

**WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICES
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

DECHMONT INFANT SCHOOL

PROPOSALS TO:

- **RELOCATE SCHOOL**
- **INTRODUCE YEAR STAGES P4-P7**
- **REVISE CATCHMENT FOR STAGES P4-P7**

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SECTION ONE

This section introduces the reason for the consultation. It provides information about why West Lothian Council is proposing to relocate Dechmont Infant School, introduce year stages P4-P7 and review primary to secondary school transfer arrangements.

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to advise:

1. West Lothian Council's proposals in relation to Dechmont Infant School :
 - I. Relocate school
 - II. Introduce year stages P4-P7
 - III. Revise catchment for P4-P7 from Kirkhill Primary school to new Primary School at Bangour
2. The educational benefits of the proposals and how they will make things better; and
3. Information on how you can give your views and take part in the consultation process.

West Lothian Council believes that thorough and effective consultation will support better outcomes for pupils, their families and the wider community as a whole.

Public consultations are necessary when a local authority is proposing to make a change to the school estate. To carry out a public consultation the Council requires to follow the statutory guidance outlined in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010. With this in mind this document is organised into three sections:

Section 1 of this document introduces the proposals and gives background and rationale.

Section 2 contains the educational benefits statement and provides an assessment of the effects of the proposals on the children/young people and their families of the affected schools.

Section 3 details how West Lothian Council has organised the consultation process to meet the requirements of the legislation and how you can take part and give your views.

1.2. BACKGROUND

Non-denominational primary stage education provision in the Dechmont and Bangour area currently consists of an infant school in Dechmont that delivers P1-P3 education followed by progression to Kirkhill Primary School in Broxburn for P4-P7 education.

Dechmont Infant School is the only remaining P1-P3 education facility in West Lothian.

As part of the proposed development of the former Bangour Hospital site it is proposed to construct a new non-denominational P1-P7 primary school incorporating Dechmont Infant School to cover both the existing village of Dechmont and the new development site at Bangour.

1.2.1 PRE CONSULTATION

Pre-Consultation was undertaken in Autumn 2019 including a public meeting at Dechmont Hall on 08 October 2019. Consultees were supportive of the principles of the consultation and did not feel strongly about the alternative school site locations.

Consultees expressed a view that the site with best Educational Benefits should be chosen. Subsequent work by Education Services identified the Recreation Hall as the best option.

The Pre Consultation was reported to Education Executive on 18 January 2022.

1.3. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

The principal aim of the proposal is to address the demands of future housing developments and ensure the best use of existing and future school capacities in West Lothian non-denominational school catchment areas.

In relation to Dechmont Infant School, West Lothian Council propose to:

- I. Relocate school
- II. Introduce year stages P4-P7
- III. Revise catchment for P4-P7 from Kirkhill Primary School to new Primary School at Bangour

1.3.1 LOCATION OF THE NEW P1-P7 SCHOOL

The proposed location of the relocated school is within the consented development site at the former Bangour Hospital. It is proposed that the school will be located at the former Recreation Hall site.

The Recreation Hall site allows the reuse of some of the existing listed infrastructure as part of the new school building.

1.3.2 INTRODUCTION OF P4-P7 AT RELOCATED SCHOOL

Moving to the new school building also allows Dechmont Infant School to change from a P1-P3 Infant School to become a P1-P7 school.

Dechmont Infant School is the last remaining P1-P3 school in West Lothian. This removes an additional transition for children and provides educational benefits by allowing children to remain in one school for their entire primary education.

1.3.3 REVISED CATCHMENT FOR P4-P7 FROM KIRKHILL PRIMARY SCHOOL TO NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL AT BANGOUR

In order for the new school to become a P1-P7 Primary school it is necessary to revise the catchment of Kirkhill Primary school to remove Dechmont and Bangour from that catchment for P4-P7 aged children. This would not enter into force until the new school opens, currently planned for August 2026

1.4 OTHER MATTERS WHICH DO NOT FORM PART OF THE STATUTORY CONSULTATION

1.4.1 PROPOSED NAME OF THE NEW P1-P7 SCHOOL

The name of the new school does not form part of the statutory process but consultees views on the potential names are being sought during the process.

At the Pre Consultation in 2019 consultees were asked to consider different naming options for the school as the Infants School element of the name would need to be changed.

