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Berwick Consultation – Pupil Views

As part of the Consultation, we were asked to carry out an age-appropriate gathering of pupils views:

- ⇒ This was completed on Wednesday 1st March 2023;
- ⇒ All year groups were surveyed (Y5-Y8);
- ⇒ The only ‘hands-up’ poll was question 2 – “Did you know that the County Council are deciding if Berwick should stay 3-tier or change to 2-tier;
- ⇒ The survey was carried out in form time so pupils were with their peers;
- ⇒ Form Teachers read the questions only and then wrote down pupil responses;
- ⇒ All responses have been collated onto one form below

I confirm that all pros and cons have been reproduced.

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Berwick Consultation – pupil’s views		Date	1-3-22
Form Class:		Number in class:	
1	What do you understand by the terms ‘2-tier’ and ‘3-tier’?		
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>2-tier</u></p> <p>No Middle school Only 2 schools After primary you go to High School Reception to Y6 Stay at Primary school longer If a school shuts, Middle school gets split In Newcastle More pupils</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>3 tier</u></p> <p>First, Middle and High schools We have 3-tier at the moment We go to 3 schools More support More opportunities</p>	

2	Did you know that the County Council are deciding if Berwick should stay 3-tier or change to 2-tier?			
	Yes	82%	No	18%

3	Under 2-tier, Berwick would not have Middle Schools. You would move from Year 6 to the High School. How do you feel about this?	
	Cons	Pros
	<p>Scary – older pupils Confused – going from Primary to Secondary is hard No transition Primary 1 class, Secondary lots of classes Worried about getting lost Doesn't feel right - Berwick always had Middle Schools Too nervous and scared to be in High School at 10 years old More people to mix with at High School Lessons are too long to concentrate at High School I'd rather 3-tier Not ready to go to High School None of us have been there Not happy, I would probably be kicked out Not great – too big and scary I'd get used to being in High school It's so big Weird skipping Middle school Nervous – don't know all the people Middle School is the most important years of your life Not good because of all the big kids It is better how it is now Don't know way around I wouldn't like it – some might jump me Feels 'faster' only going to 2 schools Pressured Worried Confused Stressed and depressed Really sad Would feel ready Overwhelmed I'd feel too young to be 11 and there will be 18 year olds there Anxious 3-tier better – sets you up well, mixing in smaller settings Big shock to many Unfair to miss out on Middle School experience Scared Space away from siblings Pressure to grow up faster Pressure to do stuff to fit in</p>	<p>I'd get used to being in High school Wouldn't mind – I'd see friends who went to Berwick Middle Fine More people together Happier</p>

4	Under a 3-tier system, your education would be the same as it is now, where you come to Middle School in Year 5 and move into High School at the end of Year 8. How do you feel about this?	
	Cons	Pros
<p>I have cousins in High School in London so would like to be the same</p> <p>Fine – it is the same education</p>	<p>Good education steps</p> <p>Year 8 prepares you for the Academy</p> <p>Meet new people bit at a time</p> <p>Not overwhelming</p> <p>Small steps transition for moving to lots of classes</p> <p>New responsibilities from 1st school</p> <p>Happier</p> <p>I love Middle School</p> <p>Learn more skills in Middle school</p> <p>Preparation for High School</p> <p>Learn handwriting, resilience, confidence</p> <p>Smaller school</p> <p>I like the guidance form Middle school</p> <p>I know all the teachers will help me</p> <p>More comfortable</p> <p>Prefer 3-tier</p> <p>Happy there will be less people</p> <p>Enjoy the smaller school</p> <p>We do so many great things</p> <p>Not sure about moving earlier – more time to adjust</p> <p>Happy and excited</p> <p>I like my school</p> <p>All the teachers are nice</p> <p>I would be glad</p> <p>Relieved, not much stress, happy and relaxed</p> <p>I would have a good experience and time to prepare for High School</p> <p>I like that, nice to stay in smaller age range</p> <p>Sad with no Middle school</p> <p>This would be better</p> <p>Good</p> <p>Safer</p> <p>Smaller steps so not as scary</p> <p>More opportunities</p> <p>Less intimidating</p> <p>Less exam stress</p>	

5	If the County Council were here now, what would you like to ask them about changing schools in Berwick?	
<p>Would I have to go back to First school? Have you considered children getting lost? In a High School are all year groups mixed up? Is there enough room? Why change a system that is good? What would replace the Middle School? When our school is good why change it? Why do we need to change? Why can't we stay the same? How will this affect me? What happens to old buildings? Would we mix with older children? How would you be improving our education? How much will it cost? When would this happen? What will happen to our teachers?</p>	<p>Will our teachers still be with us? If Y5 went back to Primary, would they go to their First schools? How are they going to rebuild schools? How long would this take? Please don't make this change! Can all pupils in schools get to vote on this so we can decide what's best for us? What are the benefits of going 2-tier? Would the work/curriculum stay the same? Would schools be bigger? If Middle School teachers went to the Academy would it improve their Ofsted report? If you make schools 2-tier, could that impact on behaviour in a negative way?</p>	

6	What do you love about Middle Schools?	
<p>The opportunities Outdoor equipment, playground and yards Learn lots of subject to prepare for High School Variety of wonderful teachers Loads of trips Breaktime snacks Make new friends before High School Small steps to build up to High School Lessons are fun and exciting Easy to find your way around I can talk to any teacher about a problem I feel really confident I feel totally safe at school I love Lego Robotics I get to travel and enter competitions I love Code Club I love Art Club – I make things and feel free I love Lunch Club – I get to chat to everyone and play games I love that they are small and how friendly other pupils and staff are Zumba Verandha Clubs are great, Amazing trips, Sports fixtures Breaktimes Seeing the smiles' on pupils faces It's a friendly environment We get lots of support Friends – get to make loads Everything really Easy system Teachers are nice Variety of clubs to choose from The atmosphere Teachers always make sure we are ok and have a positive day</p>	<p>Bigger than First School but not too big Children of similar ages Make more friends More practical equipment and lessons New opportunities Proper PE – PE teacher, gym and large playing field Access to sports equipment e.g. tennis rackets, trampoline Music lessons with a variety of instruments Cooking Room Art & Tech rooms with tools to make things Our French teacher can speak French Libraries ICT lessons in a computer room Chromebooks to work online New teachers for different subjects We are more independent We enter lots of competitions – sports, dancing, writing, art, singing School Trips to France and Ski Trip to Italy Basketball trips Extra curricular activities I like the teachers here Teachers make it fun to learn Middle schools prepare your for High school Cookery The lunches More support Specialist teachers Opportunities – Sports Leaders and House Captains Newcastle Foundation Workshops Being with people our age without lots of older pupils More comfortable coming to Middle school before High school Teacher support Animator workshops School teams Rewards</p>	

