c. families of pupils, teachers and other staff at the schools	Y	
	d. any LA likely to be affected by the proposals, in particular neighbouring authorities where there may be significant cross-border movement of pupils;	Y	
	e. the governing bodies, teachers and other staff of any other school that may be affected;	Y	
	f. families of any pupils at any other school who may be affected by the proposals including where appropriate families of pupils at feeder primary schools;	Y	
	g. any trade unions who represent staff at the school; and representatives of any trade union of any other staff at schools who may be affected by the proposals;	Y	
	h. (if proposals involve, or are likely to affect a school which has a particular religious character) the appropriate diocesan authorities or the relevant faith group in relation to the school;	Y	
	i. the trustees of the school (if any)	N/A	
	j. (if the proposals affect the provision of full-time 14-19 education) the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA);	N/A	
	k. MPs whose constituencies include the schools that are the subject of the proposals or whose constituents are likely to be affected by the proposals;	Y	
	l. the local district or parish council where the school that is the subject of the proposals is situated;	Y	
	m. any other interested party, for example, the Early Years Development and Child Care Partnership (or any local partnership that exists in place of an EYDCP) where proposals affect early years provision, or those who benefit from a contractual arrangement giving them the use of the premises; and	Y	
	n. such other persons as appear to the proposers to be appropriate.	Y	

1.5 Pupils	Have pupils been formally consulted?	N	
<b>2. PUBLICATION</b>		<b>Y,N,N/A</b>	<b>NOTES/EVIDENCE</b>
2.1	Have formal proposals been published by the appropriate body (i.e. LA/GB etc) and explain how copies can be obtained, how anybody can object to or comment on the proposals, the date by which comments should be received and the address to which comments should be submitted?	Y	The Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales
2.2	a. Does the complete proposal contain all the specified information?	Y	See statutory proposal
	b. Has proposal been published within 12 months of the consultation end	Y	Statutory consultation period ended 05.06. 2015 and statutory proposals published 09.07.15
2.3 Statutory notice	a. Has a statutory notice been prepared?	Y	See Statutory Notice
	b. Has the statutory notice been published in a local newspaper?	Y	The statutory notice was published in Huddersfield Examiner on 09.07.15
	c. Has the statutory notice been posted at the main entrance of the school (or all entrances if there are more than one)?	Y	Posted at the entrances to the three schools on the 09.07.15 (see photo's in the pack for further information)
	d. Has the statutory notice/proposal been posted in other conspicuous areas in the area served by the school (eg local library, community centre, post office etc.)?	Y	Thornton Lodge community centre and Crosland Moor Community Learning Centre
2.4 Related proposals	a. Is this proposal interdependent on another proposal?	Y	The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school – see check sheet 2
	b. If so, is the related proposal included on the same Statutory Notice?	Y	Statutory Notice
	c. If so, is this clearly identified in the Statutory Notice?	Y	Statutory Notice
	d. If so, is it clear who is proposing what on the Statutory Notice?	Y	Statutory Notice
2.5 Implementation date	a. Is the implementation date for the proposal specified on the statutory notice?	Y	Statutory Notice
	c. Is the time scale for implementation reasonable (proposals should be implemented within 3 years of their publication with the possible exception of Authority wide re-organisations.)?	Y	Proposals published 09.07.15 for implementation on 01.05.2016
2.6 Explanatory note	a. Is the full effect of the proposals clear to the general public?	Y	Statutory Notice
	b. If not, has an explanatory note been included alongside the Statutory Notice?	Y	Statutory Notice
2.7	Has the council's legal team advised on the validity of the Statutory Notice? <i>* If a published notice has not been properly formulated in accordance with regulations, the notice may be judged invalid and therefore ineligible to be determined by the LA or the schools adjudicator. Should this be the case a revised notice must be published clearly stating that it is a replacement notice.*</i>	Y	Council's legal officer has reviewed the Statutory Notice in conjunction with the School Organisation and Planning Team
2.8 Have the proposers distributed the complete proposal and notice to all relevant parties?	a. <b>On date of publication</b> (closure) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to governing body of school proposed for closure - LA publishes proposals</li> <li>• to governing body of school proposed for closure - LA publishes proposals</li> <li>• to LA that maintains the school- where governing body publishes the proposals.</li> <li>• Within a week of publication (new school)</li> <li>• to LA where Diocese proposes new school</li> </ul>	Y	On date of publication 09.07.15 delivered to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School</li> <li>• Crosland Moor Junior School</li> <li>• Thornton Lodge Nursery School</li> </ul>
	<b>Within a week of publication</b>		
	b. any other LA likely to be affected by the proposals;	N	N/A
	c. the Diocesan Board of Education for any diocese of the Church of England which is comprised in the area of the LA;	Y	The Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales
	d. the bishop of a diocese of the Roman Catholic Church which is comprised in the area of the LA;	N	N/A
	e. the Education Funding Agency for England if the school provides 14-16 education or sixth form education;	N/A	N/A
	f. where the school is a voluntary or foundation - the trustees or foundation	N/A	N/A

	body		
	g. any person who requests a copy.	Y	*NB no copies have been requested
	h. Department for Education	N	Submitted late to the DfE. But the DfE have acknowledged receipt and raised no issues over the proposals.

3. REPRESENTATION		Y,N,N/A	NOTES/EVIDENCE
3.1	Has an appropriate period been allowed for representation?	Y	09.07.15 – 05.08.15
3.2	Have any representations been received during this period?	N	

4. DECISION – A decision must be made within 2 months (by the LA, or this must be referred to the schools adjudicator).		Y,N, N/A	NOTES/EVIDENCE
4.1	Is this a decision to be made by the LA or the schools adjudicator?	LA	Representation period ended <b>05.08.15</b> and decision-making cabinet is scheduled for 22 <sup>nd</sup> September Recommendation made by SOAG and reported to cabinet for approval within a 2 month time frame.
4.2	<p>Is this a decision take under Part 2 of Schedule 2 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006?</p> <p>Note regarding Special Cases ( section 11 of the EIA 2006)  <i>The consent of the secretary of state is no longer required to publish maintained school proposals in certain circumstances. Section 11 EIA 2006, as amended by the EA 2011 provides for the following:</i>  <i>Proposals for a new school resulting from the re-organisation of existing faith schools in an area, including an existing faith school.</i>  <i>Proposals for a new community or foundation primary school that is to replace a maintained infant and maintained junior school.</i></p> <p><i>In each case a statutory process, as set out in Schedule 2 to EIA 2006 and the Establishment and Discontinuance Regulations, must be undertaken. The Schools Adjudicator will decide local authority proposals, and local authorities will decide proposals from other proposers (except foundation school proposals where the local authority is involved as a member of the foundation (Trust), in which case the Adjudicator will be the decision maker).</i></p>	Y	We have confirmed this with the Council's legal team. The proposal to establish a new Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school has been considered with and is related to the proposed discontinuance of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School. Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School.

## Factors to be considered in decision making

The factors which are being considered are derived from guidance issued by the Department for Education. School Organisation Maintained Schools. Annex B: Guidance for Decision Makers January 2014, as these proposals have been published after this date.

Paragraph numbers highlighted in **dark grey** relate to factors that are relevant to all types of proposals and these are factors **10-29**. The relevant headings are highlighted in yellow for ease of identification.

Paragraph numbers **highlighted in light grey** relate to additional factors relevant to these proposals. Which include some of the additional factors relevant to proposals for new maintained schools (**41-53**) and additional factors relevant to closure proposals (factors **54-65**). The relevant headings are highlighted in yellow for ease of identification.

Factors that are not highlighted are considered not to be relevant to these proposals. These have been identified as; "Not applicable to these proposals" and are highlighted in red; however for clarity these are fully listed.

### **CONSIDERATION OF CONSULTATION AND REPRESENTATION PERIOD 10**

(10) The decision-maker will need to be satisfied that the appropriate consultation and/or representation period has been carried out and that the proposer has had regard to the responses received.

If the proposer has failed to meet the statutory requirements; a proposal may be deemed invalid and therefore should be rejected.

The decision-maker must consider all the views submitted, including all support for, objections to and comments on the proposal.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS.**

(10) Kirklees Local Authority has had due regard to legislation and followed the statutory process in respect of these proposals. New School Organisation (Establishment and Discontinuance of Schools) Regulations 2013 came into force on 28 January 2014. The Council carried out a seven week (six week term time) statutory consultation to ensure the maximum opportunity was available to all key stakeholders to understand and comment upon the statutory proposals, prior to their publication. On the 30th June 2015, Kirklees Council's Cabinet (decision making authority) received the outcomes report of the statutory consultation and it was agreed to continue with the statutory process and commence with the publication of the related statutory notice and proposals.

The publication of the statutory notice, statutory proposals and representation period commenced on 9th July 2015 and ended on 5th August 2015 therefore lasting for a period of four weeks and meeting the requirements of School Organisation Regulations.

### **EDUCATION STANDARDS AND DIVERSITY OF PROVISION 11/12**

(11) Decision-makers should consider the quality and diversity of schools in the relevant area and whether the proposal will meet or affect the aspirations of parents; raise local standards and narrow attainment gaps.

