

CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL

Part 1

Notice is given in accordance with section 15(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 that Cumbria County Council, The Courts, Carlisle CA1 1PU intends to discontinue BELAH (COMMUNITY) SCHOOL, Eden Street, Carlisle, Cumbria CA3 9JZ on 31 August 2008.

All applicable statutory requirements to consult in relation to the proposal were complied with in that Cumbria County Council undertook appropriate consultations on possible changes to the existing schools in North Carlisle during June and July 2007.

It is proposed that pupils who would have expected to continue their education at Belah School on 1 September 2008 will transfer to either Kingmoor Infant School, Hether Drive, Lowry Hill, Carlisle CA3 0ES or Kingmoor Junior School, Liddle Close, Lowry Hill, Carlisle CA3 0DU as appropriate. Admission may also be sought at other schools, subject to places being available.

This proposal is linked to those in respect of Kingmoor Infant School (see Part 2 below).

The Council's home to school transport policy will apply. From September 2008 the existing catchment area for Belah School will be split between that of Stanwix School and that for the Kingmoor Schools (as suggested in the consultation document). This will enable the majority of those displaced by the closure of Belah School the opportunity of obtaining a place in a school within reasonable walking distance. It is not therefore envisaged that there will be any increase in the number of car journeys to transport children to and from school as a result of this proposal.

Part 2

Notice is given in accordance with section 19(1) of the Act that Cumbria County Council, The Courts, Carlisle CA1 1PU intends make a prescribed alteration to KINGMOOR (COMMUNITY) INFANT SCHOOL, Hether Drive, Lowry Hill, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA3 0ES by changing the age range of the school by a year or more by adding a nursery unit for 26 full-time equivalent nursery pupils from 1 September 2008.

The current age range of the school is 4 years to 7 years. The proposed age range will be 3 years to 7 years. These proposals are linked with the Authority's proposal to discontinue Belah School set out in Part 1 above. (have moved this up from further down)

The capacity of the school will remain at 180. The current number of pupils registered at the school is 178. The proposed admission number for the school will be 60. No additional site is required to implement this proposal.

Copies of the complete proposals can be obtained by contacting Mike Tuer, School Organisation Project Team, 18 Portland Square, Carlisle CA1 1PE (Tel. 01228 606038) (mike.tuer@cumbriacc.gov.uk) or online at www.cumbriacc.gov.uk/childrensservices/school-organisation.

Within six weeks from the date of publication (i.e by 10 December 2007) of these proposals, any person may object to or make comments on the proposal by sending them to the Manager of the School Organisation Project, Cumbria County Council, 18 Portland Square, Carlisle, CA1 1PE.

Signed : Brian Walker

Authorised officer of Cumbria County Council

Date 29 October 2007

Explanatory Notes

1. The effect of these proposals will be to close Belah School and transfer pupils who would have expected to continue their education there to either Kingmoor Infant or Kingmoor Junior Schools. In addition it will change the age range of Kingmoor Infant School to allow it to admit nursery age pupils.
2. The Authority have brought forward the proposals as they consider that it will be in the best educational interest of current and future pupils that would have attended Belah School. It also takes into account the outcome of the consultations which took place during June and July 2007.
3. On closure of Belah School, the current pupils will be able to transfer to either Kingmoor Infant School or Kingmoor Junior School. Temporary classrooms will be provided at the Kingmoor Schools to ensure the provision of a place for all the current Belah School pupils and to enable all the children concerned to complete their primary education at the Kingmoor Schools, should their parents wish them to. Alternatively children could transfer to any other school for which parents express a preference, providing a place is available. Places are available at a number of primary schools in the area.
4. The intention is for the existing catchment area of Belah School to be split in two. The area to the northwest of a line running from Etterby Scaur along the south side of Austin Friars School grounds and to the rear of Dene Crescent and Briar Bank (as shown in the consultation document) will be incorporated into the catchment area of the Kingmoor Schools. The rest of the existing Belah School catchment area to the southeast of the line described will be incorporated in that of Stanwix Primary School. These new arrangements will apply from September 2008.

5. School transport will be provided in accordance with the Authority's normal home to school transport policy and the policy which applies to school closure situations.
6. Admission to the nursery at Kingmoor Infant School will be in accordance with the Authority's published policy on nursery admissions.
7. Admission to the nursery will not guarantee a place in the first year infant group i.e. the reception group. The Authority's general admission policy will apply for admission to the reception group to which up to 60 pupils will be admitted in September 2008, which is also the number of places it is anticipated will be available in the other year groups.
8. All representations made (and not withdrawn in writing) within the representation periods will be considered by Cumbria County Council.
9. Should you wish for any further information in connection with these notices, this can be obtained by contacting Mike Tuer, School Organisation Project Team, 18 Portland Square Carlisle CA1 1PE (Tel. 01228 606038) (mike.tuer@cumbriacc.gov.uk).