

# **Lowick and Holy Island C of E First Schools – governor response to the Berwick Partnership Consultation**

February 2023

## **Model A and Model B**

As a governing body, we acknowledge, appreciate and value the expertise of the middle schools and their role in our community. However, overall we would prefer to see a 2-tier model for the following reasons:

- We believe it would be beneficial for children to undertake transition at a slightly older age (11 rather than 9) and also to only have one transition between schools – i.e. from primary to secondary.
- We believe that a 2 tier model gives us opportunities for nurturing children from early years through to the end of key stage 2, capitalising on our community links and school values.
- We note that for Holy Island children, it may be an advantage to board later rather than sooner. It would save Holy Island children from travelling to Longridge Towers from 9 years old and keep them in the Holy Island community on a day to day basis for longer.
- We think that if Lowick and Holy Island schools become primary schools there may be scope for increased capacity within the school for staff leadership and professional development.

## **SEND provision**

We strongly agree that The Grove school deserves a purpose-built new building for their needs. We also believe that they need to retain their current SEND provision rather than splitting into two different types of SEND school under one roof. We note that SEND children from the Berwick Partnership area currently have to travel long distances by taxi as there are not enough spaces at The Grove for our local area. We think that the new build for The Grove should ensure there are enough spaces for local demand going into the future. We believe that this should happen with whichever model goes forward.

## **Post 16 and Post 18 provision**

We would like to see more aspirational choices for children in our area post 16 and post 18. We would like to see both vocational and academic options with sufficient choice so that children and young adults don't have to travel long distances to find the course they desire.

## **Early years provision**

We would like to see the current Early Years provision continuing and thriving.