(12) The decision-maker should also take into account the extent to which the proposal is consistent with the government's policy on academies as set out on the department's website.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(11) The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would maintain Church of England based school places in Huddersfield South West. It is envisaged that the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would have an important role in Huddersfield South West, as do the existing three schools now, the proposal aims to build on the existing strengths that already exist. The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would ensure, alongside other schools in the area and the proposed new primary free (academy) school that there are sufficient quality places for children from the local community that is future proofed for the projected pupil demographic.

The proposed establishment of an all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision in Huddersfield South West is intended to improve the educational standards attained by children. This is achieved through better and more flexible management of learning, without a change of school at age 7.

There is the benefit of more continuity. For example, a single school would have common approaches to curriculum planning, assessment, record keeping and target setting. Staff would have longer to get to know the children. Most importantly, the school would have a shared understanding of standards and expectations.

There is the benefit of more flexibility and more opportunities to meet individual needs by tailoring learning experiences. For example, Year 3 children who require further experience of the Key Stage 1 curriculum and more able Year 2 children requiring the challenge of the Key Stage 2 programmes can be catered for. It means a wider range of resources can be shared and common themes developed across the school. This curriculum flexibility can be particularly important for children with Special Educational Needs.

There are more opportunities for social development. For example, older children can have some appropriate pastoral responsibility for younger children, which can impact positively on whole school behaviour and children's self-esteem. Vulnerable children and their parents and carers have greater security from a consistency of staff and provision.

There is more consistency in terms of policies and practice. The school improvement agenda is led by a single leadership team and governing body.

There is closer contact for parents and carers with school staff over a longer period of time. A more continuous relationship between the school, parents, carers and outside agencies can ensure that all pupils, but particularly those with special needs, are supported effectively from the Foundation Stage through to the end of Year 6.

There is more opportunity for children to attend the same school as older or younger brothers and sisters.

There are more opportunities for staff to work with a larger team, thus supporting professional development and providing further opportunities to take on new responsibilities.

(12) The proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision under Section 11 (2) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 which, enables new maintained schools to be established, without a competition, but within specific circumstances. Proposals for a new community or foundation primary school that is to replace a maintained infant and maintained junior school. Proposals for a new school resulting from the reorganisation of existing faith schools in an area, including an existing faith school losing or changing its religious designation. (DfE – Establishing new maintained schools – Departmental Advice for local authorities and new school proposers - June 2013). Secretary of State consent is not required for proposals published under Section 11 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

**DEMAND 13/14/15**

(13) In assessing the demand for new school places the decision-maker should consider the evidence presented for any projected increase in pupil population (such as planned housing developments) and any new provision opening in the area (including free schools).

(14) The decision-maker should take into account the quality and popularity of the schools in which spare capacity exists and evidence of parents' aspirations for a new school or for places in a school proposed for expansion. The existence of surplus capacity in neighbouring less popular schools should not in itself prevent the addition of new places.

(15) Reducing surplus places is not a priority (unless running at very high levels). For parental choice to work effectively there may be some surplus capacity in the system as a whole. Competition from additional schools and places in the system will lead to pressure on existing schools to improve standards.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(13) The proposal is for a technical closure of Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School to enable a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision to be established. The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision's Published Admission Number (PAN) would be 120. Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School has a PAN of 140 starting in Reception. Crosland Moor Junior Schools, PAN is 150 starting at Year 3. The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would over time become an 840 place primary school from reception through to year 6. Accounting for the proposal to establish a new 630 place primary free (academy) school in Huddersfield South West, there would be no net loss of places in Huddersfield South West, as the proposal to establish a new primary academy school would re-provide these 20 reception places from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016.

(14/15) The Councils school place planning data for 2014 and 2015 provides clear evidence that there is a continuing need for school places in Huddersfield South West, in order to meet local demand. The Council has adopted a range of strategies in order to meet this need, which includes using spare capacity where available, establishing one off bulge classes, or making permanent expansions to existing schools. There is no surplus capacity in existing schools in Huddersfield South West. In addition to this proposal, the Council's proposal to establish a new 630 place primary free (academy) school in Huddersfield South West would ensure that there would be sufficient capacity to meet demand from 2016 onwards.

**SCHOOL SIZE16**

(16) Decision makers should not make blanket assumptions that schools should be of a certain size to be good schools, although the viability and cost-effectiveness of a proposal is an important factor for consideration. The decision-maker should also consider the impact on the LA's budget of the need to provide additional funding to a small school to compensate for its size.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(16) The proposed closure of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School is a technical closure in order that the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision can be established. It is proposed that the all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would

have a PAN of 120 per year group for 4-11 years old (from reception 2016) and over time retaining 840 primary school places in total. However, the new school would operate in the existing buildings and on the same sites in which the three current schools are located; the proposal therefore is considered viable and cost-effective.

### **PROPOSED ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS (including post 16 provision) 17/18**

(17) In assessing demand the decision-maker should consider all expected admission applications, not only those from the area of the LA in which the school is situated.

(18) Before approving a proposal that is likely to affect admissions to the school the decision-maker should confirm that the admission arrangements of the school are compliant with the School Admissions Code. Although the decision-maker cannot modify proposed admission arrangements, the decision-maker should inform the proposer where arrangements seem unsatisfactory and the admission authority should be given the opportunity to revise them.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(17-18) The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would have a published admission number of 120 pupils per year group for 4-11 years. In addition the school would provide 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 2-4 years) and provide 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children 2-5 years). The admissions policy for the proposed new school would be fully compliant with the Schools Admissions Code.

The Council would consider all admissions application, including any received from other Local Authorities. If there are fewer applicants than there are places available, everyone who applies would be offered a place. When there are more applicants than there are places available the following admission criteria would be applied in order:

For children of statutory school age, Kirklees admission (over subscription criteria) criteria for Voluntary Controlled schools are: 1. Children in public care (looked after children) or a child who was previously looked after; 2. Children who live in the school's Priority Admission Area (PAA) who have a brother or sister attending from the same address at the date of admission (the sibling rule); 3. Children who live in the school's PAA; 4. Children who live outside the school's PAA who have a brother or sister attending from the same address at the date of admission (the sibling rule); 5. Children who live outside the school's PAA.

For childcare places, it is expected that the existing policy as applied by Thornton Lodge Nursery School would apply, which means that the proposed new school would control its own admission policy but as children often start at different times in the proposed new school would usually work on a 'first come first served' basis.

The proposed new school would admit children with statements of special educational needs or an education health and care plan where such statements or plans name the school. It is not proposed to give priority for admissions to pupils on any religious grounds.

### **NATIONAL CURRICULUM 19**

(19) All maintained schools must follow the National Curriculum unless they have secured an exemption for groups of pupils or the school community. In addition, Kirklees gives a flexible range of provision and support that can respond to the needs of individual pupils and parental preferences, in a safe environment where young people can thrive in buildings and provision tailored to meet their special educational need or disability and which takes full account of educational considerations, in particular the

need to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum, within a learning environment where children can be healthy and stay safe.

**REPRESENTATIONS** None

**OFFICER COMMENT** None

### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(19) The proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would meet the general requirements of the National Curriculum including the Early Years Foundation Stage.

### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY ISSUES 20/21**

(20) The decision-maker must have regard to the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) of LAs/governing bodies, which requires them to have 'due regard' to the need to:

- eliminate discrimination;
- advance equality of opportunity;
- and foster good relations.

(21) The decision-maker should consider whether there are any sex, race or disability discrimination issues that arise from the changes being proposed, for example that where there is a proposed change to single sex provision in an area, there is equal access to single sex provision for the other sex to meet parental demand. Similarly there should be a commitment to provide access to a range of opportunities which reflect the ethnic and cultural mix of the area, while ensuring that such opportunities are open to all.

**REPRESENTATIONS** None

**OFFICER COMMENT** None

### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(20/21). A full equalities impact assessment (EIA) has been completed and will be published with the decision report, prior to a final decision being taken on the proposals by Kirklees Council Cabinet (the decision making body). The EIA demonstrates that due regard has been taken and that the proposals would have little, if any adverse impact from an equalities perspective.

The proposal to bring together Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) and Crosland Moor Junior School to establish an all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would have a positive impact as it would facilitate closer contact for parents and carers with school staff over a longer period of time. A more continuous relationship between school, parents, carers, and outside agencies can therefore help to impact positively on community and social cohesion and foster good relations.

The ethnicity profile of the pupil cohorts that would attend the proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision are expected to be very similar to the existing cohorts at Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School. This is because children attending the three schools currently would automatically become part of the proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision. The school would provide co-educational places and be all inclusive. The proposal would have no adverse impact on sexual orientation given the new school is proposed to be co-educational. There would be no adverse impact on any children with Special Educational Needs (SEN) as any such children attending one of the three schools now would automatically become part of the proposed new school. In addition, any new children with SEN would be considered for admission in to the proposed new school in



the normal way. Therefore it is considered the proposal is not discriminatory and does support the advancement of equality of opportunity.

