

To parent / carer of:-

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Children & Families Services
School Organisation and Capital Strategy
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DATE: 11/06/2010

OUR REF: SOCSMacc

YOUR REF: [0000/0000]

Please Contact: 0300 123 5012

Dear Parents and Carers

SECONDARY SCHOOL PROVISION IN MACCLESFIELD.

I am writing to inform you of important information presented to the Council's informal Cabinet on June 7, which focussed on the future provision of secondary education in the Macclesfield area.

For some time now, discussions have been ongoing with Cheshire East officers, school governors and headteachers in Macclesfield aimed at strengthening local secondary provision whilst addressing the issue of a continued decline in pupil numbers resulting in surplus places in some of our schools. Projections show that the number of surplus places is expected to rise significantly in the coming years, with the highest proportion forecast to be at Macclesfield High School, which is expected to reach 35 percent by 2016.

As a result of these discussions one proposal has emerged, which if agreed, would see the expansion of Tytherington High School to accommodate the pupils and site of Macclesfield High School, creating a single split-campus school. The existing Tytherington site would accommodate the lower school, offering the opportunity for greater flexibility at Key Stage 3 and providing a positive transitional experience between primary school and 14-19 education. The current Macclesfield High School would become the upper school site, fully exploiting the Learning Zone links with the adjacent Macclesfield College.

The proposal would involve capital investment at the Tytherington site and, if agreed, it would result in there being 3 high schools in Macclesfield with Macclesfield High School ceasing to exist on 31 August 2011. The governors of both Tytherington and Macclesfield High Schools have endorsed this proposal for wider consultation.

We appreciate that as a result of this proposal, you may have some concerns about the future education of your child or children. It is important however, that you are aware that no decision has been made at this stage.

The Council's Cabinet Member for Children and Families will consider, during the week commencing June 21, whether to move into a period of formal statutory consultation on this proposal.

In the event that a decision is taken to proceed with formal consultation, further information will be provided to you including information about how to feedback your views as part of the process and details of 'drop in' information events, which will be arranged at the two high schools.

In the meantime, any further information will be published on our website at:
www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools.

If you have any queries about this letter please contact the Council on 0300 123 5012.

Yours sincerely

Lorraine Butcher
Head of Service
Children and Families