

Skerton Community High School

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Lancashire County Council, PO Box 61, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8RJ intends to discontinue Skerton Community High School, Owen Road, Lancaster, LA1 2BL on 31st August 2014.

All relevant statutory requirements regarding consultation on this proposal have been complied with.

There are sufficient places available in all of the year groups in the City of Lancaster schools and Lancaster district schools for any pupils affected by the proposed closure of Skerton Community High School. If Skerton Community High School closes, Lancashire County Council will work with parents to identify preferred alternative school provision.

It is anticipated that most displaced pupils will live within walking distances of alternative Lancaster secondary schools. For those who are eligible for transport assistance, arrangements will be made in accordance with the County Council's Home to School Transport policy. Proposed changes to the discretionary elements of the Home to School Transport policy have been the subject of public consultation up to 29th November 2013. A final decision is scheduled for January 2014.

This proposal is not related to any other proposals that have been, are, or are about to be published. This Notice is an extract from the complete proposal. Copies of the complete proposal can be inspected at the school; the Area Education Office at the White Cross Education Centre, Lancaster; Lancaster City Council and local libraries. Copies can also be obtained from the local authority at the address below or accessed via www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolorganisationreviews or by telephoning Steph Rhodes on (01772) 531957.

Within six weeks from the date of publication of this proposal, any person may object to or make comments on the proposals by sending them to the Directorate for Children and Young People, Provision Planning Team, Room B34, PO Box 61, County Hall, Preston, PR1 8RJ. To be considered as part of the decision making process to determine the proposal, responses must be received no later than 26 February 2014.

Signed: Ian Fisher, County Secretary and Solicitor
Publication Date: 16 January 2014

Explanatory Notes

The proposal arises because of serious concerns about the sustainability of the school, particularly in educational and financial terms. All forms of responses to the consultation were taken into account before the publication of this notice.

Alternative available school places for displaced children are all within 5 miles of Skerton Community High School, with the majority of these being within 3 miles of the school. Assistance with admission to schools can be obtained from the Pupil Access Team at the Area Education Office (North), White Cross Education Centre, Quarry Road, Lancaster, LA1 3SQ (Telephone 01524 581134).

Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, information about representations to the published proposal may be accessed by members of the public.

Additional explanatory notes are available via www.lancashire.gov.uk/schoolorganisationreviews.