### **COMMUNITY COHESION 22**

(22) Schools have a key part to play in providing opportunities for young people from different backgrounds to learn with, from and about each other; by encouraging, through their teaching, an understanding of, and respect for, other cultures, faiths and communities. When considering a proposal, the decision-maker must consider its impact on community cohesion. This will need to be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking account of the community served by the school and the views of different sections within the community.

**REPRESENTATIONS: None**

**OFFICER COMMENT: None**

### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(22) The proposal is intended to have a positive impact on the community, by providing the opportunity for an increased level of continuity of services for children and parents through the sustainable provision of primary education in the Crosland Moor area. All the pupils attending the three schools would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision on the 1st May 2016. Therefore, the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would continue to serve the local community in ensuring sufficient school places for local children and families.

Moreover, it is envisaged that the proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would have an important role in the local community, as do the three schools now, by building on existing strengths. The proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would ensure, alongside other schools in the area and the proposed new primary free (academy) school that there are sufficient places for children from the local community that is future proofed for the projected pupil demographic. The school would continue to be a focal point for the community and be integral in ensuring local educational provisions work effectively both with each other as well as with local organisations and groups.

### **TRAVEL AND ACCESSIBILITY 23/24/25**

(23) Decision-makers should satisfy themselves that accessibility planning has been properly taken into account and the proposed changes should not adversely impact on disadvantaged groups.

(24) The decision-maker should bear in mind that a proposal should not unreasonably extend journey times or increase transport costs, or result in too many children being prevented from travelling sustainably due to unsuitable walking or cycling routes.

(25) A proposal should also be considered on the basis of how it will support and contribute to the LA's duty to promote the use of sustainable travel and transport to school.

**REPRESENTATIONS: None**

**OFFICER COMMENT: None**

### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(23) The proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would operate in the existing buildings and on the same sites in which the three current schools are located. Children on roll at the existing three schools would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision.

Therefore the proposal should not adversely impact any disadvantaged groups, as the proposal enables a significant level of continuity for travel and accessibility for local children and families and other organisations who may access the existing schools.

(24/25) During the statutory consultation period, some respondents who strongly opposed the proposals, raising concerns about the possibility of traffic and congestion being increased on Dryclough Road and in the area, which would be significant issue that would need careful consideration if the proposals were to be approved.

In its response to the consultation, the Council explained that it would carefully consider road safety issues and ensure that appropriate extra measures were in place to manage the impact of any potential increased levels of traffic congestion. The Council also explained that it would promote sustainable travel, e.g. encouraging parents, carers and children to walk to school.

#### **CAPITAL 26/27**

26. The decision-maker should be satisfied that any land, premises or capital required to implement the proposal will be available and that all relevant local parties (e.g. trustees or religious authority) have given their agreement. A proposal cannot be approved conditionally upon funding being made available.

27. Where proposers are relying on the department as the source of capital funding, there can be no assumption that the approval of a proposal will trigger the release of capital funds from the department, unless the department has previously confirmed in writing that such resources will be available; nor can any allocation 'in principle' be increased. In such circumstances the proposal should be rejected, or consideration deferred until it is clear that the capital necessary to implement the proposal will be provided.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

#### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(26/27) There are no direct, essential capital implications arising as a result of these proposals. This is because the proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would utilise existing capacity in the three schools that are proposed for technical closure. There is sufficient capacity across the existing three schools to enable this and therefore, there is no requirement for a physical expansion and capital investment. Implementation of the proposal is not therefore reliant on any capital funding being made available from the Education Funding Agency.

However should the proposal be approved for implementation then it is intended that the existing accommodation over the two sites will be reviewed to identify opportunities to support the three schools in coming together. This work may result in future capital expenditure.

#### **SCHOOL PREMISES AND PLAYING FIELDS 28/29**

(28) Under the School Premises Regulations all schools are required to provide suitable outdoor space in order to enable physical education to be provided to pupils in accordance with the school curriculum; and for pupils to play outside safely.

(29) Setting out suggested areas for pitches and games courts are in place although the department has been clear that these are non-statutory.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

#### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(28/29) The proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged

2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would continue to use the existing three school sites and therefore the same school premises and playing fields. There is no proposed encroachment on to any existing playing field given that there is no requirement for any physical expansion as a result of implementation of these proposals. Pupils attending the proposed new school would continue to have access to a mix of hard standing and paying field provision that currently exists across the three schools.

## FACTORS RELEVANT TO CERTAIN TYPES OF PROPOSALS

### EXPANSION 30. **Not applicable to these proposals**

(30) When deciding on a proposal for an expansion on an additional site (a 'satellite school'), decision-makers will need to consider whether the new provision is genuinely a change to an existing school or is in effect a new school (which would trigger the academy presumption in circumstances where there is a need for a new school in the area). Decisions will need to be taken on a case-by-case basis, but decision-makers will need to consider the following non-exhaustive list of factors which are intended to expose the extent to which the new site is integrated with the existing site, and to ensure that it will serve the same community as the existing site:

- The reasons for the expansion
- What is the rationale for this approach and this particular site?
- Admission and curriculum arrangements
- How will the new site be used (e.g. which age groups/pupils will it serve)?
- What will the admission arrangements be?
- Will there be movement of pupils between sites?
- Governance and administration
- How will whole school activities be managed?
- Will staff be employed on contracts to work on both sites? How frequently will they do so?
- What governance, leadership and management arrangements will be put in place to oversee the new site (e.g. will the new site be governed by the same governing body and the same school leadership team)?
- Physical characteristics of the school
- How will facilities across the two sites be used (e.g. sharing of the facilities and resources available at the two sites, such as playing fields)?
- Is the new site in an area that is easily accessible to the community that the current school serves?

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS **Not applicable to these proposals****

### EXPANSION OF EXISTING GRAMMAR SCHOOLS 31 **Not applicable to these proposals**

(31) Legislation prohibits the establishment of new grammar schools<sup>7</sup>. Expansion of any existing grammar school onto a satellite site can only happen if it is a genuine continuance of the same school. Decision-makers must consider the factors listed in paragraph 30 on 'expansions' when deciding if an

expansion is a legitimate enlargement of an existing school.
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b> None
<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b> None
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>

<b>CHANGES TO BOARDING PROVISION 32</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>
(32) In making a decision on a proposal to close a school that has boarding provision, or to remove boarding provision from a school that is not closing, the decision-maker should consider whether there is a state maintained boarding school within reasonable distance from the school. The decision-maker should consider whether there are satisfactory alternative boarding arrangements for those currently in the school and those who may need boarding places in the foreseeable future, including the children of service families.
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b>
<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b> None
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>

<b>ADDITION OF POST 16 PROVISION 33/34/35/36/37</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>
(33) In assessing a proposal to add post-16 provision, decision-makers should look for evidence that the proposal will improve, extend the range, and increase participation in high quality educational or training opportunities for post-16 pupils within the LA or local area.
(34) The decision-maker should also look for evidence on how new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area and that schools have collaborated with other local providers in drawing up a proposal.
(35) The decision-maker may turn down a proposal to add post-16 provision if there is compelling and objective evidence that the expansion would undermine the viability, given the lagged funding arrangements, of an existing high quality post-16 provider.
(36) Decision-makers should consider the viability of a proposal bearing in mind the formulaic approach to funding; that the school will have to bear any potential diseconomies of scale; and the impact of future demographic trends.
(37) A proposal should take account of the timeline for agreeing 16-19 funding which will be available in the most recent guidance on the department's website. Decision-makers should note that post-16 funding runs on an August – July academic year cycle
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>

<b>CHANGES OF CATEGORY TO VOLUNTARY AIDED 38</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>
(38) For a proposal to change the category of a school to voluntary-aided, the decision-maker must be satisfied that the governing body and/or the Foundation are able and willing to meet their financial responsibilities for building work. The decision-maker may wish to consider whether the governing body has access to sufficient funds to enable it to meet 10% of its capital expenditure for at least five years

from the date of implementation, taking into account anticipated building projects.
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b> None
<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b> None
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> Not applicable to these proposals

<p><b>CHANGES TO SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS PROVISION THE SEN IMPROVEMENT TEST 39/40</b> Not applicable to these proposals</p> <p>(39) In planning and commissioning SEN provision or considering a proposal for change, LAs should aim for a flexible range of provision and support that can respond to the needs of individual pupils and parental preferences. This is favourable to establishing broad categories of provision according to special educational need or disability. Decision-makers should ensure that proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• take account of parental preferences for particular styles of provision or education settings;</li> <li>• take account of any relevant local offer for children and young people with SEN and disabilities and the views expressed on it;</li> <li>• offer a range of provision to respond to the needs of individual children and young people, taking account of collaborative arrangements (including between special and mainstream), extended school and Children’s Centre provision; regional centres (of expertise) and regional and sub-regional provision; out of LA day and residential special provision;</li> <li>• take full account of educational considerations, in particular the need to ensure a broad and balanced curriculum, within a learning environment where children can be healthy and stay safe;</li> <li>• support the LA’s strategy for making schools and settings more accessible to disabled children and young people and their scheme for promoting equality of opportunity for disabled people;</li> <li>• provide access to appropriately trained staff and access to specialist support and advice, so that individual pupils can have the fullest possible opportunities to make progress in their learning and participate in their school and community;</li> <li>• ensure appropriate provision for 14-19 year-olds; and</li> <li>• ensure that appropriate full-time education will be available to all displaced pupils. Their statements of special educational needs must be amended and all parental rights must be ensured. Other interested partners, such as the Health Authority should be involved. Pupils should not be placed long-term or permanently in a Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) if a special school place is what they need.</li> </ul> <p>(40). When considering any reorganisation of provision that the LA considers to be reserved for pupils with special educational needs, including that which might lead to children being displaced, proposers will need to demonstrate how the proposed alternative arrangements are likely to lead to improvements in the standard, quality and/or range of educational provision for those children. Decision-makers should make clear how they are satisfied that this SEN improvement test has been met, including how they have taken account of parental or independent representations which question the proposer’s assessment.</p>
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b> None
<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b> None
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> Not applicable to these proposals

