Northumberland County Council

Education Consultations <educationconsultation@northumberland.gov.uk>

Bellingham Middle School closure proposal

1 message

Sarah Smith <sarahxsmith@me.com> 6 June 2018 at 20:18
To: educationconsultations@northumberland.gov.uk, andy.johnson@northumberland.gov.uk, cath.mcevoy@northumberland.gov.uk, rcs.north@education.gov.uk

Dear All

I am writing to you to protest the closure of Bellingham Middle School.
I have outlined my reasons below and hope you will take them into consideration during the consultation process.

1) Haydon Bridge High School is 26 miles from our home. It takes 40 mins to drive door to door in a car. It will take around an hour on a bus. This means a minimum of 10hrs a week traveling for my daughter.

2) She will not be able to take part in any after school clubs as she will have to leave with the bus and will have limited time for her interests and homework once home given the travel times.

3) I have concerns about her current school Bellingham first school turning into a primary. She already has two year groups in her teaching environment. The number of children across the schools mean joint classes would become standard. I did not mind so much when I thought the small local schools would close and there would be more children for socialisation and decent class sizes but the decision to retain these schools that are not cost effective has left me confused.

4) I have concerns for the community as I know if the middle school closes I will try and get a place for Lucy in Hexham, Corbridge or Ponteland Middle School to the extent that we would leave the area if it wasn't possible from our current location.

I have had to make hard choices in my own career to prioritise time with my family, loosing 2 hours a day with my daughter is a choice I will not accept when she is 11.

Thank you for your consideration

Kind regards
Sarah

Sarah Smith