

**WEST LOTHIAN COUNCIL EDUCATION SERVICES**  
**NON-STATUTORY PRE-CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

**NOVEMBER 2025**

**REVIEW NON-DENOMINATIONAL PRIMARY TO SECONDARY  
SCHOOL ALIGNMENT IN THE LIVINGSTON AND ALMOND VALLEY  
CORE DEVELOPMENT AREA**

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# SECTION ONE

This section introduces the reason for the consultation. It provides information about why West Lothian Council is proposing to review non-denominational primary to secondary school alignment in the Livingston and Almond Valley Core Development Area.

## 1.1 PURPOSE OF THE DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to advise:

West Lothian Council's proposals to address the projected capacity deficit at West Calder High School.

1. The educational benefits of the proposals and how they will make things better; and
2. Information on how you can give your views and take part in the consultation process.

West Lothian Council believes that thorough and effective consultation will support better outcomes for pupils, their families and the wider community as a whole.

Statutory consultations are necessary when a local authority is proposing to make a change to the school estate in this instance, proposed amendment to school catchment areas. To carry out a public consultation the Council requires to follow the statutory guidance outlined in the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010.

On this occasion, West Lothian Council has decided to undertake non-statutory pre-consultation. Non-statutory pre-consultation discussions will allow Council officers to share information, acknowledge and address the views of the communities affected, and finalise an informed proposal to take forward to the statutory consultation phase.

With this in mind this document is organised into three sections:

Section 1 of this document introduces the proposals and gives background and rationale.

Section 2 contains the educational benefits statement and provides an assessment of the effects of the proposals on the children/young people and their families of the affected schools.

Section 3 details how West Lothian Council has organised the consultation process to meet the requirements of the legislation and how you can take part and give your views.

## 1.2. BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE FOR CHANGE

The existing school rolls at associated primary schools are already above the capacity of West Calder High School and are forecast to continue to grow as house building continues in West and East Calder.

West Calder High School has a capacity of 1320, based on an S1 intake of 240.

The school has six associated primary schools with the following year group capacities:

Mid Calder Primary School - 60  
 East Calder Primary School - 66  
 Calderwood Primary School - 99  
 Parkhead Primary School - 60 (to be extended to 66 in future)  
 Addiewell Primary School - 18  
 Woodmuir Primary School – 7

The six associated primary schools have a total year group capacity of 310, significantly in excess of the maximum year group capacities at West Calder High School of 240, achieved following the recent extension.

There has also traditionally been a demand for places at West Calder High School from children attending St Mary's, (Polbeth) Primary School because of the geographical proximity of West Calder High School compared to travelling to St Kentigern's Academy.

As of August 2025, the total school rolls across the 7 local primary schools (associated primary schools plus St Mary's (Polbeth), Primary School were as follows:

School	2025 S1	2026 S1 (2025 P7)	2027 S1 (2025 P6)	2028 S1 (2025 P5)	2029 S1 (2025 P4)
Mid Calder		33	16	28	27
East Calder		45	45	54	60
Calderwood		59	87	90	88
Parkhead		65	55	59	52
Addiewell		17	20	22	13
Woodmuir		2	3	0	5
St Mary's (Polbeth)		36	16	20	14
<b>West Calder High School</b>	<b>232</b>	<b>257</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>259</b>

With continuing house building expected the likely S1 intakes would significantly exceed the current number of children attending catchment primary schools today.

The approved 2024 based forecasts (900 house forecast) for West Calder High School show projected S1 demand / total rolls as follows:

Year	S1	Total
2025	244	1253
2026	293	1316
2027	290	1363
2028	342	1487
2029	316	1593

The projected roll is forecast to rise to 2146 by 2034, the end of the current forecast period, if no action is taken. The projected S1 intake is forecast to rise to 446 by 2034 if no action is taken.

Some of this forecast demand will be non-catchment placing requests that can be refused with actual numbers likely to be somewhere between the primary school attendance numbers and the total forecast demand depending on placing request decisions, and subsequent appeal decisions by the independent West Lothian (Placing in Schools) Appeal Committee and potential appeals to the Sheriff Court.

The proposals to review primary to secondary transfer arrangements of the catchment area of Calderwood Primary School are intended to address the demands of current and future housing developments and ensure the best use of existing and future school capacities in non-denominational secondary school catchment areas.

### 1.3 SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

#### Option 1 – Catchment Review of The James Young High School and West Calder High School Move Calderwood Primary School Catchment to The James Young High School

The catchment of Calderwood Primary School would be removed from West Calder High School and instead associated with The James Young High School.

