

## **Mayfield Additional Support Needs (ASN) Consultation**

### **Report by Executive Director Children, Young People & Partnerships**

#### **Report for Decision**

#### **1 Recommendations**

Council is recommended to approve the following:

- i. A new Additional Support Needs (ASN) stage will be established on the Mayfield Learning Community Campus;
- ii. The ASN stage will be under the leadership of the Head Teacher of Mayfield Primary School;
- iii. The Speech and Language Communication provision hosted within Mayfield Primary School will close with effect from August 2024 or as soon as possible thereafter;
- iv. The Speech and Language Communication provision hosted within Mayfield Nursery School will close with effect from August 2024 or as soon as possible thereafter;
- v. The Speech and Language Communication provision will move to an outreach service from August 2024 or as soon as possible thereafter.

#### **2 Purpose of Report**

This report advises the outcome of the statutory consultation on the proposal to establish a new Additional Support Needs (ASN) stage at Mayfield Primary School on the new Mayfield Learning Community Campus and close the Speech and Language Communication provision within Mayfield Primary School and seeks approval for the recommendations outlined above.

The statutory consultation on the proposal was undertaken in the period from Monday 19 February to Tuesday 16 April 2024. The statutory report on the outcome of the consultation was published on 3 June 2024 and provides full details of the process undertaken, representations made and Education Scotland's report on the proposal.

**Date:** 31 May 2024

**Report Contact:**

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### 3 Background

1. The *Education (Scotland) Act 1980* places a legislative duty on the Council to make adequate and efficient provision of school education across its area. This duty applies in respect of both the current school population and anticipated pattern of demand.
2. Section 3D of the *Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000* (as inserted by Section 2 of the *Education (Scotland) 2016 Act*) introduces a requirement on education authorities to carry out their duty to ensure the delivery of improvement in the quality of school education which is provided in the schools they manage, with a view to achieving the strategic priorities of the National Improvement Framework. It is, therefore, the duty of the education authority to ensure that the education it provides is directed to the development of the personality, talents and the mental and physical abilities of the children to their fullest potential.
3. In addition, Councils have a statutory duty to secure best value in terms of the *Local Government in Scotland Act 2003* by continuous improvement in performance of the local authority's functions, while maintaining an appropriate balance between quality and cost and having regard to economy, efficiency, effectiveness, equal opportunities and the achievement of sustainable development.
4. Midlothian Council decided that a replacement for Mayfield Nursery School and Mayfield and St Luke's RC Primary Schools was required. Mayfield Learning Community Campus will be created on the same site as the schools currently occupy. The existing buildings will be replaced with a new multi-functional, adaptive school campus and community facilities in the heart of Mayfield.
5. The campus buildings will bring together Mayfield Primary School and St Luke's RC Primary School, accommodating up to 701 pupils across the two schools, and a further 128 children in a new Early Learning and Childcare setting.
6. As part of the development of the new Mayfield Primary School, there will be specialist provision for up to 48 primary-aged children with additional support needs. The class currently hosted at Mayfield Primary will be included in these six classes. As well as six class bases, the provision will benefit from a wide range of modern, high-quality facilities specifically designed to meet the needs of the children who attend.
7. The current Speech and Language Communication (SLC) provision in both the primary school and the early years setting will close and move to an outreach service in partnership with the NHS.

8. The closure of the SLC provision at Mayfield Primary School and movement of the service to outreach has been proposed to provide a locality model. Children and young people who access the SLC service will remain within their locality and their peers, this will provide the intense support and upskill all staff in supporting children and young people with speech, language, and communication needs.
9. The statutory consultation on the proposal was undertaken in the period from Monday 19 February to Sunday 16 April 2024. The report on the outcome of the consultation was published on 3 June 2024, and provides full details of the process undertaken, representations made and Education Scotland's report on the proposal. The report is available on the Council's Citizen Space Consultation page: <https://midlothiancouncil.citizenspace.com/education/mayfield-asn-consultation/>
10. The Education Service held a Public Meeting at Newbattle Community High School on Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2024. 7 members of the public attended the public meeting.
11. A total of 60 responses to the consultation were received during the period of the statutory consultation.
12. 56 responses to the consultation were in favour of the proposal to establish an ASN stage on the Mayfield Learning Community Campus, 4 were not in favour and 0 had no opinion.
13. 48 responses to the consultation were in favour of the proposal to place the new ASN stage under the leadership of the Head Teacher of Mayfield Primary School, 11 were not in favour and 11 had no opinion.
14. 7 responses to the consultation were in favour of the proposal to close the Speech and Language Communication provision hosted within Mayfield Nursery School, 46 were not in favour and 7 had no opinion.
15. 15 responses to the consultation were in favour of the proposal to move the Speech and Language Communication provision to an outreach service, 41 were not in favour and 4 had no opinion.
16. Education Scotland's Her Majesty's Inspectors of Education (HM Inspectors) prepare a report in accordance with the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 ("the 2010 Act"). The purpose of the report is to provide an independent and impartial consideration of Midlothian Council's proposal (Appendix B).
17. The Education Scotland report summary states:

"HM Inspectors agree that the proposal has potential educational benefits for children with additional support needs across the local authority. In moving the SLCP to an outreach model, there is potential for more children to receive the right support at the right time within their mainstream schools. This will help the local authority to meet the

national requirements of the presumption of mainstreaming. The new ASN stage hosted in the Mayfield Community Campus will support the local authority in meeting the projected increase of children with a range and complexity of additional support needs. The new facilities have the potential to offer improved learning opportunities across the community campus.”

18. The consultation report was published on 3 June 2024 leaving the required period of at least three weeks for further representations to be made prior to Council’s consideration of the report and its decision regarding the recommendations:

1. A new Additional Support Needs (ASN) stage will be established on the Mayfield Learning Community Campus;
2. The ASN stage will be under the leadership of the Head Teacher of Mayfield Primary School;
3. The Speech and Language Communication provision hosted within Mayfield Primary School will close with effect from August 2024 or as soon as possible thereafter;
4. The Speech and Language Communication provision hosted within Mayfield Nursery School will close with effect from August 2024 or as soon as possible thereafter;
5. The Speech and Language Communication provision will move to an outreach service from August 2024 or as soon as possible thereafter.

19. The recommendation of the consultation report is for Council to approve the establishment of a new Additional Support Needs (ASN) stage at Mayfield Primary School on the new Mayfield Learning Community Campus and closure of the Speech and Language Communication provision within Mayfield Primary School as outlined above.

#### **4 Report Implications (Resource, Digital and Risk)**

##### **4.1 Resource**

1. The approved budget for the ASN provision is £8.3m and the financial implications of closing the Speech and Language Communication (SLC) provision at Mayfield Primary School can be found in Appendix 2 of the proposal document.
2. A new Depute Head Teacher post and additional management time would be added to Mayfield Primary School’s devolved school management budget to reflect the additional leadership roles and responsibilities associated with the ASN provision. The six classes within the ASN provision will be staffed according to local and national policies and agreements in place at the time and the staffing levels will principally be determined by the number of children.

3. Transfer of staff from the current hosted SLC provision to outreach would be managed in accordance with existing agreed Council policies and procedures. Consultation will be undertaken with staff in affected schools, Trade Unions and professional associations where appropriate on an implementation plan for staffing the new ASN provision.

#### **4.2 Digital**

None

#### **4.3 Risk**

None

#### **4.4 Ensuring Equalities (if required a separate IIA must be completed)**

An Integrated Impact Assessment has been carried out and published:  
[https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/5238/integrated\\_impact\\_assessment\\_mayfield\\_asn\\_june\\_2024](https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/downloads/file/5238/integrated_impact_assessment_mayfield_asn_june_2024)

#### **4.4 Additional Report Implications**

See Appendix A.

### **Appendices**

Appendix A – Additional Report Implications

Appendix B – Education Scotland Report

### **Background links**

[Consultation Report, June 2024](#)

[Consultation Proposal Paper, February 2024](#)

[Integrated Impact Assessment](#)

## APPENDIX A – Report Implications

### A.1 Key Priorities within the Single Midlothian Plan

Not applicable

### A.2 Key Drivers for Change

Key drivers addressed in this report:

- Holistic Working
- Hub and Spoke
- Modern
- Sustainable
- Transformational
- Preventative
- Asset-based
- Continuous Improvement
- One size fits one
- None of the above

### A.3 Key Delivery Streams

Key delivery streams addressed in this report:

- One Council Working with you, for you
- Preventative and Sustainable
- Efficient and Modern
- Innovative and Ambitious
- None of the above

### A.4 Delivering Best Value

The implementation of the recommendation of this report will enhance best value in the delivery of Council services.

### A.5 Involving Communities and Other Stakeholders

This report provides details of the statutory consultation undertaken with communities and all stakeholders regarding the proposal to establish a new Additional Support Needs (ASN) stage at Mayfield Primary School on the new Mayfield Learning Community Campus and close the Speech and Language Communication provision within Mayfield Primary School.

### A.6 Impact on Performance and Outcomes

The report does not directly impact on Midlothian Council's performance and outcomes.

### A.7 Adopting a Preventative Approach

Not applicable

### A.8 Supporting Sustainable Development

Not applicable