ASSOCIATED SECONDARY SCHOOL

It was agreed by Education Executive on 21 January 2020 that the new Primary School would be associated with the new Winchburgh Academy. Revised catchments that include Dechmont and Bangour within the Winchburgh Academy catchment were agreed at that meeting but do not come into place until the new Primary School opens, currently planned for August 2026.

1.4.2

SECTION TWO

This section provides information on the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) conducted by Council officers to meet statutory equality duties, to assess policies and practices and ensure compliance with all legislative requirements

INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

To meet statutory equality duties, the Council conducts an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) to critically assess policies and practices and ensure compliance with all legislative requirements.

The aim of an IIA is to examine policies and practices in a structured way taking account of equality, human rights and socioeconomic disadvantage (poverty) implications when making decisions, ensuring the impact within the community is recognised and addressed accordingly.

IIA screening is completed using the Council's Integrated Impact Assessment Toolkit and allows the Authority to recognise positive steps it can take to promote fairness and equality of opportunity for all.

As part of the consultation process the Council will consult with a wide range of stakeholders, staff, parents/carers and young people and will welcome and address comments on the IIA process.

The outcome of the Integrated Impact Assessment will inform the Final Consultation Report and the Council's consideration of the proposed changes prior to reaching a decision on whether they should be implemented.

SECTION THREE

This section contains the educational benefits to be gained should the proposals be implemented.

3.1 EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT STATEMENT

Whilst assessing the educational benefits of the proposals, the undernoted factors were considered:

- **Curriculum For Excellence**

Curriculum for Excellence is the national curriculum of experiences and outcomes for all pupils, 3-18 years.

The national guidance from Education Scotland encourages education authorities to ensure that curricular provisions offer opportunities for learners to achieve across all curricular areas and develop skills, attributes and capabilities through courses aligned with the key principles of Curriculum for Excellence: challenge and enjoyment, breadth, progression, depth, personalisation and choice, coherence and relevance.

A key educational advantage of delivery of P1-P7 education in a single school environment is that primary stage education provision in the Dechmont/Bangour area will be fully equipped to deliver the full breadth of Curriculum for Excellence and will allow opportunity for the engagement of creative teaching and learning approaches that broaden scope for attainment and achievement.

- **Admission**

There will be no impact to pupils currently in attendance at West Lothian schools as a result of proposed relocation and introduction of additional year stages at Dechmont Infant School. All pupils will continue to attend their existing schools.

Criteria for admission to the proposed new P1-P7 school will continue to be in accordance with West Lothian Council's current admission arrangements. [West Lothian Council Primary School Admission Policy](#)

- **School Capacity**

On relocation of Dechmont Infant School and on introduction of year stages P4-P7 the proposed new provision will be a single stream capacity school accommodating 231 pupils.

- **School Management/Staff Teams**

To accommodate the introduction of additional year stages, West Lothian Council anticipate addition to the existing teaching staff compliment.

Any amendments to current staffing will be undertaken in accordance to West Lothian Council statutory recruitment processes.

- **School Transport**

There are no anticipated amendments to existing school transport provisions as a result of the proposals.

Any requests for school transport provisions will be considered in accordance with West Lothian Council's School Transport Policy. [West Lothian Council School Transport Policy](#)

- **School Grounds/Outdoor Learning/Playground**

The school grounds and playground areas at the new relocated school will offer ample scope for development of the outdoor classroom. This will have a positive impact on the learning environment for all pupils and will support the development of good relationships and positive behaviour, not only in the classroom but also outdoors and in the wider community.

Car parking and pupil drop off / uplift areas will ensure safe and efficient traffic flow. Appropriate car park protocols and risk assessments will be maintained.

- **Breakfast / School Clubs**

Breakfast clubs will provide pupils with a healthy breakfast and offer opportunity to sample and develop preferences for healthy options. The aim of the club is to establish positive relationships at the start of the school day and improve attitude, behaviours and motivation to learn.

Pupils will be invited to take part in a wide range of extracurricular activities. Activities will be designed to offer opportunity to learn new skills and enhance experiences. Participation in these activities promotes and encourages social interaction, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

- **Parental Involvement**

At present, parents and carers at Dechmont Infant School are an integral part of the school community with their contributions and working partnerships being considered key to the success of the school.

