

FAQ:

Pre-Publication Consultation on Proposed Change to Age Range

Pre-Publication Consultation Dates: 10/12/25 – 21/01/26

How will the additional classes be accommodated within the school?

The school building has sufficient physical capacity to fit the additional pupils in the school.

Will any extensions, temporary classrooms or building adaptations be needed?

Some current rooms will need to be repurposed. Some building adaptations will be needed to ensure sufficient space for additional specialist rooms.

Will KS4 classrooms be in a specific part of the building, or integrated within existing spaces?

KS4 classrooms will be integrated within existing spaces. Both classes in each year group will be located near to one another for registration and some teaching.

Will KS4 classes be set by ability for core subjects, or will mixed-ability teaching be used?

Mixed-ability teaching remains a core principle of the school. For maths, where the examination papers are currently split into two tiers, there will be a need for some setting.

As the first cohort moves through, will GCSE option choices be more limited initially, with some subjects possibly introduced gradually?

GCSE/other Level 2 options take two years so all options will be available from the beginning of Y10. As with any school who delivers the KS4 curriculum, subject offer will be regularly reviewed.

Will specialist staff be appointed for GCSE-level teaching in subjects such as sciences, languages, technology, and other option areas?

There is a mix of both secondary specialists and Primary teachers in school currently. Additional specialist appointments will also be made.

Will the behaviour policy for KS4 differ from KS3 in any way, or will the same expectations apply across the whole school?

The Student Conduct Policy is reviewed yearly and appropriate adaptations are made. School policies are universal within a school. Reasonable adaptations are made as part of the application of school policies, where appropriate.

How will KS4 pupils be integrated with younger year groups? For example, will break and lunch times be shared or separated?

Break and lunchtimes will be separated by location and / or timings for different Key Stages.

Will KS4 pupils have access to additional extracurricular opportunities such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award?

A strength of our school is the extra-curricular offer; these will be expanded to reflect KS4 pupil interest.

What types of trips or enrichment activities might be planned for the higher year groups?

Enrichment activities and trips are often curriculum related. The KS4 curriculum will drive the additional enrichment activities and trips for the Y10 and Y11 pupils. It would be appropriate to offer more national and international trips.

Will the school become focused on SEND students?

The school remains a mainstream school. All children are welcome.

Do you expect children currently in Y7 who don't have additional needs to move on?

No. The school remains a mainstream school. All children, both with and without SEND, are welcome.

Do children currently in Monkseaton Middle School have to stay or can they apply for another school for Year 9?

As with all schools, families can apply to leave MMS at any time. They may also apply to enter a different high or secondary school for Year 9, as part of the usual admissions application process in North Tyneside.