



Clackmannanshire Council – People – Education

Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010

Statutory Consultation on the proposal to permanently relocate St Mungo's RC Primary School to the site of Alloa Academy

Proposal

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 It is proposed to permanently relocate St Mungo's RC Primary School to the Alloa Academy site, Bowhouse Road, Alloa.
- 1.2 St Mungo's RCPS was decanted to Alloa Academy in April 2018, as a result of water ingress in the school and the impact on the health of children and staff.
- 1.3 In November 2018 Clackmannanshire Council agreed that St Mungo's RCPS should remain in Alloa Academy in the medium term.
- 1.4 At Council meeting on Thursday 21 March 2024, it was recommended that a consultation, under the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010, be undertaken on permanently relocating St Mungo's RCPS to its current accommodation within Alloa Campus (previously Alloa Academy sole use) and that a report on the outcome of the consultation be brought back to Council in January/February 2025.
- 1.5 The consultation is open from Wednesday 17 April 2024 and closes on Friday 31 May 2024. The outcomes of the consultation will be reported back to Council in January/February 2025.

2.0 Reasons for the proposal to permanently relocate to the site of Alloa Academy :

- 2.1 In April 2018, the decision to decant St Mungo's RCPS to a designated self contained area on the 1st floor of Alloa Academy was made as a precautionary measure. Alloa Academy had capacity, a building grading of good and was within the same geographical area as the previous St Mungo's site. This ensured that children and staff were in a safe, healthy and high quality environment whilst intrusive investigative works were carried out at the original St Mungo's RCPS site.
- 2.2 In June 2018, two external reports were commissioned in relation to the water ingress issues at St Mungo's RCPS, Forth Crescent site. These identified a number of significant issues and costs associated with the original St Mungo's RCPS building.
- 2.3 An initial report, provided in June 2018, estimated that the cost of undertaking essential repairs amounted to between £1.6m and £1.8m. The reports did not provide guarantees that the cost of the repairs could be limited to £1.8million, or that the issues would not return in the future.

- 2.4 A drainage investigation report received in August 2018 highlighted the complex groundwater conditions prevailing in the area. The report said it was difficult to identify a specific feature likely to be responsible for water entering the site.
- 2.5 Various sites were evaluated and footprint tested for a potential new build 6 Classroom school with maximum 150 Pupils. Based on SFT metrics for a primary school, initial costings came in at £4.77m excluding allowances for site abnormalities. However, Hubco have provided comparison costings based on current market build rates which indicate that a capital investment of between £6.8m and £7.6m would be required, excluding any site abnormalities.
- 2.6 Option 1 for St Mungo's children and staff to co-locate within the Alloa Academy site represented an economic, low risk and workable solution. This option secures top grade condition and suitability solutions for education provision. Other options considered as part of the options appraisal are not within the capital budget plan or learning estate strategy. Clackmannanshire Council have approved consultation on option 1 within this proposal.
- 2.7 Alloa Academy was initially chosen as it had sufficient space to accommodate all the children of St Mungo's RCPS, no other primary school has the capacity to keep the St Mungo's RCPS community together. This continues to be true. In addition, the majority of children attending St Mungo's RCPS continue to be able to walk to school.
- 2.8 Since moving into the Alloa Academy building, there have been a number of adaptations. These adaptations enable the smooth running of both schools, ensuring the best support is provided to both learning communities. Adaptations to the campus include; investment in playground resources, separate secure access, defined toilets and office space. Additional partitioning provides each school with their own internal space. Senior leaders from both schools will continue to ensure regular operational meetings take place. These meetings will address and pro-actively manage the effective running of both schools taking account of the views of children, young people.
- 2.9 Future facility adaptations will be considered as part of the Learning Estate Strategy for Clackmannanshire Council. Senior Managers continue to listen to the views of the Head Teachers, Parents/Carers, Children and Young People to ensure adaptations and operating arrangements best meet the needs of both schools.

3.0 Financial information

- 3.1 As Alloa Academy, the building, cleaning and janitorial services are provided as part of the Public Private Partnership (PPP) contract. As a result there have been no additional costs to Clackmannanshire Council following St Mungo's RCPS being located within Alloa Academy.

4.0 Likely Impact on the Alloa Community

- 4.1 The St Mungo's RCPS building at Forth Crescent remains closed and is not used by the community. The building has been declared surplus by Clackmannanshire Council.

5.0 Travel Plan for Families

- 5.1 For both schools, the current travel arrangements will continue. There are no travel implications for children, young people and their families as a result of this proposal.
- 5.2 The majority of children and young people walk to both schools and continue to do so.

6.0 Future use of St Mungo's, Forth Crescent Building

- 6.1 If Clackmannanshire Council agree, at the end of the consultation, to the permanent move of the service, the Director of Place will bring forward a report to Council on future options for the Forth Crescent site, formerly occupied by St Mungo's RCPS.