West Lothian Council do not foresee any impact to existing opportunities for parental involvement and engagement as a result of the proposal to relocate the school and introduce year stages P4-P7.

As always, the key aim is delivery of a welcoming school that is inclusive for all parents, carers, pupils and staff.

- **Community Links**

Community interaction encourages a welcoming ethos, provides pupils with valuable life and interpersonal skills and promotes acknowledgement and respect for the local area.

All external links that Dechmont Infant School has established will remain. The new P1-P7 school will have clear and distinct associations within the local community.

- **Benefits for Any Other School Users**

The proposed changes will have no impact on existing external school users. All existing provisions for other school users will continue as a result of the proposed catchment area review.

SECTION FOUR

This section provides information on how West Lothian Council has organised the consultation process for the proposals contained within this document. It also provides information on how you can take part and give your views.

In terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, any proposal to alter the catchment area of a school requires a formal consultation process.

The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, sets out the statutory consultation requirements.

The statutory consultees are prescribed as follows:

- the Parent Council or Combined Parent Council of any affected school
- the parents of the pupils at any affected school
- the parents of any children expected by the education authority to attend any affected school within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper
- the pupils at any affected school (in so far as the education authority considers them to be of a suitable age and maturity)
- the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school
- any trade union which appears to the education authority to be representative of the persons mentioned in bullet point above
- the community council (if any)
- the community planning partnership (within the meaning of section 4(5) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 for the area the local authority in which any affected school is situated.
- any other community planning partnership that the education authority considers relevant
- any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant
- any other users of any affected school that the education authority considers relevant
- in relation to any relevant proposal which affects a denominational school, the Church, Denominational Body or Scottish Hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church.

As stated in the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 statutory consultation periods should last a minimum of six weeks continuous and incorporate a minimum of 30 school days (excluding school holidays). Therefore the consultation period for this particular proposal will run from 20 August 2022 until 07 October 2022.

The consultation paper will be made available for reference electronically and in paper format.

Public meetings will be held in respect of the proposals at the venues listed below:

Location	Date/Time
Dechmont Infant School	21 September 2022 – 19.00

This meeting will give interested parties a formal opportunity to express their views.

Representatives of the Council will be present at the meetings to outline the proposals, facilitate discussions and answer questions.

The Council website will contain information on the consultation. The web address is: www.westlothian.gov.uk/education

During the consultation period any views on this proposal should be sent in writing to the address given below:

Catherine Campbell, Education Services, Civic Centre, Howden Road South, EH54 6FF

Responses can also be made by e-mail to Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk

All responses to be received by no later than 5.00pm 07 October 2022.

Consultation Timeline:

Following the end of the Consultation period West Lothian Council must provide Education Scotland with a report detailing all findings pertaining to the Consultation period.

All written and oral comments received during the consultation process are recorded and represented in said report, along with the Council's response to those comments.

Education Scotland will consider the Council submission and advise their response accordingly.

West Lothian Council will ensure that considerations received from Education Scotland are included in the Final Consultation Report. This Final Report will be made available and notification will be given to those individuals or groups that have made representations during the Consultation period.

West Lothian Council will not make any decisions, or put any changes into effect until the Final Consultation Report has been concluded, published and subsequently presented to the Education Executive on 17 January 2023.

The Consultation Timeline below encompasses statutory legislative requirements detailed as per Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010.

Date	Event	Description
27 August 2019	Education PDSP Meeting	To seek Panel recommendation for submission to Education Executive on proposal to commence formal public consultation
10 September 2019	Education Executive Meeting	Meeting to discuss proposal and agree continuation to statutory consultation phase
8 October 2019	Pre-Consultation meeting	Seeking stakeholder views on the proposal
18 January 2022	Education Executive meeting	Report on pre-consultation
22 August 2022	Start of Consultation	Beginning of formal public consultation (min 6 continuous weeks consultation period including min of 30 school days)
21 September 2022	Public Meeting	Public Meeting to discuss proposal
7 October 2022	End of Consultation	End of Public Consultation
TBC October 2022	Submit report to Education Scotland*Dates to be agreed in advance with Education Scotland	West Lothian Council Education Services relays report on proposal and consultation findings to Education Scotland
TBC November 2022	Deadline for Education Scotland three week period for reporting back to Education Services	Education Scotland response to West Lothian Council submission
TBC December 2022	Give Education Scotland at least 5 days notice prior to publishing final report	Upon receipt of response from Education Scotland Authority will prepare and publish final consultation report
TBC December 2022	Publication of final consultation report	A minimum of three weeks after publication of consultation report Authority will make final decision
17 January 2023	Education Executive Meeting	Decision made

West Lothian Council proposal to relocate Dechmont Infant School, introduce year stages P4-P7 and review primary to secondary school alignment.

