PART 1: Proposal to discontinue Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School on 30th April 2017

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, Kirkgate Buildings, Byram Street, Huddersfield, HD1 1BY intends to discontinue Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School, School Street, Honley, Holmfirth, HD9 6AU. 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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School on the 30th April 2017

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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School to enable a new all-through primary school with nursery provision to be established as described in Part 3 of this proposal. There are strong collaborative partnerships between Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School, both schools working to provide the highest standard of learning experience to meet the needs of the pupils and the families of the local communities they serve. This proposal has been developed in partnership with the governing bodies and senior leadership teams of Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior school.

Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School was inspected by Ofsted in March 2009 and the overall effectiveness was Outstanding.

“Achievement is outstanding. Children’s attainment on entry to the Nursery class is typical of that age. Good progress is made in both the Nursery and Reception classes, so by the time children enter Year 1 they are working at levels above those expected. The rate of progress picks up pace further in Key Stage 1 for all, including those with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. By the end of Year 2, children are working at levels well above those expected nationally in reading, writing and mathematics. In addition, children's performance in other subjects is well above that expected. Children make outstanding progress because of first-rate teaching and an excellent curriculum, which considerably furthers their personal development as well as their academic achievement. Teaching is imaginative and links between subjects enable children to transfer and practise their skills. Although teachers encourage children to assess what they do well and how to improve in most subjects, this does not happen often enough in their written work.”

“Outstanding leadership and management are at the heart of this dynamic school. It is visionary, committed leadership and a determination to be the best that makes it so
The council has a policy to explore opportunities for reducing transition points, and has worked with school leadership, the governing bodies. The Diocesan Board of Education within the Church of England Diocese of Leeds is working in partnership with the Local Authority. The Church of England Diocese of Leeds would act as the proposer of the new all-through primary school that would effectively reduce transition points between key stages of education.

The educational benefits of all-through Primary Schools:

- Uninterrupted progress and continuity from early years to age 11. (Although it must be noted that transition from the nursery to reception is not automatic and a statutory school place must be applied for through the normal admissions process)
- 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 - this is particularly important for children with Special Educational 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 the Foundation Stage through to the end of Year 6.
- Staff have longer to get to know the children and the consistency of staffing and provision for children gives greater security for parents and carers.
- Children can attend the same school as older or younger siblings for longer.
- A single leadership team and governing body gives:
  - consistency in terms of policies, practice, standards and expectations;
  - clear improvement priorities;
  - common approaches to curriculum planning, assessment and target setting;
  - staff working within a larger team have more opportunities to take on responsibilities and undertake professional development;
  - more effective use of the accommodation, facilities and resources - reduced duplication and economies of scale.

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 October 2016 school census number on roll for 3-7 year old at Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School was 217 (118 boys and 99 girls). The provision at Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery 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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery 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 2017. Pupils at Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School would remain in the same building as they are in currently.

This proposal does not intend to add more capacity in the area but retain the same number of places.

The new Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school will cater for pupils aged 3 to 11, with a PAN of 66 for Key Stage 1, a PAN of 68 for Key Stage 2 and retaining the 48 part-time early learning places for nursery children aged 3-4 years.

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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School on 1st May 2017 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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School.

Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery 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 Honley. The number of places would remain the same.

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; the all-through primary school would have an important role in the local community, as do the existing two schools now. The proposals aim to build on the existing strengths of the schools. The all-through school would ensure that there are sufficient places for children from the local community. The school would continue to be a focal point for the community and be integral in ensuring local educational provision works effectively 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.
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, Honley Church of
England Voluntary Controlled Infant and 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.

It is proposed that the closure of Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and
Nursery School would be linked to the establishment of the proposed new all-through
Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision. Early
years 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. 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 Diocesan Board Of
Education within the Church of England Diocese of Leeds 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 Diocesan Board Of
Education within the Church of England Diocese of Leeds and Kirklees Council consider
that combining the ethos and values of the school and Honley Church of England Voluntary
Controlled Junior School, 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:
(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.

Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery 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:
(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.

Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School do not have 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.

Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and 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 building on School Street 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.