7.0 The Proposal

- 7.1 It is proposed to permanently relocate St Mungo's RC Primary School within Alloa Academy. This site will be known as Alloa Campus home of Alloa Academy and St Mungo's RCPS. This does not impact on the identity of the two individual schools. The Forth Crescent site should be closed permanently as an educational establishment.

8.0 Educational Benefits Statement

- 8.1 Clackmannanshire Council believes the permanent relocation of St Mungo's RCPS to Alloa Campus will provide a range of educational benefits and enhance the Council's efforts to meet the statutory duties enshrined in:

- The Education (Scotland) Act 1980
- The Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000
- The Local Government in Scotland Act 2003
- The Education Additional Support for Learning (Scotland) Act 2004 (Updated 2009)
- The Equality Act 2010
- The Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014
- The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (Incorporation) (Scotland) Act 2024

- 8.2 The educational benefits of permanently relocating St Mungo's RCPS include:

- Children are settled, attend and attain well. Gospel values are firmly embedded within St Mungo's culture and ethos. The average attendance at St Mungo's has been consistently above the local authority average since 2019. Attendance at January 2024 was 94.3% whilst the authority average was 92.3%. St Mungo's average attendance exceeds the local authority stretch aim of 93% for academic session 2023/24.
- The predicted levels of achievement for St Mungo's indicate that they are on track to meet the local authority stretch aims in literacy and numeracy for academic session 2023/24.
- In academic session 2022/23 St Mungo's attainment levels at P1, P4 and P7 in Literacy and Numeracy exceeded the local Authority average at each level. In addition, P4 literacy attainment also exceeded the national average while P1 attainment in both literacy and numeracy exceeded the national average. The combined Literacy and Numeracy attainment of children (P1, 4, 7) experiencing barriers to learning also exceeded both the Local Authority and National average in session 2022/23.

- The facilities and space available in Alloa Campus includes access to gym halls, assembly hall with stage area, lights and sound system and tiered seating. The assembly hall provides a high quality space for celebrations, school shows/performances. In addition, St Mungo's can access other facilities, such as Home Economics and Science that are not available in primary schools. The external grounds and sports facilities are also superior to those that would be available in a primary school. PE staff from the Academy currently deliver PE lessons to St Mungo's
- All St Mungo's classrooms are located in a defined and partitioned area on the first floor of the Campus building. A large flexible open area provides further space suitable for a wide range of learning opportunities. Access to St Mungo's is via a separate secure entry door.
- The Management teams of both schools continue to review the use of all of the facilities within the Campus. There is an ongoing ambition to maximise this unique partnership.
- St Mungo's school community has recently achieved the following awards:
 - ✓ Reading Schools Accreditation – GOLD
 - ✓ Social Enterprise Start Up Award (Little Robin's Community Cafe)
 - ✓ School Sports Award
 - ✓ Communication Friendly Environment

and partnerships:

- ✓ Stirling University (Workforce of the Future project)
 - ✓ Early Adopters for out of school care
 - ✓ Parklands Care Home
- Learners in Alloa Academy have continued to attain in key areas throughout the period of St Mungo's RCPS being located at the Alloa Academy site:

% Achieving a Level Numeracy 2018/19	% Achieving a Level Numeracy 2022/23
Level 4 – 86.6%	Level 4 – 89.2 %
Level 5 – 67.6%	Level 5 – 79.7%
Level 6 - 18.8	Level 6 - 20.8%

% Achieving a Level in Literacy 2018/19	% Achieving a Level Literacy 2022/23
Level 4 – 92.4 %	Level4 – 94.2%
Level 5 – 80.5%	Level 5 – 87.7%
Level 6 - 41.2%	Level 6 - 57.8%

- In 2022/23 Positive Destinations are above the National Average at 96.95%.

- Feedback from a recent HMIE inspection (Jan 2024) highlighted many positives within Alloa Academy including, a calm and supportive learning environment throughout the school, built on strong and mutually respectful relationships between staff and young people. HM Inspectors found young people to be polite, attentive and ready to learn.
- The school is an inclusive learning environment and includes the faculty of Extended Additional Support Needs, which supports learners with severe and complex needs.
- Alloa Academy have achieved a number of awards including:
 - ✓ Clackmannanshire Sports Awards
 - ✓ SCQF Bronze school Ambassador Plaque
 And participation in
 - ✓ Powering Futures, developing innovation and creative solutions to real world sustainability challenges
 - ✓ First secondary school in Scotland to embark on whole staff training towards 'Keeping the promise award'
- The rolls of both Alloa Academy and St Mungo's RCPS have increased:

Year	Alloa Academy	St Mungo's RCPS
2018	669	137
2023	757	139

9.0 Staffing implications

- 9.1 There are no staffing implications, as staff were relocated to Alloa Academy premises in April 2018.