## ADDITIONAL FACTORS RELEVANT TO PROPOSALS FOR NEW MAINTAINED SCHOOLS

<p><b>SUITABILITY 41</b></p> <p>(41)When considering a proposal for a new maintained school, the decision-maker should consider each proposal on its merits, and take into account all matters relevant to the proposal. Any proposals put</p>
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forward by organisations which advocate violence or other illegal activity must be rejected. In order to be approved, a proposal should demonstrate that they would support UK democratic values including respect for the basis on which UK laws are made and applied; respect for democracy; support for individual liberties within the law; and mutual tolerance and respect.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

#### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

The proposal is intended to bring together and replace Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School to establish an all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision.

Recognising the foundation of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School the new school would preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church and Parish at diocesan level.

#### **COMPETITION (under section 7 EIA 2006) 42/43/44/45**

(42). Where a LA considers that there is a need for a new school in its area it must first seek proposals to establish an academy/free school under section 6A of EIA 2006 (though proposals may also be made under section 10 and 11 of the EIA 2006). In such cases the Secretary of State is the decision-maker. However, in exceptional circumstances where no academy/free school proposals are received (or are received but are deemed unsuitable) a statutory competition under section 7 of the EIA 2006 may be held. Where there is demand for faith places the LA may seek to establish a new faith VA school (see paragraphs 47-51).

(43). Where two or more proposals are complementary, and together meet the requirements for the new school, the decision-maker may approve all the proposals.

(44). The specification for the new school is only the minimum requirement; a proposal may go beyond this. Where a proposal is not in line with the specification, the decision-maker must consider the potential impact of the difference to the specification.

(45). Where additional provision is proposed (e.g. early years or a sixth-form) the decision-maker should first judge the merits of the main proposal against the others. If the proposal is judged to be superior, the decision-maker should consider the additional elements and whether they should be approved. If the decision-maker considers they cannot be approved, they may consider a modification to the proposal, but will need to first consult the proposers and - if the proposal includes provision for 14-19 year olds - the Education Funding Agency (EFA).

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

#### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

The proposal is to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision in accordance with Section 11 (2) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 which enables new maintained schools to be established without a competition in specific circumstances.

This legislation enables proposals for a new community or foundation primary school (that is to replace a maintained infant and maintained junior school), and proposals for a new school resulting from the reorganisation of existing faith schools in an area, including an existing faith school losing or changing its religious designation. (DfE – Establishing new maintained schools – Departmental Advice for local authorities and new school proposers - June 2013). Secretary of State consent is not required for proposals published under Section 11 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

**CAPITAL IN COMPETITIONS (46) Not applicable to these proposals**

(46) For competitions the LA will be expected to provide premises and meet the capital costs of implementing the winning proposal, and must include a statement to this effect in the notice inviting proposals. Where the estimated premises requirements and/or capital costs of a proposal submitted in response to a competition exceed the initial cost estimate made by the LA, the decision-maker should consider the reasons for the additional requirements and/or costs, as set out in the proposal and whether there is agreement to their provision.

**REPRESENTATIONS** None

**OFFICER COMMENT** None

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS Not applicable to these proposals**

The proposal to establish a new Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision is not subject to a competitive process, as already explained the proposed new school is being established under section 11(2) special cases of the Education and Inspections Act which enables new maintained schools to be established in certain circumstances.

**NEW VOLUNTARY-AIDED SCHOOLS (under section 11 of EIA 2006) 47/48/49/50/51 Not applicable to these proposals**

(47). Section 11 of the EIA 2006 permits a new VA school to be proposed without the requirement for the Secretary of State's approval. Such a school must be proposed following the required statutory process and may be for a school with or without a designated religious character.

(48). Many VA schools are schools with a religious character. The department recognises the important contribution that faith schools make to the education system and that 'faith need' (demand for faith places on choice grounds) may be viewed as separate from 'basic need' (demand for new school places).

(49). When assessing basic need, LAs need to look at the general demand for places and if a new school is needed to address basic need, must go down the academy presumption route. Where there is a demand for faith places, the law allows for LAs to seek to establish a new academy with religious designation, or for other proposers to establish new VA schools outside the presumption process.

(50). The approval of a new school to meet local demand for faith places may also meet the demand (or some of the demand) for basic need.

(51). Legislation allows maintained schools to seek to convert to academy status.

**REPRESENTATIONS** None

**OFFICER COMMENT** None

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS Not applicable to these proposals**

The proposal seeks to establish a new Voluntary Controlled Primary School.

**INDEPENDENT FAITH SCHOOLS JOINING THE MAINTAINED SECTOR 52 Not applicable to these proposals**

(52) Legislation allows an independent faith school to move into the maintained sector. However, decision-makers must ensure that the decision to proceed with such a proposal is clearly based on value for money and that the school is able to meet the high standards expected of state-funded educational provision. The department would expect the decision-maker to consider the following points:

- that there is genuine demand/need for this type of school place in the local community;
- that the current and projected financial health of the proposer is strong;
- that the proposal represents long term value for money for the taxpayer;
- that the school will be able to deliver the whole of the national curriculum to the expected high standard
- that all aspects of due diligence have been considered and undertaken; and that the school building is appropriate for the delivery of a high standard of education and in good condition throughout, or can easily be improved to meet such standards.

**REPRESENTATIONS** Not applicable

**OFFICER COMMENT** Not applicable

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS** Not applicable to these proposals

**REPLACEMENT GRAMMAR SCHOOLS 53** Not applicable to these proposals

(53) A new school can only be designated as a grammar school by the Secretary of State where it is being established in place of one or more closing grammar schools<sup>8</sup>. Decision-makers should therefore satisfy themselves that if a new school is proposed as a grammar school it is eligible for designation. Where an existing grammar school is expanding the proposer and decision maker must consider the points listed in paragraph 30.

**REPRESENTATIONS** Not applicable

**OFFICER COMMENT** Not applicable

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS** Not applicable to these proposals

## ADDITIONAL FACTORS RELEVANT TO CLOSURE PROPOSALS

**CLOSURE PROPOSALS (under s15 EIA 2006) 54**

(54) The decision-maker should be satisfied that there is sufficient capacity to accommodate displaced pupils in the area, taking into account the overall quality of provision, the likely supply and future demand for places. The decision-maker should consider the popularity with parents of the schools in which spare capacity exists and evidence of parents' aspirations for those schools.

**REPRESENTATIONS** None

**OFFICER COMMENT** None

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(54) There would be no displaced pupils should the proposals be approved for implementation. All the pupils attending Dryclough (CE) VC Infant School, Thornton Lodge Nursery School and Crosland Moor Junior School would automatically become part of the proposed new Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision on the 1st May 2016.

The proposal is intended to bring together and replace Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School to establish an all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision.



Recognising the foundation of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School the new school would preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church and Parish at diocesan level would have a published admission number of 120; therefore, over time the school would become an 840 place primary school from reception through to year 6. Accounting for the proposal to establish a new 630 place primary free (academy) school in Huddersfield South West, there would be no net loss of places in Huddersfield South West, as the Council is seeking proposals to establish a new primary (free) academy school in Huddersfield South West from the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2016. There would be no changes to the existing number of early year's places currently offered by Thornton Lodge Nursery School as the exact same number of early years and child care places would be offered by the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled Primary School with nursery provision.

### **SCHOOLS TO BE REPLACED BY PROVISION IN A MORE SUCCESSFUL/POPULAR SCHOOL 55**

(55) Such proposals should normally be approved, subject to evidence provided.

**REPRESENTATIONS** None

**OFFICER COMMENT** None

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS** **Not applicable to these proposals**

### **SCHOOLS CAUSING CONCERN 56**

(56) For all closure proposals involving schools causing concern, copies of the Ofsted monitoring letters for the relevant schools should be made available. Decision-makers should have regard to the length of time the school has been in special measures, requiring improvement or otherwise causing concern. The decision-maker should also have regard to the progress the school has made, the prognosis for improvement, and the availability of places at other existing or proposed schools within a reasonable travelling distance. There is a presumption that these proposals should be approved, subject to checking that there are sufficient accessible places of an acceptable standard available to accommodate displaced pupils and to meet foreseeable future demand for places in the area.