If you would like a copy of this document please contact

Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk , giving your name, address and the language you would like the document translated in to

اقترح مجلس لوثنان الغربية بنقل مدرسة Dechmont لمرحلة التعليم الأساسي، وإدخال المراحل الدراسية P4-P7 ومراجعة محاذاة المدارس الابتدائية إلى الثانوية.
إذا كنت ترغب في الحصول على نسخة من هذا المستند ، فيرجى الاتصال بـ
Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk ، مع إعطاء اسمك وعنوانك واللغة التي ترغب في ترجمة الوثيقة إليها.

Propozycja Rady Miasta West Lothian przeniesienia szkoły Dechmont Infant School, wprowadzenia klas P4-P7 oraz dokonania przeglądu w celu wyrównania szkoły podstawowej i średniej

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo otrzymać kopię tego dokumentu prosimy o kontakt z

Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk , podając swoje imię i nazwisko, adres zamieszkania oraz w jakim języku chcieliby Państwo otrzymać ten dokument

ڈیچمانٹ انفانٹ سکول کے مقام کی منتقلی، پی4 سے پی7 سٹیج متعارف کروانے اور پرائمری سے سیکنڈری سکول کی ترتیب پر نظرثانی کرنے کے لئے ویسٹ لوٹھین کونسل کی تجویز
اگر آپ اس دستاویز کی ایک نقل چاہتے ہیں تو برائے کرم درج ذیل سے رابطہ کریں۔
Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk، برائے مہربانی اپنا نام، پتہ اور اس زبان کا نام جس میں آپ ترجمہ شدہ دستاویز چاہتے ہیں، مہیا کریں۔

西洛锡安议会政府关于搬迁Dechmont Infant School（得启蒙幼儿学校）、引进P4-P7阶段的教育以及对小学和中学之间的一致性进行审核的建议

如果您希望获得一份该文件的翻译件，请将您的名字、住址、以及您希望将本文件翻译成的语言告诉我们：Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk

West Lothian 評議會 議重新安置 Dechmont 嬰兒學校，介紹學年 学前班第4-第7階段，並審查小學到中學的校準。

如果您需要本文檔的副本，請聯繫 Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk，將你的姓名，地址和提供您希望將文檔翻譯成的語言

ডেচমন্ট ইনফ্যান্ট স্কুল (Dechmont Infant School) স্থানান্তর, ইয়ার স্টেইজ P4-P7 চালু এবং প্রাইমারী থেকে সেকেন্ডারী স্কুলে বিন্যাস তথা রূপান্তর পুনর্বিবেচনার জন্যে পশ্চিম লোথিয়ান কাউন্সিলের প্রস্তাবনা।

যদি আপনি এই দলিলের একটি কপি পেতে চান, তাহলে অনুগ্রহ করে

Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk-তে যোগাযোগ করুন এবং আপনার নাম, ঠিকানা দিন এবং এই দলিলটি কোন্ ভাষায় পেতে চান তা উল্লেখ করুন।

Vakarų Lodiano tarybos pasiūlymas perkelti Dečmonto pradinukų mokyklą, įvesti mokymosi etapus P4-P7 ir patikrinti pradinį bei vidurinių mokyklų programas.

Jeigu pageidautumėte gauti šio dokumento kopiją, parašykite adresu

Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk, nurodydami savo vardą, adresą ir kalbą, į kurią turėtų būti išverstas dokumentas

Vestlothianas padomes (West Lothian Council) ierosinājums pārvietot bērnodārzu Dechmont Infant School, izveidot klases P4-P7 un pārskatīt pamatskolu un vidusskolu saskaņošanu.

Ja vēlaties saņemt šī dokumenta kopiju, lūdzam sazināties ar Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk, norādot savu vārdu, adresi un valodu, kādā vēlaties saņemt dokumenta tulkojumu