10.0 Consultation Timeline

- 10.1 Approval to take forward a formal consultation on the permanent relocation under the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010 was granted at a meeting of Clackmannanshire Council on 21 March 2024.
- 10.2 Education Scotland is involved in every proposal on which a local authority consults under the Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010
- 10.2 A proposal paper, including an educational benefits statement is prepared and published by Clackmannanshire Council. This opens the consultation period. The consultation period will last for a minimum of 30 school days.
- 10.3 Education Scotland must review the local authority's proposal paper along with other relevant documents. The review will have a particular focus on the educational aspects of the proposal.
- 10.4 Education Scotland must prepare an independent report on the educational aspects of the proposal being consulted on. In preparing

their report, Education Scotland will consider the local authority's proposal paper. They will also take account of written responses received by the local authority, a summary of oral representations made at the public meeting and any other relevant documents.

10.5 Education Scotland may visit the building affected by the proposal when they are preparing their report. They will meet parents/ carers, young people and staff to hear their views. It is not a legal requirement for HM Inspectors to attend the public meeting. However, when HM Inspectors attend, they do so solely as an observer and should not be drawn into discussion or debate.

10.6 The Council will then comply with the post consultation legislative requirements in relation to publication of the outcome of the report. The outcome of the consultation will be brought back to a future meeting of the Council in January/February 2025 for a final decision on the permanent relocate St Mungo's RCPS in Alloa Campus.

**Consultation arrangements:
Distribution of the proposal document, stakeholders, and the consultation process.**

Distribution of the proposal document

An electronic copy of this document is available on CitizenSpace. Hard copies are available from Clackmannanshire public libraries and from Kilncraigs' reception.

A copy of this document will be provided for:

- The families of children and young people who attend St Mungo's RCPS and Alloa Academy
- The Parent Council and/or parent representative bodies of St Mungo's RCPS and Alloa Academy
- St Mungo's Parish Priest and School Chaplain
- Alloa Academy Church Representatives
- All Primary schools and ELCs in Clackmannanshire
- Clackmannanshire Parent Forum
- Clackmannanshire Youth Forum
- Trade Union representatives of the staff at St Mungo's RCPS and Alloa Academy
- Each of Clackmannanshire's Community Councils
- Elected members of Clackmannanshire Council
- Stirling Council
- Diocese of Dunkeld
- RC Church Representative
- Scottish Catholic Education Director
- Clackmannanshire Council Strategic Directors
- Constituency MP and MSP
- Education Scotland

This document is available in alternative formats or translated for readers whose first language is not English. Please apply to:

Clackmannanshire Council

Education Service
Kilncraigs
Alloa,
FK10 1EB

or by email: stmungosconsultation@clacks.gov.uk

We will be consulting:

- Children and Young People who currently access St Mungo's RCPS and Alloa Academy (Article 12 UNCRC)
- Parents and carers of children who currently access St Mungo's RCPS
- Parents and carers of children who would potentially access St Mungo's RCPS (currently ELC)
- Parents and carers of young people who currently access Alloa Academy
- Clackmannanshire Schools Education Partnership
- Trade unions
- Residents of Clackmannanshire Council

The Consultation Period – Timeline

Date	Action
21.03.24	Clackmannanshire Council decision to give permission to consult
17.04.24	Council Publish Proposal and commence consultation (30 school days)
April 2024	Consultation Meetings
15.05.24 6.30-8.00pm	Public Meeting Venue: Bowmar Community Centre, Scott Crescent Alloa, FK10 1BT
31.05.24	Consultation Closes
August	Submit consultation report document to Education Scotland
September	Education Scotland produce independent report
December	Council publish consultation report on Council website
January/February 2025	Final Council decision at least 3 weeks from time of

Public meeting

A meeting will take place on Wednesday 15 May 2024 at 6.30pm, in Bowmar Community Centre, Scott Crescent, Alloa

We would urge anyone who would like to participate, but feel they would be limited by this approach, to contact us directly to discuss (contact details below).

Responding to the Consultation

Please respond online using the Consultation Hub on the Clackmannanshire Council website at:

<https://clackmannanshire.citizenspace.com/>

Should you require access to a computer, support is available in Clackmannanshire Library buildings.

If you would prefer to write to us directly then you can do so using the email or postal address shown in the contact details below.

All responses should be provided by Friday 31 May 2024.

Following the Consultation

Education Scotland will receive details of both the consultation responses and public meeting and will provide Clackmannanshire Education Services with a report.

Education Services will then prepare a consultation report which will be published on the council website and Citizen Space in December 2024. The consultation report will be discussed by Elected Members, where they will decide on the matter in January/February 2025.

Contact details

Informal telephone enquiries concerning these proposals can be made on 01259 450000.

Please respond to the online consultation response form if you can <https://clackmannanshire.citizenspace.com/> but if you would like to write to us directly in response, please email us at stmungosconsultation@clacks.gov.uk or use the following postal address:

**Permanent Re-location of St Mungo's RCPS
Clackmannanshire Council
People Directorate (Education Service)
Kilncraigs
Alloa
FK10 1EB**