Additional accommodation at The James Young High School may be required to accommodate the children from Calderwood Primary School.

A review of catchment areas would require a statutory consultation and the school communities of Calderwood Primary, The James Young High School and West Calder High School and relevant stakeholders would be consultees.

The table below shows the number of children forecast to live in each school catchment with a split of 80%/20% between the non-denominational and denominational sectors. (***This assumes no further interventions undertaken to resolve demand or restrict placing requests, and current demand for placing requests, migration and house completions***). As no children will move school until catchment reviews are complete and even then children already in a school will only move school if they choose so this scenario would not take effect until after 2032. This table does not form a forecast but aims to show whether the proposal could lead to a sustainable long term solution post 2032.

School	Capacity	Planned S1 Entry	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
West Calder High School	1,320	240	782	810	861	893	965	1,018	1,054	1,110	1,164	1,192	1,228
Inveralmind High School	1,320	240	1,364	1,362	1,342	1,333	1,285	1,260	1,225	1,217	1,207	1,190	1,164
James Young High School	1210/1650	220 / 300	1,102	1,161	1,230	1,322	1,440	1,530	1,581	1,619	1,639	1,646	1,670
Winchburgh Academy	660	120	280	330	387	460	550	645	723	800	866	910	952
Total in above schools	4510 / 4950	820 / 900	3,528	3,663	3,820	4,008	4,240	4,453	4,582	4,746	4,875	4,938	5,014
Total West Lothian	14960 / 15400	2720 / 2800	12,364	12,475	12,649	12,766	12,928	13,058	13,092	13,058	13,039	12,966	12,940

#### Deliverability implications

- A potential extension of 440 pupils has been modelled with an opening date of 2029. This can be delivered within existing school grounds and initial assessment shows likely compliance with planning and education requirements can be achieved.
- The child address data scenario table above shows that a 440 extension would be sufficient to accommodate all pupils in their catchment schools post 2032. Depending on parental preference choices it may be that a smaller extension or no extension is sufficient to accommodate children. The requirement for additional infrastructure would be monitored through the School Roll Forecasts and Education Review mechanisms.

#### Cost implications

- 440 pupil extension (1210 – 1650) has been modelled with an opening date of 2029.
- An indicative capital cost of £25M has been calculated based on an indicative floorspace and using Scottish Futures Trust metrics and construction inflation assumptions.
- As current non-denominational secondary contributions are fully assigned this capital cost would require borrowing by the council. Over 15 years this would require a £38m total borrowing cost and over 25 years this would require a £49M total borrowing cost.
- Current projected future non-denominational secondary contributions from across the contributing core development areas are forecast at £38.5M so the total costs of £38M are potentially fundable entirely from developer contributions if borrowed over 15 years.
- Additional revenue costs of an extended school are estimated at £0.7M per year.

- Transportation costs have been explored with current operators and although the distance is slightly shorter than to West Calder High School the cost of bus hire on this route is estimated at the same per bus as to West Calder High School.

### Option 2 – Catchment Review of Winchburgh Academy and West Calder High School – Move Calderwood Primary School Catchment to Winchburgh Academy

The catchment of Calderwood Primary School would be removed from West Calder High School and instead associated with Winchburgh Academy.

An extension at Winchburgh Academy would be required to accommodate the children from Calderwood Primary School. Initial capacity is available to accommodate children from Calderwood as well as those from Winchburgh. In the medium-term demand would exceed capacity and so an extension to increase capacity beyond the current 660 to 1100 would be required. In the longer term, accommodating Calderwood Primary School pupils at Winchburgh Academy would take the roll beyond an extended 1100 capacity, and an extension to 1430 or higher may be required.

A proposal to associate the new Calderwood Primary School with Winchburgh Academy was included in the informal pre-consultation in May 2019. At the time parental and community sentiment was against this proposal, and it was subsequently dropped in advance of statutory consultation commencing.

Now that the new Winchburgh Academy is operational there is an opportunity to revisit this proposal.

A review of catchment areas would require a statutory consultation and the school communities of Calderwood Primary, Winchburgh Academy and West Calder High School and relevant stakeholders would be consultees.

The table below shows the number of children forecast to live in each school catchment with a split of 80%/20% between the non-denominational and denominational sectors. (***This assumes no further interventions undertaken to resolve demand or restrict placing requests, and current demand for placing requests, migration and house completions***). As no children will move school until catchment reviews are complete and even then children already in a school will only move school if they choose so this scenario would not take effect until after 2032. This table does not form a forecast but aims to show whether the proposal could lead to a sustainable long term solution post 2032.