**REPRESENTATIONS** None

**OFFICER COMMENT** None

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS -** **Not applicable to these proposals**

### **RURAL SCHOOLS 57/58/59**

(57). There is a presumption against the closure of rural schools. This does not mean that a rural school will never close, but the case for closure should be strong and the proposal clearly in the best interests of educational provision in the area. Those proposing closure should provide evidence to show that they have carefully considered the following:

- alternatives to closure including the potential for federation with another local school or conversion to academy status and joining a multi-academy trust or umbrella trust to increase the school's viability;
- Not applicable where a rural infant and junior school on the same site are closing to establish a new primary school on the same site(s).
- the scope for an extended school to provide local community services; and facilities e.g. child care

facilities, family and adult learning, healthcare, community internet access etc.;

- the transport implications; and
- the overall and long term impact on local people and the community of closure of the village school and of the loss of the building as a community facility.

(58). When deciding a proposal for the closure of a rural primary school the decision-maker must refer to the Designation of Rural Primary Schools Order to confirm that the school is a rural school.

(59). For secondary schools, the decision-maker must decide whether a school is to be regarded as rural for the purpose of considering a proposal. In doing so the decision-maker should have regard to the department's register of schools – EduBase which includes a rural/urban indicator for each school in England. Where a school is not recorded as rural on Edubase, the decision-maker can consider evidence provided by interested parties, that a particular school should be regarded as rural.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

#### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School are not classified as Rural Primary Schools; therefore this is not a relevant consideration.

#### **EARLY YEARS PROVISION 60/61**

(60). In considering a proposal to close a school which currently includes early years provision, the decision-maker should consider whether the alternative provision will integrate pre-school education with childcare services and/or with other services for young children and their families; and should have particular regard to the views of the Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership.

(61). The decision-maker should also consider whether the new, alternative/extended early years provision will maintain or enhance the standard of educational provision for early years and flexibility of access for parents. Alternative provision could be with providers in the private, voluntary or independent sector.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

#### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(60/61) The proposed all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would retain the same level and scope of early year's provision to that which is currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School and Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School.

The provision currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School across both its Yews Hill Road and Dryclough Road site would be retained in full. This means that the proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled Primary School, with nursery provision would provide the following level of early year's provision:

Provide 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 2-4 years)  
 Provide 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children 2-5 years). The length of sessions would be the same as offered now by Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The provision would be fully inclusive, but there is no proposed specialised provision reserved for children with special educational needs.

The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-

11 years with early learning and childcare provision would provide 120 places at reception.

The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would build on the existing strengths of the federated Thornton Lodge Nursery school and Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School to successfully integrate early year's provision with child care services within an all-through setting and form closer, effective working relationship until the end of Key Stage 2.

## **NURSERY SCHOOL CLOSURES 62**

(62). There is a presumption against the closure of nursery schools. This does not mean that a nursery school will never close, but the case for closure should be strong and the proposal should demonstrate that:

- plans to develop alternative provision clearly demonstrate that it will be at least as equal in terms of the quantity as the provision provided by the nursery school with no loss of expertise and specialism; and
- replacement provision is more accessible and more convenient for local parents.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

## **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(62) The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision would retain the same level and scope of early year's provision to that which is currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The provision currently provided by Thornton Lodge Nursery School across both its Yews Hill Road and Dryclough Road site will be retained in full. This means that the proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision would provide the following level of early year's provision:

Provide 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 2-4 years)

Provide 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children 2-5 years). The length of sessions would be the same as offered now by Thornton Lodge Nursery School. The provision would be fully inclusive, but there is no proposed specialised provision reserved for children with special educational needs.

The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision, would build on the existing strengths of the federated Thornton Lodge Nursery school and Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School to successfully integrate early year's provision with child care services within an all-through setting and form closer, effective working relationship until the end of Key Stage 2.

There is demand for early years and child care places in the area as can be evidenced via the take up of existing places at Thornton Lodge Nursery School. There are sufficient early learning and childcare places in the local area (see the [Crosland Moor and Netherton childcare sufficiency ward profile](#)).

As the proposal is for a technical closure of Thornton Lodge Nursery School to enable The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision to be established, the proposed technical closure would maintain the existing number of nursery places offered by Thornton Lodge Nursery School and the existing split site arrangement would also be maintained and so the impact on children and families of this proposed technical closure is considered to be minimal. The impact on other local providers both in and outside of the school sector is also considered to be minimal. Given the nature of the proposal detailed assessments of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools, and in settings outside of the maintained school sector which deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within three miles of the school

has not been considered.

### **BALANCE OF DENOMINATIONAL PROVISION 63/64**

(63). In deciding a proposal to close a school with religious character, decision-makers should consider the effect that this will have on the balance of denominational provision in the area.

(64). The decision-maker should not normally approve the closure of a school with a religious character where the proposal would result in a reduction in the proportion of relevant denominational places in the area. However, this guidance does not apply in cases where the school concerned is severely under-subscribed, standards have been consistently low or where an infant and junior school (at least one of which has a religious character) are to be replaced by a new all-through primary school with the same religious character on the site of one or both of the predecessor schools.

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

### **RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

(63/64) Recognising the foundation of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School the new school would preserve and develop its religious character in accordance with the principles of the Church of England and in partnership with the Church and Parish at diocesan level. The proposed new school would maintain Church of England presence with the school system in Huddersfield South West and meet the demand for such places which can be evidenced via the foundations of Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School. The proposed new all-through Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision would aim to serve its community by providing an education of the highest quality within the context of Christian beliefs and practice. It would encourage an understanding of the meaning and significance of faith and promote Christian values through the experience it offers to all its pupils. Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales and Kirklees Council are committed to the newly created school being distinctive and inclusive in supporting all children and their families in learning and development. There is a common agreement that the school would be welcoming and accessible to the wider community. It would ensure equality of opportunity and work to remove any barrier to success. The Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales and Kirklees Council believe that in combining the ethos and values of the three schools would impact positively on teaching and learning, provide a firm foundation for cultural, continuous and sustained improvement to offer exciting and innovative opportunities for the whole school and local community.

Dryclough (CE) VC Infant School's most recent Ofsted inspection in February 2015 judged the school's overall effectiveness as 'Requires improvement'. The schools prior inspection was also Requires Improvement.

The proposed school would have a Church of England religious character and it is confirmed that as Proposer, the Leeds Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of West Yorkshire and the Dales intends to ask the Secretary of State for Education to designate the school as a school with religious character.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICES 65**

(65) Some schools may be a focal point for family and community activity, providing extended services for a range of users, and its closure may have wider social consequences. In considering proposals for the closure of such schools, the effect on families and the community should be considered. Where the school is providing access to extended services, provision should be made for the pupils and their families to access similar services through their new schools or other means.

**REPRESENTATIONS**

**OFFICER COMMENT****RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS**

The proposed new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision. school would continue to be a focal point for the community and be integral in ensuring local educational provisions work effectively both with each other as well as with local organisations and groups. As the work to develop Community Hubs continues there may be opportunities in the future to provide services in different ways.

**ADDITIONAL FACTORS RELEVANT TO PROPOSALS TO CHANGE CATEGORY TO FOUNDATION, ACQUIRE/REMOVE A TRUST AND ACQUIRE/REMOVE A FOUNDATION MAJORITY GOVERNING BODY**

**STANDARDS 66/67/68 Not applicable to these proposals**

(66) Decision Makers should consider the impact of changing category to foundation and acquiring or removing a Trust on educational standards at the school. Factors to consider include:

- the impact of the proposals on the quality, range and diversity of educational provision in the school;
- the impact of the proposals on the curriculum offered by the school, including, if appropriate, the development of the school's specialism;
- the experience and track record of the Trust members, including any educational experience and expertise of the proposed trustees;
- how the Trust might raise/has raised pupils' aspirations and contributes to the ethos and culture of the school;
- whether and how the proposals advance/have advanced national and local transformation strategies;
- the particular expertise and background of Trust members. For example, a school seeking to better prepare its pupils for higher education might have a higher education institution as a partner.

(67) In assessing standards at the school, the decision-maker should take account of recent reports from Ofsted or other inspectorates and a range of performance data. Recent trends in applications for places at the school (as a measure of popularity) and the local reputation of the school may also be relevant context for a decision.

(68) The government wants to see more schools benefit from the freedom to control their own assets, employ their own staff and set their own admissions criteria. However, if a proposal is not considered strong enough to significantly improve standards at a school that requires it, the decision maker should consider rejecting the proposal

**REPRESENTATIONS None**

**OFFICER COMMENT None**

**RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS Not applicable to these proposals**

**COMMUNITY COHESION 69 Not applicable to these proposals**

(69) Trusts have a duty to promote community cohesion. In addition to the factors outlined in paragraph 22, the decision-maker should also carefully consider the Trust's plans for partnership working with other schools, agencies or voluntary bodies.

