



# CHOLLERTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND

## AIDED FIRST SCHOOL

*Be the best you can be through: challenge,  
nurture, inspiration, respect, happiness, inclusion, in a safe,  
secure Christian family.*

### **Why Chollerton First School?**

Chollerton First School has been selected for closure in all 3 models proposed by Northumberland County Council despite:

### **Offering an Outstanding Education by:**

- offering the best start to schooling in a safe, happy, stimulating and nurturing environment
- being an Ofsted outstanding school
- delivering individualised learning enabling each child to reach their potential
- strong and consistent pupil numbers for the next three years
- having K.S.1 results in the top 5% nationally
- our Early Years Foundation Stage & Phonics results are greater than or equal to 5% higher than the national average.
- our attendance is above the national average.
- gold school games award achieved for two years in a row.
- having a reputation for a broad, balanced and creative curriculum.
- achieving a good Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) report.
- the schools' governors have the enthusiasm, skills and determination to ensure Chollerton continues to offer outstanding education to children in the local rural community and if required become a primary.
- having a proactive and supportive P.T.F.A.
- being a highly efficient and effective providing value for money.
- parents and members of the community who believe the school delivers its vision and values.

### **Being Financially viable by:**

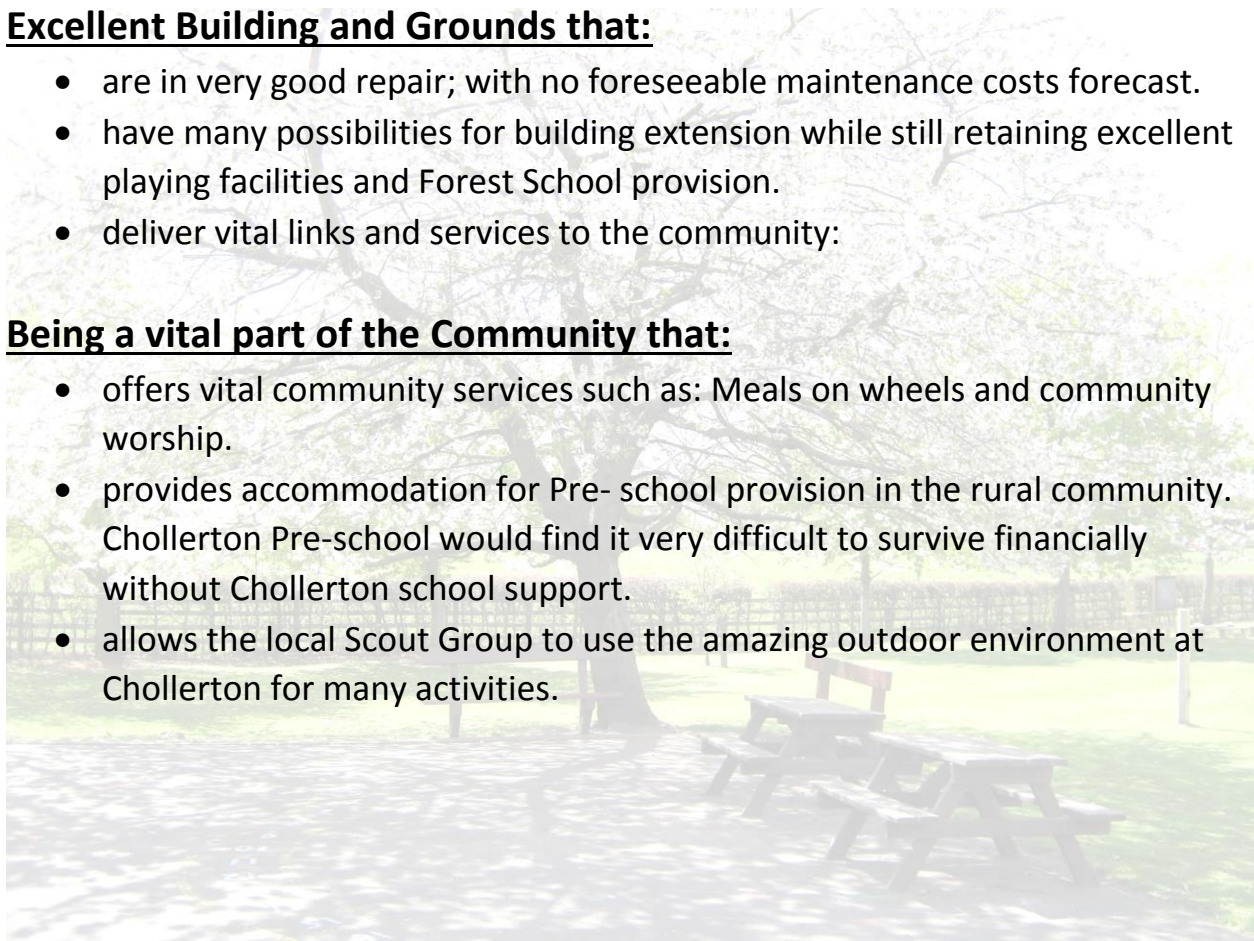
- having a track record of delivering a balanced budget (slight overspend 2017/2018 of 1.4% to deliver educational support for children with special needs).
- financially, benefitting from increased sparsity payment and the fairer funding campaign so that we will not be in deficit for 2018/2019 and 2019/2020.