School	Capacity	Planned S1 Entry	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
West Calder High School	1,320	240	782	810	861	893	965	1,018	1,054	1,110	1,164	1,192	1,228
Inveralmond High School	1,320	240	1,364	1,362	1,342	1,333	1,285	1,260	1,225	1,217	1,207	1,190	1,164
James Young High School	1,210	220	926	940	960	979	1,020	1,054	1,050	1,031	999	980	947
Winchburgh Academy	660 / 1100	120 / 200	456	551	657	803	970	1,122	1,253	1,388	1,505	1,577	1,675
Total in above schools	4510 / 4950	820 / 900	3,528	3,663	3,820	4,008	4,240	4,453	4,582	4,746	4,875	4,938	5,014
Total West Lothian	14960 / 15400	2720 / 2800	12,364	12,475	12,649	12,766	12,928	13,058	13,092	13,058	13,039	12,966	12,940

### **Deliverability implications**

- A potential extension of 440 pupils has been modelled with an opening date of 2029. This can be delivered within existing school grounds and initial assessment shows likely compliance with planning and education requirements can be achieved.
- The child address data scenario table above shows that a 440 extension may not be sufficient to entirely accommodate all pupils in their catchment schools post 2032. Further extension of Winchburgh Academy can be achieved to accommodate the expected growth from the Winchburgh Core Development area and would be funded through the Winchburgh CDA non-denominational secondary contributions.

## Cost implications

- 440 pupil extension (1210 – 1650) has been modelled with an opening date of 2029.
- An indicative capital cost of £25M has been calculated based on an indicative floorspace and using Scottish Futures Trust metrics and construction inflation assumptions.
- As current non-denominational secondary contributions are fully assigned this capital cost would require borrowing by the council. Over 15 years this would require a £38M total borrowing cost and over 25 years this would require a £49M total borrowing cost.
- Current projected future non-denominational secondary contributions from across the contributing core development areas are forecast at £38.5M so the total costs of £38M are potentially fundable entirely from developer contributions if borrowed over 15 years.
- Additional revenue costs of an extended school are estimated at £0.7M per year.
- Transportation costs have been explored with current operators and although the distance is slightly further than to West Calder High School the cost of bus hire on this route is estimated at the only slightly higher than to West Calder High School with additional costs of £1K-5K per bus annually compared to the cost to West Calder High School. This could amount to an additional £8 -40K per year compared to bussing to West Calder High School.

## Option 3 – Establish a new East Calder High School

The catchment of Calderwood Primary School would be removed from West Calder High School and instead associated with a new East Calder High School. In addition, East Calder Primary School and/or Mid Calder Primary School could also be associated with a new East Calder High School.

East Calder High School is shown as a possible scenario in the Local Development Plan, but it has not yet been taken forward by West Lothian Council in a Capital Programme. Therefore, any costs associated with constructing a new East Calder High School would need to be met either from future developer contributions or from West Lothian Council capital funds and borrowing.

A review of catchment areas would require a statutory consultation and the school communities affected and relevant stakeholders would be consultees.

The table below shows the number of children forecast to live in each school catchment with a split of 80%/20% between the non-denominational and denominational sectors. (***This assumes no further interventions undertaken to resolve demand or restrict placing requests, and current demand for placing requests, migration and house completions***). As no children will move school until catchment reviews are complete and even then children already in a school will only move school if they choose so this scenario would not take effect until after 2036-38. This table does not form a forecast but aims to show whether the proposal could lead to a sustainable long term solution post 2036.

School	Capacity	Planned S1 Entry	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
West Calder High School	1,320	240	474	497	529	548	581	589	593	606	627	644	683
Inverlmond High School	1,320	240	1,364	1,362	1,342	1,333	1,285	1,260	1,225	1,217	1,207	1,190	1,164
James Young High School	1,210	220	926	940	960	979	1,020	1,054	1,050	1,031	999	980	947
Winchburgh Academy	660	120	280	330	387	460	550	645	723	800	866	910	952
new East Calder HS	660 / 990	120 / 180	484	533	602	689	805	906	991	1,092	1,177	1,215	1,268
Total in above schools	5170 / 5500	940 / 1000	3,528	3,663	3,820	4,008	4,240	4,453	4,582	4,746	4,875	4,938	5,014
Total West Lothian	15620 / 15950	2840 / 2900	12,364	12,475	12,649	12,766	12,928	13,058	13,092	13,058	13,039	12,966	12,940

This scenario associates Calderwood PS, Mid Calder PS and East Calder PS with new East Calder HS.