<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b>
<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b>
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>

<b>GENERAL POINTS ON ACQUIRING A TRUST 70</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>
<p>(70). For new Trust schools (foundation schools with a charitable foundation) the decision-maker must be satisfied that the following criteria are met for the proposal to be approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the proposal is not seeking to alter the religious character of a school or for a school to acquire or lose a religious character. These alterations cannot be made simply by acquiring a Trust;</li> <li>the necessary work is underway to establish the Trust as a charity and as a corporate body; and</li> <li>that none of the trustees are disqualified from exercising the function of trustee, either by virtue of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>disqualifications under company or charity law;</li> <li>disqualifications from working with children or young people;</li> <li>not having obtained a criminal record check certificate<sup>14</sup>; or</li> <li>the Requirements Regulations which disqualify certain persons from acting as charity trustees.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b>
<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b>
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>

<b>OTHER POINTS ON TRUST PROPOSALS 71</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>
<p>(71). Additionally, there are a number of other factors which should be considered when adding or removing a Trust:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>whether the Trust acts as the Trust for any other schools and/or any of the members are already part of an existing Trust;</li> <li>if the proposed Trust partners already have a relationship with the school or other schools, how those schools perform (although the absence of a track record should not in itself be grounds for regarding proposals less favourably);</li> </ul> <p>how the partners propose to identify and appoint governors. What, if any, support would the Trust/foundation give to governors?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to what extent the proposed Trust partners have knowledge of the local community and the specific needs of the school/area and to what extent the proposal addresses these; and</li> <li>the particular expertise and background of Trust members.</li> </ul>
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b>

<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b>
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>

<b>GENERAL POINT ON REMOVING A TRUST 72</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>
(72) If a proposal is for the removal of a Trust, the governing body should consider the proposal in the context of the original proposal to acquire the Trust, and consider whether the Trust has fulfilled its expectations. Where new information has come to light regarding the suitability of Trust partners, this should be considered.
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b>
<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b>
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>

<b>SUITABILITY OF PARTNERS 73/74</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>
(73) Decision-makers will need to be satisfied of the suitability of Trust partners and members. They should use their own discretion and judgement in determining on a case-by-case basis what circumstances might prevent the reputation of a Trust partner being in keeping with the charitable objectives of a Trust, or could bring the school into disrepute. However, the decision-maker should seek to come to a balanced judgement, considering the suitability and reputation of the current/potential Trust. Decision-makers should seek to assure themselves that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the Trust members and proposed trustees (where the trustees are specified in the proposals) are not involved in illegal activities and/or activities which could bring the school into disrepute;</li> <li>the Trust partners are not involved in activities that may be considered inappropriate for children and young people (e.g. tobacco, gambling, adult entertainment, alcohol).</li> </ul>
(74)The following sources may provide information on the history of potential Trust partners <b>(N/A)</b>
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b>
<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b>
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>

<b>LAND AND ASSETS, WHEN REMOVING A TRUST/FOUNDATION MAJORITY 75/76</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>
75. When removing a Trust, the governing body is required to resolve all issues relating to land and assets before the publication of proposals, including any consideration or compensation that may be due to any of the parties. Where the parties cannot agree, the issues may be referred to the Schools Adjudicator to determine.
76. The Schools Adjudicator will take account of a governing body's ability to pay when determining any compensation. Therefore, all of these issues must be resolved by the point at which the decision is made and the amount of compensation due to either party may be a factor in deciding proposals to remove a Trust.
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b>

<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b>
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>

<b>FINANCE - WHEN REMOVING A TRUST/FOUNDATION MAJORITY 77</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>
77. Trusts are under no obligation to provide financial assistance to a school, but there may be instances where the Trust does provide investment. The well-being and educational opportunities of pupils at the school should be paramount, and no governing body should feel financial obligations prevent the removal of a Trust where this is in the best interests of pupils and parents.
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b>
<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b>
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>

<b>OTHER SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE TRUST WHEN REMOVING A TRUST/FOUNDATION MAJORITY 78</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>
78. Trusts may offer a variety of services to the school, such as careers advice, work experience placements, strategic partnerships with other schools, and access to higher education resources and so on. The damage to relationships and/or loss of any of these advantages should be weighed up against the improvements envisaged by a change in governance or the removal of the Trust
<b>REPRESENTATIONS</b>
<b>OFFICER COMMENT</b>
<b>RATIONALE FOR THE PROPOSALS</b> <b>Not applicable to these proposals</b>



# EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT FRONT COVER Appendix 8

## Service Details

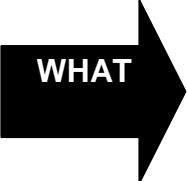
## Ref No.

(to be allocated by the equality and diversity team)

<b>Directorate:</b>	<b>Service:</b>
Children and Young People	Learning and Skills
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	<b>Service Area/Team:</b>
Jo-Anne Sanders	School Organisation and Planning
<b>Officers responsible for Assessment:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
Jo-Anne Sanders	15.04.15

## About the proposal

### What are you planning to do?

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Change/Reduce<br><input type="checkbox"/> Remove<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Introduce or charge<br><input type="checkbox"/> Review |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service provision to the public<br><input type="checkbox"/> Policy<br><input type="checkbox"/> Employment Practice/Profile |
|---|---|--|

### Assessed level of Impact

- High  
 Medium  
 Low

### Budget Affected

- Capital  
 Revenue

### How has this issue come about?

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Budget Proposal   | <input type="checkbox"/> New funding/Grant Aid  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Service Plan                                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legal Duty  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Loss/reduction in funding<br>(inc. end of funding period) | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other (please state) Analysis of pupil numbers and improving educational outcomes for children and young people _____ |

### Proposal detail (give a brief outline of what this is about – no max words)

It is proposed to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for children aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision via the technical closure of Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School.

### Who is the proposal likely to impact?

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Age        | <input type="checkbox"/> Marriage & Civil Partnership | <input type="checkbox"/> Religion & Belief  |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Disability | <input type="checkbox"/> Pregnancy & Maternity        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sex                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gender Reassignment   | <input type="checkbox"/> Race                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Orientation |

Other (please state) \_

**Which ward area(s) is this likely to affect? Crosland Moor and Netherton**  
**Have any of the following been completed? Y N**

Stage 1 Screening Tool	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stage 2 Legal Compliance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stage 3 Customer focus assessment	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Is the proposal likely to have an adverse impact on compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty? Y N**

Ending Unlawful Discrimination, harassment & Victimisation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Promoting Equality of opportunity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Foster Good Relations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**List any supporting documents**

March 2015. Report outlining the current position across the Council in relation to securing sufficient learning places for primary, secondary and specialist school age children.  
March 2015. Primary pupil places in the Huddersfield South West area.  
June 2015. Consultation outcomes report for proposals affecting primary school places in Huddersfield South West.

**Authorisation**

Sign off by lead officer (name)	Signature	Date
<b>JO-ANNE SANDERS</b>		April 2015. Updated August 2015 2015
Sign off by Assistant Director (name)		Date
GILL ELLIS		September 2015
Proposed Review Date		
<b>September 2015</b>		

**Further Authorisation**

Authorising Body	Signature	Date

## **Equality and community cohesion impact assessment –**

### **Introduction : Equality, Diversity and Community Cohesion Impact Assessments**

Equality, diversity and community cohesion impact assessments have been developed in Kirklees as a response to the duty to promote equality and cohesion.

Kirklees is required to meet the obligations of the Equality Act 2010 and the Public Sector Equality Duty 2011 and be able to demonstrate that full regard has been given to the Equalities Impact Assessment throughout the statutory process for statutory proposals including the decision regarding approval.

The approach is firmly grounded on the principles and values embodied in the Kirklees Children & Young People Plan

#### **1 The Equality and Community Cohesion Impact Assessment Process for proposed changes to school Organisation**

- The framework for this equality and cohesion impact assessment is based on a model for educational policy proposals that originally came from the predecessor to the DfE.
- The framework addresses issues of positive or negative impact on any dimensions of equality and cohesion - disability equality, gender equality and ethnicity equality, religion and belief, sexual orientation and community cohesion.
- It also seeks to generate opportunities to promote equality and cohesion.
- It will be used to generate equality and cohesion impact assessments for proposed school organisation and category changes.

#### **2 Equality and cohesion impact assessment statements**

- The proposals are assessed for likely positive or negative impact on any dimensions of equality or cohesion using the statements below.
- If there is any negative or adverse impact, the assessment will examine how the proposals can be changed or modified, whether the impact can be minimised or where necessary how it can be justified.
- The proposals are assessed to ascertain where equality and cohesion can be promoted.

#### **Equality and cohesion impact assessment statements**

- A.** A positive impact is explicitly intended and very likely.
- B.** An adverse impact is unlikely, and on the contrary the policy has the clear potential to have a positive impact by reducing and removing barriers and inequalities that currently exist.
- C.** An adverse impact is unlikely. On the contrary there is potential to reduce barriers and inequalities that currently exist. There is insufficient evidence, however, for this assessment to be made with as much confidence as is desirable.
- D.** Adverse impact is unlikely, but positive impact is also unlikely.
- E.** Adverse impact is probable or certain, since certain groups will be disadvantaged, either proportionately or absolutely, or both. Remedial action is therefore necessary.
- F.** Adverse impact is probable or certain for certain groups but the policy as a whole can nevertheless be justified.