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 six week statutory consultation took place between 31 October 2016 and 9 December 2016. Consultation documents were written and produced with due regard to The School Organisation (Opening and closing maintained schools) (England) Regulations 2016. Consultation documents were made widely available. Consultation documents were sent to the families of pupils, governors and staff at Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School, and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior 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. The Council held two consultation ‘drop-in sessions’ for parents/carers and members of the community to enable individuals to speak with officers about the proposals in more detail (and in particular about the potential implications for them as individuals). 900 consultation documents were distributed, 45 responses were received from parents and carers, governors, staff and other stakeholders. In addition, meetings have been held with staff and governors of Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School.

The conclusion to be drawn from the statutory consultation is that there is a good level of support from the large majority of respondents for bringing together the two schools and establishing an all-through primary school for 3-11 year olds in order to remove the transition at age 7 and bring greater continuity. The schools serve the same families in the
community and almost all children at the infant school move to the junior school. By bringing the schools together there will be greater consistency and sharing of resources across both sites. The relatively low number of respondents indicates that the proposals are not contentious. Concerns raised, such as questions about staffing structures, job security and new uniforms, can be effectively managed during a transition period.

For further information please use the link below to access the report for the consultation that was decided on the 17\textsuperscript{th} January 2017. http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/cabinet

PART 2: Proposal to discontinue Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School on 30th April 2017

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, Kirkgate Buildings, Byram Street, Huddersfield, HD1 1BY intends to discontinue Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School, Jaggar Lane, Honley, Holmfirth, HD9 6BT. 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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School on the 30th April 2017

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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School to enable a new all-through primary school with nursery provision to be established as described in Part 3 of this proposal. There are strong collaborative partnerships between Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School, both schools working to provide the highest standard of learning experience to meet the needs of the pupils and the families of the local communities they serve. This proposal has been developed in partnership with the governing bodies and senior leadership teams of Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School.

Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School was Inspected by Ofsted in April 2014 the Overall effectiveness good.

“Overall, the achievement of pupils is good because the great majority make good progress from a range of different starting points. The standards pupils reach in reading, writing and mathematics by the end of Year 6 are generally above average.”
“The quality of teaching is nearly always good, with examples of outstanding practice. As a result, pupils enjoy learning and make good progress, as evidenced by the good quality of work in their books”

“Pupils say they feel very safe and well cared for because: ‘School is such a friendly place it is feels like home”

“The headteacher’s and senior leaders’ close working partnership with the governing body has brought about significant change at a fast pace. They have raised both the quality of teaching and pupils’ achievement across the school since the previous inspection”
(Ofsted 30th April 2014)

The council has a policy to explore opportunities for reducing transition points, and has worked with school leadership and governing bodies. The Diocesan Board Of Education within the Church of England Diocese of Leeds is working in partnership with the Local Authority. The Church of England Diocese of Leeds would act as the proposer of the new all-through primary school that has effectively reduced transition points between key stages of education.

The educational benefits of all-through Primary Schools

• Uninterrupted progress and continuity from early years to age 11. (Although it must be noted that transition from the nursery to reception is not automatic and a statutory school place must be applied for through the normal admissions process)
• 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 - this is particularly important for children with Special Educational 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 the Foundation Stage through to the end of Year 6.
• Staff have longer to get to know the children and the consistency of staffing and provision for children gives greater security for parents and carers.
• Children can attend the same school as older or younger siblings for longer.
• A single leadership team and governing body gives:
  ➢ consistency in terms of policies, practice, standards and expectations;
  ➢ clear improvement priorities;
  ➢ common approaches to curriculum planning, assessment and target
  ➢ staff working within a larger team have more opportunities to take on responsibilities and undertake professional development;
  ➢ more effective use of the accommodation, facilities and resources - reduced duplication and economies of scale.

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 October 2016 school census, numbers on roll for 7-11 year olds at Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School was 256 (130 boys and 126 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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior would automatically become part of the proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school with nursery provision on the 1st May 2017. Pupils at Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior would remain in the same building. This proposal does not intend to add more capacity in the area but retain the same number of places.

The new Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school will cater for pupils aged 3 to 11, with a PAN of 66 for Key Stage 1, a PAN of 68 for Key Stage 2 and retaining the 48 part-time early learning places for nursery children aged 3-4 years.

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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School on 1st May 2017 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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School.

Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled 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 Honley, the number of places would remain the same.

**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; all-through primary school would have an important role in the local community, as do the existing two schools now. The proposals aim to build on the existing strengths of the schools. The all-through school would ensure that there are sufficient places for children from the local community. The school would continue to be a focal point for the community and be integral in ensuring local educational provision works effectively 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.

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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled 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.