School	Capacity	Planned S1 Entry	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
West Calder High School	1,320	240	597	607	634	642	677	689	695	721	752	774	814
Inveralmond High School	1,320	240	1,364	1,362	1,342	1,333	1,285	1,260	1,225	1,217	1,207	1,190	1,164
James Young High School	1,210	220	926	940	960	979	1,020	1,054	1,050	1,031	999	980	947
Winchburgh Academy	660	120	280	330	387	460	550	645	723	800	866	910	952
new East Calder HS	660 / 990	120 / 180	362	423	498	595	709	805	889	977	1,052	1,084	1,137
Total in above schools	5170 / 5500	940 / 1000	3,528	3,663	3,820	4,008	4,240	4,453	4,582	4,746	4,875	4,938	5,014
<b>Total West Lothian</b>	<b>15620 / 15950</b>	<b>2840 / 2900</b>	<b>12,364</b>	<b>12,475</b>	<b>12,649</b>	<b>12,766</b>	<b>12,928</b>	<b>13,058</b>	<b>13,092</b>	<b>13,058</b>	<b>13,039</b>	<b>12,966</b>	<b>12,940</b>

This scenario associates Calderwood PS and East Calder PS with a new East Calder HS. Mid Calder PS remains associated with West Calder High School.

### Deliverability implications

- Potential new school options of 660 and 990 pupils have been modelled with an opening date of 2030.
- The child address data scenario table above shows that a 990 school would be immediately under capacity pressure from the date of opening in 2030 and would have insufficient capacity to accommodate all non-denominational children from Mid Calder, East Calder and Calderwood. It is likely that either Mid Calder or East Calder children (or both) would have to remain associated with West Calder High School.
- A new Secondary school on a site not currently owned by the council will take longer to deliver than an extension so it could not be in place until August 2030 at the earliest. This assumes that a suitable site can be found and acquired by the council.
- Should compulsory purchase of land be required this could add additional time to this scenario.
- Winchburgh Academy and Sinclair Academy opened with an S1 intake as the full Broad General Education and subject choice cannot be guaranteed to older children should a school open with additional year groups.
- Given the combined longer lead time and S1 entry only a new East Calder Secondary school could only service children commencing S1 in either 2030 (current P3) or 2032 (current P1). Given the forecast capacity pressures at West Calder High School in the period 2027-2031 an interim catchment review to remove the current P2-P6 from West Calder High School would still be required. This could follow option 1 or 2 above.

### Cost implications

- Potential new schools of 660 and 990 pupils have been modelled with an opening date of 2030.
- Indicative capital cost of £82M (660) and £90M (990) have been calculated based on an indicative floorspace and using Scottish Futures Trust metrics and construction inflation assumptions.
- As current non-denominational secondary contributions are fully assigned this capital cost would require borrowing by the council. Over 15 years this would require a total borrowing cost of £124M for 660 and £136M for 990 and over 25 years this would require a total borrowing cost of £160M for 660 and £175M for 990.
- Current projected future non-denominational secondary contributions from across the contributing core development areas are forecast at £38.5M so the total costs of £85.5M-£136M which would represent a funding requirement for the council beyond the developer contributions available of £5.5M to £6.5M per annum over 15 years or £4.9-5.5M per annum over 25 years.
- Additional revenue costs of an extended school are estimated at £2.9M per year for a 660 school and £4.3M per year for a 990 school.
- Site acquisition costs would be in the region of £4-5M for a 4 hectare site with development potential. While this could be potentially be recovered from developers given the expected build cost and interest is in excess of the collected contributions it is likely this cost would have to be met by West Lothian Council in addition to the £82-£90M construction figures above.
- Transportation costs have been explored with current operators and costs for Mid Calder PS children would likely be similar to current costs with a saving for children from East Calder and Calderwood. This would amount to an eventual reduction of £500K per year compared to bussing to West Calder High School but would not be fully realised

until 6 years after opening a new school – 2036-38.

## Implications for West Calder High School

- If the new East Calder High School were to include Mid Calder and East Calder children as well as Calderwood it would lead to West Calder High School having an excess of capacity. West Calder High School would only have sufficient catchment children to operate at 51% capacity and across the south Livingston / Calders area there would be 950 surplus secondary school spaces.
- If just a 660 school were built in East Calder it could accommodate only the Calderwood children and West Calder High School would remain more sustainable but East Calder and Mid Calder children would still have to be bussed to West Calder High School.

