

## **Confidential Cabinet Members' Briefing: Strategic Education Review – Consultation Launch**

Dear Cabinet Member,

Following the approval of proposals at Cabinet on 22 September, we are now preparing to launch the informal public consultation phase of the Strategic Education Review. This will begin at **12 noon on Thursday 2 October** and will invite views on proposed changes affecting seven schools across the Borough.

The four proposals include:

- Closure of Monkseaton Middle School (with no Year 5 admissions from Sept 2026)
- Merger of Forest Hall and Ivy Road Primary
- Merger of Langley First and Appletree Gardens First
- Merger of Hazlewood Primary School and Greenfields Primary

It is proposed that the Published Admissions Numbers Reduction (PAN) will be amended at three middle schools and Whitley Bay High School.

These changes respond to sustained falling birth rates (approx. 300 fewer children annually since 2018/19), surplus places, financial pressures, and building condition issues.

Consultation materials, including options considered and data used, and FAQs, will be published on the Our North Tyneside Voice website on Thursday 02 Oct at midday <https://haveyoursay.northtyneside.gov.uk/>

Headteachers, governors, staff, unions, and media have been briefed. School communities will be notified by letter at the time of launch.

Consultation runs until 13 November. If no viable alternatives are identified, statutory consultation will follow in January 2026. No changes will take effect during the current academic year. A full implementation timeline will be developed in partnership with school leaders, staff, and families.

Customer First will support resident enquiries, and accessibility support is available via [education.review@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:education.review@northtyneside.gov.uk)

All proposals remain subject to statutory guidance and final Cabinet decision in January 2026.