It is proposed that the closure of Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School would be linked to the establishment of the proposed new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school, with nursery provision. Early years and key stage one would remain on the same site. Denominational provision for junior school age pupils in the area would be maintained and there should be no impact on parental choice. 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. Church of England Diocese of Leeds 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 Church of England Diocese of Leeds and Kirklees Council believe that combining the ethos and values of the school and the other 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:
(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.
Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled 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.

Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled 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.

Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled 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 Jaggar Lane 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

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 six week statutory consultation took place between 31 October 2016 and 9 December 2016. Consultation documents were written and produced with due regard to “The School Organisation (Opening and closing maintained schools) (England) Regulations 2016”. Consultation documents were made widely available. Consultation documents were sent to the families of pupils, governors and staff at, Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and 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. The Council held two consultation ‘drop-in sessions’ for parents/carers and members of the community to enable individuals to speak with officers about the proposals in more detail (and in particular about the potential implications for them as individuals). 900 consultation documents were distributed, 45 responses were received from parents and carers, governors, staff and other stakeholders. In addition, meetings have been held with staff and governors of Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior.
The conclusion to be drawn from the statutory consultation is that there is a good level of support from the large majority of respondents for bringing together the two schools and establishing an all-through primary school for 3-11 year olds in order to remove the transition at age 7 and bring greater continuity. The schools serve the same families in the community and almost all children at the infant school move to the junior school. By bringing the schools together there will be greater consistency and sharing of resources across both sites. The relatively low number of respondents indicates that the proposals are not contentious. Concerns raised, such as questions about staffing structures, job security and new uniforms, can be effectively managed during a transition period. For further information please use the link below to access the report for the consultation that was decided on the 17th January 2017. http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/cabinet

Part 3 - Complete Proposal to establish a Church of England Voluntary Controlled 3-11 primary

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).

   Church of England Diocese of Leeds, Church House, 17-19 York Place, Leeds, LS1 2EX

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 2017, 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 Diocesan Board of Education within the Church of England Diocese of Leeds, 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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School to establish a new all-through Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school, both schools are Church of England schools.

The council has a policy to explore opportunities for reducing transition points, and has worked with school leaders, governing bodies and The Diocesan Board of Education within the Church of England Diocese of Leeds on proposal to 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. 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.

It is possible to bring together Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School, resulting in a new voluntary controlled Church of England primary school as this is a reorganisation of existing Church of England voluntary controlled schools.

Section 11 proposals

Any persons (‘proposer’) e.g. LA or diocese may publish a proposal, at any time, for a new school outside of the free school presumption and competitions process under section 11 of Education and Inspections Act 2006.

The Secretary of State’s consent is not required in the case of proposals for:

- a new community or foundation primary school to replace a maintained infant and a maintained junior school;
- a new voluntary-aided school in order to meet demand for a specific type of place e.g. places to meet demand from those of a particular faith;
- a new foundation or voluntary school resulting from the reorganisation of existing faith schools in an area, including an existing faith school losing or changing its religious designation;
- a new foundation or community school, where there were no suitable free school
proposals and a competition has been held but did not identify a suitable provider;
• a former independent school wishing to join the maintained sector; and
• a new LA maintained nursery school.

(Department for Education Guidance: 2016)

Department for Education Guidance explains that there are two ways to 'merge' or 'amalgamate' two or more existing maintained schools:
• The LA or governing body (depending on school category) can publish a proposal to close two (or more) schools and the LA or a proposer other than the LA (e.g. diocese, faith or parent group, Trust) depending on category, can publish a proposal to open a new school. This results in a new school number being issued.
• The LA and/or governing body (depending on school category) can publish a proposal to close one school (or more) and enlarge/change the age range/transfer site (following a statutory process as/when necessary) of an existing school, to accommodate the displaced pupils. The remaining school would retain its original school number, as it is not a new school, even if its phase has changed.

(Department for Education Guidance: 2016)

The linked statutory proposals that would be required to bring the schools together are:
• The Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of Leeds would propose a new replacement all-through Church of England primary school. The new school would continue in the existing buildings and on the same sites.
• The LA would propose the technical ‘closure’ of Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School.

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.

Reorganising Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School to create a new all-through Church of England primary 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 Honley.