## Option 4 – West Calder High School – Further Extension

No catchment review would be undertaken and instead West Calder High School would be further extended.

The table below shows the number of children forecast to live in each school catchment with a split of 80%/20% between the non-denominational and denominational sectors. (***This assumes no further interventions undertaken to resolve demand or restrict placing requests, and current demand for placing requests, migration and house completions***). This table does not form a forecast but aims to show whether the proposal could lead to a sustainable long term solution post 2032.

School	Capacity	Planned S1 Entry	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31	2031-32	2032-33	2033-34	2034-35
West Calder High School	1320 / 1990	240 / 360	958	1,030	1,132	1,237	1,386	1,495	1,584	1,698	1,804	1,858	1,951
Inveralmond High School	1,320	240	1,364	1,362	1,342	1,333	1,285	1,260	1,225	1,217	1,207	1,190	1,164
James Young High School	1,210	220	926	940	960	979	1,020	1,054	1,050	1,031	999	980	947
Winchburgh Academy	660	120	280	330	387	460	550	645	723	800	866	910	952
Total in above schools	4510 / 5170	820 / 940	3,528	3,663	3,820	4,008	4,240	4,453	4,582	4,746	4,875	4,938	5,014
Total West Lothian	14960 / 15620	2720 / 2840	12,364	12,475	12,649	12,766	12,928	13,058	13,092	13,058	13,039	12,966	12,940

## Deliverability implications

- A potential extension of 660 pupils has been modelled with an opening date of 2029.
- The child address data scenario table above shows a larger extension (660 vs 440) would be required than at JYHS or Winchburgh Academy because no existing capacity is available to be used by Calderwood pupils.
- The contractual arrangements for the provision of West Calder High School are not sufficiently flexible to allow further extension within the current site boundary due to procurement rules. Any extension therefore would have to be a stand alone new school building with no physical connection to the existing building and would require new social spaces, utilities connections, car parking and energy centre.
- There are severe site constraints at West Calder High School and all remaining surrounding land is either utilised as protected open space, local biodiversity sites, core paths and woodland.
- Both the initial school and the agreed extension have required expensive grouting operations to make the ground suitable for construction. To construct a further extension would require similar expense.
- Any design for an additional 660 pupils would be subject to planning approval which may not be achievable given the restrictions on usage of surrounding land. No Education Consultation can prejudice the decisions of the council as planning authority so until planning permission was granted a risk would remain that any design may not be deliverable.

## Cost implications

- A potential extension of 660 pupils has been modelled with an opening date of 2029.
- An indicative capital cost of £50M has been calculated based on an indicative

floorspace and using Scottish Futures Trust metrics and construction inflation assumptions.

- As current non-denominational secondary contributions are fully assigned this capital cost would require borrowing by the council. Over 15 years this would require a total borrowing cost of £75M and over 25 years this would require a total borrowing cost of £97M.
- Current projected future non-denominational secondary contributions from across the contributing core development areas are forecast at £38.5M so the total costs of to the council after developer contributions would be £36.5M to £58.5M which would represent a funding requirement for the council beyond the developer contributions available of £2.3M-£2.5M per annum over 15-25 years.
- Additional revenue costs of an extended school are estimated at £900K per year for a 660 extension.

## SECTION TWO

This section contains the expected educational benefits to be gained should the proposals come to fruition.

### 2.1 EDUCATIONAL BENEFIT STATEMENT

Whilst assessing the educational benefits of the proposals, the undernoted factors were considered:

- **Curriculum For Excellence**

Curriculum for Excellence is the national curriculum of experiences and outcomes for all pupils, 3-18 years.

The national guidance from Education Scotland encourages education authorities to ensure that curricular provisions offer opportunities for learners to achieve across all curricular areas and develop skills, attributes and capabilities through courses aligned with the key principles of Curriculum for Excellence: challenge and enjoyment, breadth, progression, depth, personalisation and choice, coherence and relevance.

Options 1, 2 and 4 will allow all of the affected schools to continue to be fully equipped to deliver the full breadth of Curriculum for Excellence. There will be no change to the curriculum offered resulting from these options.

*Option 3 would have a significant impact on the school roll at West Calder High School, with a likely impact on the ability of the school to maintain the current breadth and depth of subject choice and curriculum offer.*

In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider the continued engagement of creative teaching and learning approaches in a viable and sustainable school establishment to broaden scope for attainment and achievement and build a positive ethos for staff and pupils alike.

- **Admission**

There will be no impact to pupils currently in attendance at West Lothian secondary schools as a result of the options identified. All secondary pupils will continue to attend their existing schools for the remainder of their secondary stage education.