### **Excellent Building and Grounds that:**

- are in very good repair; with no foreseeable maintenance costs forecast.
- have many possibilities for building extension while still retaining excellent playing facilities and Forest School provision.
- deliver vital links and services to the community:

### **Being a vital part of the Community that:**

- offers vital community services such as: Meals on wheels and community worship.
- provides accommodation for Pre- school provision in the rural community. Chollerton Pre-school would find it very difficult to survive financially without Chollerton school support.
- allows the local Scout Group to use the amazing outdoor environment at Chollerton for many activities.





## **General Points**

- Why is there a lack of recognition in the consultation document of the excellent standard of educational outcomes achieved by schools in the West?
- Why has there been no published analysis, either by N.C.C. or an independent body, of the impact of these educational outcomes?
- How will educational outcomes be improved in each model?

## **Finances:**

- Why is their misleading and out of date financial information which does not take into account the increase in sparsity payment and the improvement in rural schools budgets due to national funding formula.
- We would like transparency regarding the financial costs / benefits of each proposed model with each model costed.
- Will the ultimate cost of each model exceed financial savings?

## **School Transport:**

- What is the expected impact of longer journey times to school for young pupils. These are journey times from the child's home and not based on school to school.

## **The Community:**

- No consideration has been given to the impact of closing a school has on a community. Young families will be discouraged from coming to the area. Families that will support the local businesses and self- employed people.
- No consideration has been given to the future building plans for housing in Barrasford which will attract more families.
- There are too many options to be considered in this document:
- The future of Haydon Bridge High School.
- Whether a two tier or three tier systems will exist.
- Should individual schools close?
- Capital investment in schools so that any changes can succeed.

## **AT CHOLLERTON WE ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE:**

We want to work with the Northumberland County Council and support their vision and we feel it is important and relevant that Chollerton First School remains open to support the development of its young people.

The NCC and councilors need to demonstrate they are listening to communities, its voting public and recognise that the current performance of the school demonstrates its direction of travel is inextricably linked to the plan and vision.

Proposal A - no

Proposal B - no

Proposal C - no

Model D – alternative proposal

Any proposal to close Chollerton First School is unacceptable.

## **THIS SCHOOL IS AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS COMMUNITY.**

Northumberland County Council and councilors should listen to the community of Chollerton First School and investigate the possibility of extending the educational provision to include years 5 and 6 whilst also enabling our vibrant pre-school to survive.

However, the proposal for The Hadrian Learning Trust to become secondary has not yet gone to a second consultation and the N.C.C. consultation is pre-mature.



- Will closing multiple schools, restricting parental choice, reducing the number of faith schools, deliver a better education for the present and future children in our care?
- There are many complex issues in the document. Is each one going to be given sufficient merit in the time scale allowed?
- The N.C.C omits to mention that educational professionals were not consulted on the closure or merger of schools.
- We request transparency in the way discussions will be made and the decision about which schools will remain open.
- Why did N.C.C. councilors not make their views known prior to county council elections?
- How will local councilors ensure their constituents views are represented to the cabinet which determines the future of our schools?



**SAVE OUR SCHOOLS**

**Please use the link below to view the Northumberland County Council's full consultation document:**

<http://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/Consultations.aspx>

**To respond online please follow this link:**

[https://form.northumberland.gov.uk/form/launch/con\\_res\\_sch\\_hx\\_hb](https://form.northumberland.gov.uk/form/launch/con_res_sch_hx_hb)

**Responses are required by 9<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**Hard copies are available from school, and completed response forms can be returned to school and we can forward these onto Northumberland County Council.**



The Hadrian Learning Trust which comprises of Queen Elizabeth High School and Hexham Middle School are also running their own consultation:

### **The consultation**

They are not consulting on ANY of the options set out in Northumberland County Council's consultation.

Instead, they are looking to answer two fundamental questions:

1. Should we change the age range of Hexham Middle School and Queen Elizabeth High School to form an 11-18 Secondary School from September 2021?
2. If a decision is taken by the Council / Department for Education to close Haydon Bridge High School, should we expand to welcome those children from September 2019?

This consultation ends of 29<sup>th</sup> March 2018.

Online Responses:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/HLTconsultation>