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. The Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of Leeds 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 Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of Leeds and Kirklees Council have confidence that in combining the ethos and values of the two schools that are identified in Parts 1-2 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 Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of Leeds 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 new Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school will cater for pupils aged 3 to 11, with a PAN of 66 for Key Stage, a PAN of 68 for Key Stage 2 and retaining the 48 part-time early learning places for nursery children aged 3-4 years. Opportunities to further develop early learning and childcare services to meet future demand, including that presented by the introduction of 30 hours free childcare, and two year olds eligible to free early education, are not precluded by these proposals.

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.

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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School. 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 48 part-time early learning places (nursery children aged 3-4 years)**

The length of sessions would be the same as offered now by Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and 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 and the strong working relationship between Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School to successfully integrate early year’s provision within an all-through setting and form closer, effective working relationship until the end of Key Stage 2.

There is demand for early years places in the area as can be evidenced via the take up of existing places at Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School. There is a requirement in the area for additional places to meet the future demand associated with “30 hours free childcare” as per the evidence presented in the Kirklees Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2016.

As the proposal is for a technical closure linked to the establishment of identical replacement early years provision the impact on children and families 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 beyond that which is contained in the Kirklees Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2016.

Outside the scope of these proposals a number of options are being explored about how best to meet the evidence of future demand for early years and childcare places in the area.

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 and Religious Education.

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 Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of Leeds 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. The Council has a policy to explore opportunities for reducing transition points, and has worked with school leaders, governing bodies and the Diocesan Board of Education within the Diocese of Leeds 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.

Currently both schools work closely:
- The schools currently work together to ensure a smooth transition for pupils from KS1 to KS2. Bringing the schools together into a single organisation would deepen the quality of transition at each Key Stage and enable increased opportunities for older pupils to support the younger children throughout their time within the primary setting.
- At present the Junior School staff is involved in the assessment of year 2 writing at the end of Key Stage 1. Moderation activities take place across year groups during the course of the year. The SENCOs work together throughout the year within the Honley partnership to assess the needs of SEN children and to share good practice and develop programmes for individual children.
- The schools work in partnership to support vulnerable families through multi agency meetings. Safeguarding leads work closely together on a day-to-day basis to ensure the safety and well-being of all children

The proposed establishment of an all-through primary school Honley is intended to formalise and 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 Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School. The proposed new school would continue to serve the Honley 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.
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 two 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—
   a) details of the trusts on which the site is to be held; and
   b) 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 Voluntary Controlled status. There is no change to the current status of either school.

Foundation Schools
24. Where the school is to be a foundation or foundation special school, confirmation as to—
   a) whether it will have a foundation and if so, the name or proposed name of the foundation;
   b) the rationale for the foundation and the particular ethos that it will bring to the school;
   c) the details of membership of the foundation, including the names of the members;
   d) the proposed constitution of the governing body; and
   e) 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) a statement that the requirements of section 11(3) are met;
   b) a statement as to whether the premises will meet the requirements of the School Premises (England) Regulations 2012(4) and, if not:
      (i) details of how the premises are deficient; and
      (ii) 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 six week statutory consultation took place between 31 October 2016 and 9 December 2016. Consultation documents were written and produced with due regard to “The School Organisation (Opening and closing maintained schools) (England) Regulations 2016”. Consultation documents were made widely available. Consultation documents were sent to the families of pupils, governors and staff at, Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior School and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant and Nursery School. Copies of the consultation document were also sent to elected members, Trade Union representatives, neighbouring local authorities, local community groups and interested officers from across the Council. The consultation document was also made available on the Council’s website. The Council held two consultation ‘drop-in sessions’ for parents/carers and members of the community to enable individuals to speak with officers about the proposals in more detail (and in particular about the potential implications for them as individuals). 900 consultation documents were distributed, 45 responses were received from parents and carers, governors, staff and other stakeholders. In addition, meetings have been held with staff and governors of Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Junior and Honley Church of England Voluntary Controlled Infant & Nursery School

The conclusion to be drawn from the statutory consultation is that there is a good level of support from the large majority of respondents for bringing together the two schools and establishing an all-through primary school for 3-11 year olds in order to remove the transition at age 7 and bring greater continuity. The schools serve the same families in the community and almost all children at the infant school move to the junior school. By bringing the schools together there will be greater consistency and sharing of resources across both sites. The relatively low number of respondents indicates that the proposals are not contentious. Concerns raised, such as questions about staffing structures, job security and new uniforms, can be effectively managed during a transition period.

For further information please use the link below to access the report for the consultation that was decided on the 17th January 2017 http://www.kirklees.gov.uk/cabinet