It is proposed that, if approved, Options 1 and 2 would be implemented from 27 June 2026. The administrative deadline for applications for admission to S1 in August 2026 is 31 December 2025, and the deadline for informing parents of placing decisions is 30 April 2026. It will be necessary, therefore, for admission to S1 in those schools affected to be undertaken under existing catchment arrangements. Adoption of the proposed catchment arrangements from 27 June 2026 would ensure that they apply to all applications for school places received after that date.

Under Options 1 and 2, younger siblings of pupils currently attending schools would retain the catchment status of the older sibling and would be permitted to attend the existing catchment school if parents wish siblings to attend the same secondary school. This catchment status would remain until such times that the sibling link is

broken i.e., should the elder sibling leave secondary stage education prior to commencement of the younger sibling at secondary school. These 'transitional arrangements' will minimise disruption to family groups, by giving children and families the ability to choose whether children should attend the same school as their sibling.

If approved, Option 3 will require interim arrangements, given the lead time for construction of a new East Calder Secondary school and the forecast capacity pressures at West Calder High School in the period 2027-2031. An interim catchment review to remove the current Calderwood P2-P6 from West Calder High School would still be required. This could follow option 1 or 2 above. This option could, therefore, result in two changes of catchment school and admission arrangements for some families.

Under Option 3, it is likely that the Council will adopt the practice of opening the new High School one stage at a time, as was the case with the last two secondary schools constructed. This is necessary to ensure that year groups in the upper school are of sufficient size to allow subject choice and curriculum delivery. For this reason, it is not possible to put in place arrangements for the older siblings to be admitted to the new school, which may result in disruption to family groups. Transitional arrangements could be put in place, however, to allow younger siblings to attend the same school as an older sibling.

Option 4 will have no impact on admission arrangements.

In all cases, criteria for admission will continue to be in accordance with West Lothian Council's current admission arrangements. [West Lothian Council Primary School Admission Policy](#)

**In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider the establishment of a viable and sustainable balance between capacity and demand which will maximise the opportunity for transition between associated schools, benefiting educational progression.**

- **School Capacity**

West Lothian Council anticipates existing school capacities will increase at the schools identified in each option as a result of the proposed school catchment association alterations.

Option 1 envisages an extension at The James Young High School to 1650 may be required to accommodate the children from Calderwood Primary School.

Option 2 envisages initial capacity being used to accommodate children from Calderwood as well as those from Winchburgh. In the medium-term demand would exceed capacity and so an extension to increase capacity beyond the current 660 to 1100 would be required. In the longer term, accommodating Calderwood Primary School pupils at Winchburgh Academy would take the roll beyond an extended 1100 capacity, and so viability of extension to 1430 or even higher would need to be explored.

Option 3 envisages a new school at East Calder with either 660 or 990 capacity.

Option 4 envisages an extension of West Calder High School to 1980 capacity.

In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider the

creation of viable and sustainable school communities, and maximising the opportunity for children to be educated within their own community.

- **School Management/Staff Teams**

There will be no alteration to current school management structures as set out in the Scheme of Devolved School Management as a result of these Options 1, 2 and 4. Staff allocation according to the linear model and indicative management allocations will continue to be in terms of the Scheme. Staff and management allocations will increase in line with pupil roll, in order to ensure the needs of pupils are met.

Option 3 will require the establishment of a new staff and management structure.

Any amendments to current staffing levels will be undertaken in accordance with West Lothian Council recruitment processes.

In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider the efficient allocation of staff resources, and the ability of staff teams to deliver the breadth and depth of Curriculum for Excellence.

- **School Transport**

There will be no alteration to current policy on home to school transport as a result of these proposals. Any requests for school transport provisions will be considered in accordance with West Lothian Council's School Transport Policy. [West Lothian Council School Transport Policy](#)

Option 1 would result in a shorter journey to school than that currently undertaken by pupils as The James Young High School is closer in proximity. This could result in increased time available for extra-curricular activities.

Option 3 would result in the lowest cost for pupil transport, and the shortest journey times. This could result in increased time for extra-curricular activities.

In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider the cost of transport arrangements, the length of journey time for pupils, and any impact on extra-curricular activities.

- **Transition**

Under all options, transition programmes will be adapted in line with any agreed alteration to non-denominational primary to secondary school alignment. All of the establishments affected will ensure the transition process will continue to be a seamless and positive experience for those pupils involved, building on extensive experience of managing smooth transitions, including experience of the change which inevitably occurs as a result of changing a catchment area and building a new school.

