



North Tyneside  
Council

**Children, Young People and Learning**  
Quadrant, The Silverlink North, Cobalt Business  
Park,  
North Tyneside, NE27 0BY

Ref: Launch of statutory consultation  
15 November 2024

Dear parents and carers,

This morning a statutory notice was published on the proposal to close Monkseaton High School on 31 August 2026, meaning the Council has entered a four-week statutory consultation period that will run until 5pm on Friday 13 December.

This next stage of consultation is different, as a decision has now been made following the pre-publication consultation phase, that no viable options have been identified to secure the future of the school.

In this consultation you are invited to make 'formal representations'. In simple terms, it means you can agree or oppose the decision and submit comments on the proposal.

Submissions to this stage of consultation will be considered by North Tyneside Council's Cabinet at a meeting on 19 December 2024. This is when a final decision will be made.

You can read the full proposal documentation and complete the consultation on the [Our North Tyneside Voice website](#) or by post to Education Review, North Tyneside Council, Quadrant East, Cobalt Business Park, The Silverlink North, North Tyneside, NE27 0BY.

I recognise that consultation regarding the school closure proposals leads to uncertainty for a number of parents, carers and child(ren).

Unfortunately, during this stage it is not possible to respond to each individuals' circumstances, but I am able to share more details with you that I hope will provide some reassurances.

### **Extraordinary admissions process**

If a decision is made to close Monkseaton High School, I know that this could have an impact on the school admissions application you have now submitted for your child's Year 9 place for September 2025.

It is proposed that an extra-ordinary admissions process would open on Thursday 2 January 2025 for Year 8 pupils in a middle school:

- who have applied for a Year 9 place at Monkseaton High School as one of their preferences in the normal admissions process; or,
- who have not applied for a Year 9 place for September 2025; or,
- who would like to apply for other schools where only one preference has been submitted on their original application in the normal process.

If your circumstances are not described above, you do not need to do anything else; your application will be progressed in line with our usual admissions arrangements.

If your circumstances are described above, over a two-week period, until 17 January 2025, you can apply for an alternative school as a preference for your child. If a decision is made to close Monkseaton High School, we will write to you to share how you can do this.

I want to assure you that you will continue to be notified of your child's school place on National Offer Day (3 March 2025) like every other child. At the end of this letter, you will find a timetable (table one) which shares more information about these proposed extra-ordinary admissions arrangements.

If the Council is undertaking an Education Health and Care Needs Assessment or maintains your child's Education Health Care Plan, [you will find timetables here](#). This includes information about the admissions arrangements for your child. I want to assure you that the Council has not deviated from the SEND Code of Practice (2015); if your child has an EHCP this will be issued on 15 February 2025, naming your child's school place for September 2025.

### **Spaces available in North Tyneside schools**

We know there are sufficient places in North Tyneside schools to accommodate all pupils. We're continuing to try and build in additional choice for you and we're working with school leaders to do this.

The Council does not have the powers to mandate a change in Pupil Admission Numbers, but I recognise it is important for you that you have as much choice as possible for which school your child attends. The required change is at the discretion of each school's Governing Body.

The majority of the schools named below have already agreed to provide an increased number of places while the remaining schools are finalising their decision with their Governing Boards.

Looking at current pupil numbers, all current year 9 pupils who are residents of North Tyneside can be accommodated in the following schools:

- Burnside College
- Churchill Community College
- George Stephenson High School
- John Spence Community High School
- Longbenton High School
- Marden High School
- Norham High School
- North Gosforth Academy
- St Thomas More Catholic High School
- Whitley Bay High School

If Cabinet approve the proposal to close Monkseaton High School, the number of available places at each school will be published as part of the decision and in advance of the opening of the extraordinary admissions arrangements which is scheduled to open on 2 January 2025.

### **Catchment areas**

I know many questions have been raised around what would happen to the existing catchment for Monkseaton High School and the impact for those pupils who would no longer have a catchment school.

In the future as part of our education review, catchment areas may need to be re-drawn. This will not happen in advance of the upcoming admissions process for Year 9 and Year 8 pupils.

While I am providing this information to ensure that you are aware of the arrangements if the school closure proposal is agreed, I'd like to be clear that this is very much still in a consultation stage, and no final decisions have been made.

I know that this may be a challenging time for you, and I'd recommend that you take this opportunity to leave your feedback on the consultation site to make sure your voice is heard and considered as part of the final decision in December.

Thank yo

Julie  
Firth



Director of Childrens Service

North Tyneside Council

**Table one**

Timetable of extraordinary admissions arrangements for pupils in Year 8 in Middle Schools in the North-East Planning Area (NEPA) transferring to Year 9 in September 2025.

DATE	EVENT
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<b>2 January 2025</b>	<p>The extraordinary admissions arrangements open for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Year 8</b> pupils in a middle school in the NEPA who have applied for a Year 9 place for September 2025 at Monkseaton High School as one of their preferences in the normal admissions process; or,</li> <li>• <b>Year 8</b> pupils in a middle school in the NEPA who have not applied for a Year 9 place for September 2025; or</li> <li>• <b>Year 8</b> Pupils in a middle school in the NEPA who would like to apply for other schools where only one preference has been submitted on their original application in the normal admissions process.</li> </ul> <p>If Cabinet approve the proposal to close Monkseaton High School, we will publish as part of the decision and in advance of the opening of the extraordinary admissions arrangements, how parents and carers can complete their application.</p>
<b>17 January 2025</b>	<p>This is the closing date for extraordinary current Year 8 applications.</p>
<b>20 January 2025</b>	<p>The Admissions Team will send details of preferences to Trust schools, Voluntary Aided schools, Academy Trusts, and other Local Authorities where preferences stated are for schools other than the home Authority.</p> <p>Where additional preferences are added for schools outside of North Tyneside, the admission arrangements will be dealt with under the published arrangements in that Local Authority area.</p>

<b>24 January 2025</b>	<p>The Admission Authority for each Trust school, Voluntary Aided school and Academy Trust will provide the Authority with a list in rank order in accordance with their admission criteria of all pupils who applied for a place at the school and that can be offered a place.</p>
<b>27 January 2025</b>	<p>The Authority will exchange responses to preferences with other Authorities.</p>
<b>17 February 2025</b>	<p>In line with the published admissions arrangements, the Authority will inform all North Tyneside schools of children who will be offered places at their school.</p>

<b>3 March 2025</b>	In line with National Offer Day, all parents and carers of current Year 8 pupils will be informed of their child's school place for September 2025.
<b>17 March 2025</b>	This is the last date for all parents and carers to accept or decline the school place offer that has been made.
<b>17 March 2025</b>	This is the last date for parents and carers to request in writing that they want to place their child's name on the waiting list for any schools which they have applied for and been refused.
<b>24 March 2025</b>	The Authority will reallocate any places that have become available since offer day.
<b>June and July 2025</b>	This is when appeals will be heard.