

From: **Cllr. Annabel Wilkinson** <Cllr.Annabel.Wilkinson@northyorks.gov.uk>

Date: Thu, 26 Jan 2023 at 13:50

Subject: RE: Proposal to NYCC to Close Eskdale School, Whitby

To: Joyce Stangoe

Good afternoon

I am writing in response to your email below and also your previous enquiry inviting me to attend your meeting on 6th February regarding the future of education in Whitby. Thank you very much for your interest in this matter and for the work you are doing locally to encourage others to engage on the future for young people in Whitby.

As you will know the Governing Board of Whitby Secondary Partnership has asked North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) to consult on the amalgamation of Caedmon College Whitby and Eskdale School.

At present no decision about whether to commence a consultation on the proposal has been taken by the Council. In my role as Executive Member for Education, Learning and Skills I will take a decision on 7th February 2023 after considering a report on the proposal by Council Officers. Until I have considered that report it would not be appropriate for me to comment on the proposal including at the meeting on 6th February.

I thank you for your invitation to the meeting, but as your meeting falls ahead of the decision on whether or not to consult, I hope you understand that it would not be appropriate for me to attend. If my decision is to proceed with a consultation then a six week consultation process would begin during which the public would receive more information on the proposal, as well as details of how to respond. In this case I would strongly encourage the Community Network, and all other stakeholders in Whitby and the surrounding area, to engage as part of that process. In particular there would be a public consultation meeting during the six week period and members of your network would be able to attend this meeting. This would ensure that your views can be considered by the Council's Executive who would be the decision makers at a later stage of the process.

Thank you again for your emails.

Kind regards

Annabel

Cllr. Annabel Wilkinson.

Executive member for Education. Learning and Skills.