Under Options 1 and 2, younger siblings of pupils currently attending schools would retain the catchment status of the older sibling and would be permitted to attend the existing catchment school if parents wish siblings to attend the same secondary school. This catchment status would remain until such times that the sibling link is broken i.e., should the elder sibling leave secondary stage education prior to commencement of the younger sibling at secondary school. These 'transitional arrangements' will minimise disruption to family groups, by giving children and families the ability to choose whether children should attend the same school as their sibling.

If approved, Option 3 will require interim arrangements, given the lead time for construction of a new East Calder Secondary school and the forecast capacity pressures at West Calder High School in the period 2027-2031. An interim catchment review to remove the current Calderwood P2-P6 from West Calder High School would still be required. This could follow option 1 or 2 above. This option could, therefore, result in two changes of catchment school and admission arrangements for some families.

Under Options 3, it is likely that the Council will adopt the practice of opening the new High School one stage at a time, as was the case with the last two secondary schools constructed. This is necessary to ensure that year groups in the upper school are of sufficient size to allow subject choice and curriculum delivery. For this reason, it is not possible to put in place arrangements for the older siblings to be admitted to the new school, which may result in disruption to family groups. Transitional arrangements could be put in place, however, to allow younger siblings to attend the same school as an older sibling.

Option 4 will have no impact on transition arrangements.

In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider the extent of change experienced by pupils, including potential for any disruption to friendship groups or siblings, and the extent to which they can be mitigated by transitional arrangements. A key consideration will be the establishment of a viable and sustainable balance between capacity and demand to maximise the opportunity for curricular and pastoral transition between associated schools, benefiting educational progression.

- **School Grounds/Outdoor Learning/Playground**

There will be no identified detrimental impact on the provision of school grounds or outdoor learning as a result of these proposals.

It is anticipated that extension and construction required by options 1-3 would all be achieved whilst allowing the school grounds and outdoor learning areas at the identified schools to continue to offer ample scope for development of the outdoor classroom. Due to the identified site constraints, there would be a significantly detrimental impact at WCHS in providing identified outdoor space.

This will foster a positive impact on the learning environment for all pupils and will support the development of good relationships and positive behaviour, not only in the classroom, but also outdoors and in the wider community.

Options 1-3 would reduce the number of buses requiring access to West Calder High School grounds. Option 1 would increase the number of busses requiring access to The James Young High School grounds, and appropriate bus access and parking would be developed building on the alterations already made during the construction of the new Cedarbank School. Option 2 would increase the number of busses requiring access to Winchburgh Academy, and this can be accommodated within the design of the school.

In all cases, project design will ensure that car parking and pupil drop off / uplift areas continue to ensure safe and efficient traffic flow, and appropriate car park protocols and risk assessments will be maintained.

In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider the provision of appropriate outdoor learning opportunities, and access arrangements for pupils and staff.

- **Breakfast Clubs/School Clubs**

There will be no alteration to policy on the provision of breakfast clubs or school clubs and extra-curricular activities as a result of these proposals. Provision of breakfast clubs, school clubs and extra-curricular activities will continue at all schools affected by these proposals.

Pupils will continue to be invited to take part in a wide range of extracurricular activities. Activities are designed to offer opportunity to learn new skills and enhance experiences. Participation in these activities promotes and encourages social interaction, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens.

Option 1 would result in a shorter journey to school than that currently undertaken by pupils as The James Young High School is closer in proximity. This could result in increased time available for extra-curricular activities.

Option 3 would result in the lowest cost for pupil transport, and the shortest journey times. This could result in increased time for extra-curricular activities.

In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider the length of journey time for pupils, and any impact on extra-curricular activities.

- **Parental Involvement**

There will be no alteration to policy on parental involvement as a result of these proposals. Opportunities for parental involvement will continue to be provided at all schools affected by these proposals, and all schools affected by these proposals will continue to engage with parents.

Parents and carers are an integral part of the school community with their ongoing contributions and working partnerships being considered key to the success of the school.

A principal focus as always is the delivery of a welcoming school that is inclusive for all parents, carers, pupils and staff.

Strong parental involvement exists at West Calder High School, and it is anticipated that this would continue under Option 4. Strong parental involvement can be evidenced at both The James Young High School and Winchburgh Academy, and it is anticipated that this would continue under Options 1 and 2. Option 3 would require new arrangements to be put in place, but it is anticipated that strong parental involvement would be established, building on the experience of parents at the catchment Primary Schools. The proximity of a new East Calder High School may increase opportunities for involvement for parents.