## Proposals for primary pupil places in the Huddersfield south west area

- Proposal to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare provision and to close Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School, Crosland Moor Junior School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School Moor Junior School

	Impact Assessment	Reason for Impact	Details of People Impacted (e.g. BME community, wheelchair users, females etc)	Evidence (this may include statistics or data already collected)	Comments
<b>Ethnicity</b>	Adverse impact is unlikely, but positive impact is also unlikely.	The ethnicity profile of the pupil cohorts that would attend the proposed new C of E, voluntary control all-through primary school are expected to be very similar to the existing cohorts at Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) and Crosland Moor Junior School. This is because children attending the three schools currently would automatically become part of the voluntary controlled primary school, should the proposals be implemented.	Primary school aged children- No impact envisaged (see reasons for impact)	See Kirklees Council Cabinet Report – Primary Pupil Places in the Huddersfield South West Area.	None
<b>Community and Social Cohesion</b>	A positive impact is explicitly intended and very likely	The proposal to bring together Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) and Crosland Moor Junior School to establish a single all-through primary school would facilitate closer contact for parents and carers with school staff over a longer period of time. A more continuous relationship between school, parents, carers, and outside agencies can therefore help to impact positively on community and social cohesion.	Primary school aged children	See Statutory consultation outcomes report	None
<b>Religion/Belief</b>	A positive impact is explicitly intended and very likely	The proposed new Church of England voluntary controlled all-through primary school would result in no reduction of existing C of E school places as the new all-through primary school would maintain this religious character.	Primary school aged children	See Kirklees Council Cabinet Report – Primary Pupil Places in the Huddersfield South West Area.	None

	Impact Assessment	Reason for Impact	Details of People Impacted (e.g. BME community, wheelchair users, females etc)	Evidence (this may include statistics or data already collected)	Comments
<b>SEN, Inclusion and Disability</b>	A positive impact is explicitly intended and very likely	The proposal to bring together Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) and Crosland Moor Junior School to establish a single all-through primary school would facilitate closer contact for parents and carers with school staff over a longer period of time. A more continuous relationship between school, parents, carers, and outside agencies can ensure that all pupils, but particularly those with special educational needs are supported effectively from the Foundation Stage through to the end of Year 6.	Primary school aged children	See Statutory consultation outcomes report	None
<b>Gender</b>	Adverse impact is unlikely, but positive impact is also unlikely	Both proposals would provide co-educational places and be all inclusive.	Primary school aged children	See Kirklees Council Cabinet Report – Primary Pupil Places in the Huddersfield South West Area.	None
<b>Age</b>	A positive impact is explicitly intended and very likely	The proposal to bring together Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) and Crosland Moor Junior School to establish a single all-through primary school flexibility and more opportunities to meet individual needs by tailoring learning experiences. For example, Year 3 children who require further experience of the Key Stage 1 curriculum and more able Year 2 children requiring the challenge of the Key Stage 2 programmes can be catered for. All through schools also provide greater opportunities for social development of children. For example, older children can have some appropriate pastoral responsibility for younger children, which can impact positively on whole school behaviour and children's self-esteem	Primary school aged children	See Kirklees Council Cabinet Report – Primary Pupil Places in the Huddersfield South West Area.	None

	Impact Assessment	Reason for Impact	Details of People Impacted (e.g. BME community, wheelchair users, females etc)	Evidence (this may include statistics or data already collected)	Comments
<b>Sexual Orientation</b>	Adverse impact is unlikely, but positive impact is also unlikely.	The proposal would have no impact on sexual orientation. As explained in the section of this document above that deals with gender the proposal would provide co-educational places and be all-inclusive.	Primary school aged children	See Kirklees Council Cabinet Report – Primary Pupil Places in the Huddersfield South West Area and See Statutory consultation outcomes report	None
<b>Transport</b>	A positive impact is explicitly intended and very likely	Although the proposals involve the technical closure of Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) and Crosland Moor Junior School. No building would be closed and so for children, parents and carers of the schools a continuity of provision would remain in place.	Primary school aged children	See Statutory consultation outcomes report	None

**EQUALITY SCREENING TOOL**

**Appendix 8**

This screening tool has been developed to assist you to make an initial assessment on the priority you may give to a proposal about, or review of a service, function, or policy in your area. It acts to indicate the likely impact this proposal could have on groups of people. Multiple proposals, or alternate options, can be run individually through this tool. It should be completed by someone who has knowledge of both the issue and the employees who will be carrying out the work. **[If you feel that there is likely to be a high impact then you can go straight to Stage 2 Document (Ensuring Legal Compliance)]**

**LEVEL OF IMPACT** Is an indication of the likely impact your proposal could have upon communities &/or employees.

**GREEN = low; YELLOW = medium rising to - AMBER = high medium; RED = High;**

**RISK** This is an indication of the chance of not being able to mount a successful defence if challenged.

**GREEN =low; YELLOW = medium; AMBER = high medium; RED = High;**

**NB There is always a risk of challenge. A lack of evidence leads to a high score.**

<b>Directorate:</b>
Children and Adults
<b>Lead Officer:</b>
Jo-Anne Sanders
<b>Officers responsible for Assessment:</b>
Jo-Anne Sanders, Janet Bolton

<b>Service:</b>
Learning and Skills
<b>Service Area:</b>
School Organisation
<b>Date of Review:</b>
16th April 2015

**Impact Scores (max = 100)**

**30 and below** - your proposal is likely to have little if any impact.

**31 - 40** An EIA could be considered

**41 - 54** your proposal is likely to have a wide impact. An EIA is advised

**55 and above** An EIA is STRONGLY advised

**RISK (see above)**

Irrespective of the impact score; **IF risk background is GREEN less than 30%** then there is **likely to be sufficient evidence** demonstrate that **DUE REGARD** has been taken.

<b>LEVEL OF IMPACT</b>	<b>RISK (%)</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>-2</b>

QUESTION No.	WHAT IS YOUR PROPOSAL?	type y or n	Comments (please explain your answer)
1	To withdraw a service, activity or presence	N	The Council is proposing to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 with early learning and childcare provision, to serve the Huddersfield South West area. The proposed new school would require the technical closure of three schools, which are; Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CofE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School. The buildings that are in current use across these three schools would continue to deliver education to the same age groups as they do now, as the proposed new school would be established in these buildings. Therefore, no buildings would be closed and so for children presently attending any of the schools a continuity of provision would remain in place. Should the proposals be approved for implementation then the proposed new primary school would have a published admission number of 120. This would be an overall reduction to the current published admission numbers for Dryclough CofE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School, however the Council is proposing to establish a new primary free (academy) school on the site of Moor End Academy in order to meet the need for school places. These proposals are a key part of proposals for Huddersfield South West that the council has consulted key stakeholder groups on. Places would be re-provided to ensure that there is no loss of places in the area.
2	To reduce a a service, activity or presence	N	
3	To introduce or increase a charge for Service	N	
4	To change to a commissioned service	N	
5	To introduce, review or change a policy or procedure	Y	
6	To introduce a new service or activity	N	
7	Is this about improving access to, or delivery of a service.	Y	
8	Will you require supporting evidence on this issue	Y	
<b>WHO WILL IT AFFECT?</b>			
9	Does this affect Employees? If YES please list	Y	The proposals affect Crosland Moor and Netherton electoral ward. The proposals may have an impact on staff presently working at Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School. Any future changes to staffing structures will be fully discussed with staff, governors and trade union representatives. As part of the consultation process staff from the schools have had the opportunity to discuss the proposals with officers from the LA. Children with Special Educational Needs that attend Crosland Moor Junior School and Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Thornton Lodge Nursery School will not be impacted by these proposals, as there are no plans to change any services delivered to these children.
10	Does this affect a <u>Single Ward or Locality ONLY</u>	Y	
11	Does this affect most of Kirklees or its Residents	N	
12	Does this issue concern ANY Protected Characteristic Group.	Y	
13	Can you foresee a negative impact on any Protected Characteristic Group(s)? If YES please state what these could be.	N	
14	If IMPACT at this stage is less than 15 answer Y to this question		<b>IF YOU CAN ANSWER YES HERE THEN DO NOT ANSWER ANY FURTHER QUESTIONS</b>
<b>TAKING DUE REGARD</b>			
<i>Where consultation was needed:</i>			
15	Have you got any general intelligence (research, consultation, etc.)? If YES please list any related documents.	Y	(15) General Intelligence. The Council published a report outlining the current position across Kirklees in relation to securing sufficient learning places for primary, secondary and specialist school age children in March 2015. The Council has carried out a seven week (six week term time) statutory consultation on these proposals which commenced in April 2015. Following the completion of the consultation the views of all stakeholders were reported back to Kirklees Council Cabinet, for feedback and a decision as to whether or not to proceed to the next stage of the statutory process for school re-organisation. As described in the main decision report and associated appendices, the Cabinet gave permission to proceed to the publication of statutory notices and proposals. (17) Internal legal advice has been sought and received. (19) The public can access a decision report via the Councils meeting page of its external website. The local authority also ensures that key stakeholders are kept up to date on key issues.
16	Have you got any specific intelligence (research, consultation, etc.)? If YES please list any related documents.	Y	
17	Have you taken specialist advice? (Legal, E&D Team, etc). If YES please state.	Y	
18	Have You considered your Public Sector Equality Duty? Please provide a rationale	Y	
19	Can the Public access a "Decision Report"? If YES state where and how it can be accessed.	Y	
20	Can you mitigate any negative effect? Please state how	Y	
21	Do you have any supporting evidence? If YES please list the documents	Y	
22	Have you published your information? If YES state where.	Y	

**ONLY IF** your proposal is likely to have little or no impact upon groups and you are confident that you have evidence to support your proposal and this document. (RISK less than 30% [GREEN])

- 1) Save this scoresheet;
- 2) Complete and save a 'Front Sheet';
- 3) Make sure you have gathered any supporting evidence documents and they are listed above
- 4) SEND Electronic copies of this tool and a front sheet to [equalityanddiversity@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:equalityanddiversity@kirklees.gov.uk)



**IF** your proposal is likely to have medium or above impact upon groups AND you are not confident that you have evidence to support your proposal and this document. (RISK greater than 30% [yellow, amber, red])

- 1) Save this scoresheet;
- 2) Proceed to Stage 2 document (Ensuring Legal Compliance)



## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT STAGE 2 – ENSURING LEGAL COMPLIANCE

In what way does your current service delivery help to:	How might your proposal affect your capacity to:	How will you mitigate any adverse effects? <small>(You will need to review how effective these measures have been)</small>
<b>End Unlawful Discrimination?</b>	<b>End Unlawful Discrimination?</b>	<b>End Unlawful Discrimination?</b>
The Council has a statutory duty to ensure that there are sufficient school places to meet the needs of its area. The proposal enables the Council to meet this duty and also provide high quality places for local children and families.	Should the proposals be approved for implementation then it would ensure that children and young people and their families have access to high quality, inclusive and sufficient local school places. The proposal provides a degree of continuity for local families as the proposed new school would be established in the existing buildings of Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School.	Careful planning with children and young people and their families would be implemented so that transition is smooth and timely, and personalised plans are put into place to deal with specific issues relating to these children and young people. The Council would establish a dedicated project team that would consist of officers from the Council who would work in partnership with the leadership of the three schools to manage the transition to the new arrangements.
<b>Promote Equality of Opportunity?</b>	<b>Promote Equality of Opportunity?</b>	<b>Promote Equality of Opportunity?</b>
It ensures that children and young people and their families have access to school places that are fully inclusive.	Please see above.	The effects are considered to be generally positive. Transition of children and young people to the proposed new all-through voluntary controlled primary school would be planned carefully – see above.



Foster Good Relations Between People	Foster Good Relations Between People	Foster Good Relations Between People
<p>There are a range of opportunities to do this, for example an all-through primary school provides an opportunity for closer contact for parents and carers with school staff over a longer period of time. A more continuous relationship between the school, parents, carers and outside agencies can ensure that all pupils, but particularly those with special needs, are supported effectively from the Foundation Stage through to the end of Year 6.</p>	<p>See opposite.</p>	<p>See opposite.</p>

Think about what you are planning to change; and what impact that will have upon 'your' compliance with the Public Sector Equality Duty (refer to [guidance sheet](#) complete with examples where necessary)

**ONLY IF** You are confident that there is little if any negative affect on your public sector equality duty and/or you have all the necessary evidence to support your proposal.



- Save this sheet for your own records
- Complete and save a front sheet
- Send this, a front sheet and your screening tool if you have completed one to [equalityanddiversity@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:equalityanddiversity@kirklees.gov.uk)

- IF the proposal is likely to be high or medium/high impact on equality groups,

**AND**

- You do not have any supporting evidence needed for your proposal (such as consultation)
- Your proposal is likely to have a negative affect on your ability to comply with the Public Sector Equality Duty. Proceed to stage 3 Customer focus assessment.



## EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT STAGE 3 – CUSTOMER FOCUS ASSESSMENT

Before you start make you may want to refer to the [background thinking](#) and the [stage 3 guidance](#) document for help with this section.

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

(set the context of what you want to do and why. Provide evidence of appropriate research and evidence to support your rationale)

To bring together Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough CE (VC) Infant School and Crosland Moor Junior School to establish a new all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school for pupils aged 2-11 years with early learning and childcare places.

- to cater for school and nursery children aged 2 to 11
- with a PAN of 120 pupils per year group for 4-11 year olds (from Reception 2016), and over time retaining 840 primary school places in total.
- retaining 130 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 3-4 years) and retain the existing 52 full-time flexible childcare places which can be used for a mixture of early learning and fee paying childcare places (children aged 2-5 years).

### WHO IS LIKELY TO BE AFFECTED BY THE PROPOSAL AND HOW ( think about barriers, access, effects, outcomes etc)

Equality Group (protected characteristic)	Direct or Secondary Impact (state)	Positive, negative or neutral effect	Please explain Address each group individually.

		(state)	
Age	secondary	neutral	<p>The proposed establishment of an all-through Church of England voluntary controlled primary school, for pupils aged 2-11 years, with early learning and childcare provision in Huddersfield South West is intended to improve the educational standards attained by children. This is achieved through better and more flexible management of learning, without a change of school at age 7.</p> <p>There is the benefit of more continuity. For example, a single school would have common approaches to curriculum planning, assessment, record keeping and target setting. Staff would have longer to get to know the children. Most importantly, the school would have a shared understanding of standards and expectations.</p> <p>There is the benefit of more flexibility and more opportunities to meet individual needs by tailoring learning experiences. For example, Year 3 children who require further experience of the Key Stage 1 curriculum and more able Year 2 children requiring the challenge of the Key Stage 2 programmes can be catered for. It means a wider range of resources can be shared and common themes developed across the school. This curriculum flexibility can be particularly important for children with Special Educational Needs.</p> <p>There are more opportunities for social development. For example, older children can have</p>

## Appendix 8

			some appropriate pastoral responsibility for younger children, which can impact positively on whole school behaviour and children's self-esteem. Vulnerable children and their parents and carers have greater security from a consistency of staff and provision.
Disability	secondary	positive	There is closer contact for parents and carers with school staff over a longer period of time. A more continuous relationship between the school, parents, carers and outside agencies can ensure that all pupils, but particularly those with special needs, are supported effectively from the Foundation Stage through to the end of Year 6.
Marriage & civil partnership	secondary	neutral	No issues
Pregnancy & maternity	secondary	neutral	No issues
Race	secondary	neutral	No issues
Religion and belief	secondary	neutral	No issues
Sex	secondary	neutral	No issues
Sexual Orientation	secondary	neutral	No issues
Other groups (e.g. carers (socioeconomic, travellers etc )	direct	positive	No issues
Geographical Impact and/or	direct	positive	

community cohesion.			
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## CONSULTATION, ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIP

### How do you plan to consult? With who? Why?

All stakeholders – Children and young people and their parents and families, staff at all affected schools, governors at affected schools and the local communities.

### What were the results of the general consultation?

A statutory consultation was carried out in April, May and June 2015.

### What were the results of specific consultation?

The majority of respondents to the consultation either strongly supported or supported this proposal. However a modest number of respondents strongly opposed the proposals or neither supported nor opposed the proposals. Respondents who supported the proposals identified several benefits associated with all-through schools. These included a reduction in the number of transition points, increased levels of continuity and also providing the opportunity for teaching staff to get to know the children for longer and thus help to raise educational outcomes.

The Council has completed a seven week consultation and this included meetings with staff and governors from Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough C of E (VC) Infant and Nursery School, Crosland Moor Junior School. The outcomes of this consultation were reported to Kirklees Cabinet on the 30<sup>th</sup> June and the outcomes are highlighted in the previous section of this assessment.

### Where is the evidence of consultation that you have undertaken?

A statutory consultation was carried out in 2015. The evidence was published in a public report that was published on the Council's

website on the 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015. Key stakeholders were notified on the day of publication and sent a link to the report.

## WHAT NEXT ?

### What has happened as a result of the consultation?

The Local Authority has published statutory proposals and the proposals are to be decided by Kirklees Council Cabinet on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2015.

### What action will you now be taking? Detail any mitigation actions where necessary?

Should the proposals be approved the LA will continue to work with Thornton Lodge Nursery School, Dryclough C of E (VC) Infant and Nursery School and Crosland Moor Junior School, as well as key stakeholders including parents and carers to carefully manage transition. The LA will establish a dedicated project team that will consist of officers from across the Council and leadership from all three schools to manage all key work streams and any associated risks.

### How will any outcomes be monitored, reviewed, evaluated and promoted where necessary?

Via the Schools Strategic Co-ordinating Board and other management level meetings for schools that occur across the Council.

### Any Additional Information

N/A



**This is the end of the Equality Impact Process.** By now you should have been able to clearly demonstrate and evidence your thinking and decision(s). An update sheet has been provided should you wish to add any information at a later stage. **IT SHOULD NOW BE PUBLISHED.**

- Save this document for your own records
- Complete and save a front sheet
- Use the EIA checklist to make sure you have done everything that is required.
- Send this, a front sheet, stage 2 document and your screening tool if you have completed one to [equalityanddiversity@kirklees.gov.uk](mailto:equalityanddiversity@kirklees.gov.uk)

**UPDATE / REVIEW SHEET**

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