In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider any positive or negative impact on opportunities for parental involvement arising from each of the options.

- **Community Links**

Under all Options, it is anticipated that external links that each of the highlighted primary schools has established will remain with each establishment continuing to have clear and distinct associations within the local community.

Each of Options 1, 2 and 3 will provide opportunities for the establishment of strong secondary school community links community links. The proximity of a new East

Calder high school to its community may increase opportunities for community links under Option 3. There will be no change to secondary school community links under Option 4.

In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider any positive or negative impact on opportunities for community links arising from each of the options.

- Benefits for Any Other School Users

There will be no alteration to policy or practice on use of schools by community and other groups as a result of these proposals.

All existing provisions for other school users will continue, in line with school, service and Council policy and practice.

The establishment of a new East Calder high school would increase opportunities for other school users under Option 3.

In assessing the relative benefits of options, it will be necessary to consider any positive or negative impact on benefits for any other school users arising from each of the options.

## **SECTION THREE**

This section provides information on the Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) conducted by Council officers to meet statutory equality duties, to assess policies and practices and ensure compliance with all legislative requirements.

### **INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

To meet statutory equality duties, the Council conducts an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) to critically assess policies and practices and ensure compliance with all legislative requirements.

The aim of an IIA is to examine policies and practices in a structured way taking account of equality, human rights and socioeconomic disadvantage (poverty) implications when making decisions, ensuring the impact within the community is recognised and addressed accordingly.

IIA screening is completed using the Council's Integrated Impact Assessment Toolkit and allows the Authority to recognise positive steps it can take to promote fairness and equality of opportunity for all.

As part of the consultation process the Council will consult with a wide range of stakeholders, staff, parents/carers and young people and will welcome and address comments on the IIA process.

The outcome of the Integrated Impact Assessment will inform the Final Consultation Report and the Council's consideration of the proposed changes prior to reaching a decision on whether they should be implemented.

## SECTION FOUR

This section provides information on how West Lothian Council has organised the consultation process for the proposals contained within this document. It also provides information on how you can take part and give your views.

In terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, any proposal to alter the catchment area of a school requires a formal consultation process.

The Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010, as amended by the Children and Young People (Scotland) Act 2014, sets out the statutory consultation requirements.

The statutory consultees are prescribed as follows:

- the Parent Council or Combined Parent Council of any affected school
- the parents of the pupils at any affected school
- the parents of any children expected by the education authority to attend any affected school within two years of the date of publication of the proposal paper
- the pupils at any affected school (in so far as the education authority considers them to be of a suitable age and maturity)
- the staff (teaching and other) at any affected school
- any trade union which appears to the education authority to be representative of the persons mentioned in bullet point above
- the community council (if any)
- the community planning partnership (within the meaning of section 4(5) of the Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 for the area the local authority in which any affected school is situated.
- any other community planning partnership that the education authority considers relevant
- any other education authority that the education authority considers relevant
- any other users of any affected school that the education authority considers relevant
- in relation to any relevant proposal which affects a denominational school, the Church, Denominational Body or Scottish Hierarchy of the Roman Catholic Church.

As stated in the terms of the Schools (Consultation) (Scotland) Act 2010 statutory consultation periods should last a minimum of six weeks continuous and incorporate a minimum of 30 school days (excluding school holidays).

It is proposed that the non-statutory pre-consultation would last from 17 November 2025 to 12 December 2025.

The non-statutory pre-consultation paper will be made available for reference electronically and in paper format.

Public meetings will be held in respect of the non-statutory pre-consultation at the venues listed below:

<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>
Calderwood Primary School	1 <sup>st</sup> December - 7.00pm
The James Young High School	8 <sup>th</sup> December - 7.00pm
Winchburgh Academy	9 <sup>th</sup> December - 7.00pm
West Calder High School	2 <sup>nd</sup> December - 7.00pm

These meetings will give interested parties a formal opportunity to express their views.

Representatives of the Council will be present at the meetings to outline the proposals, facilitate discussions and answer questions.

The Council website will contain information on the consultation. The web address is: [www.westlothian.gov.uk/education](http://www.westlothian.gov.uk/education)

During the non-statutory pre-consultation period any views on this proposal should be sent in writing to the address given below:

Education Consultations, Education Services, Civic Centre, Howden Road South, EH54 6FF

Responses can also be made by e-mail to [Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk](mailto:Education.Consultation@westlothian.gov.uk)

All responses to be received by no later than 5.00pm 12 December 2025.

Following the end of the non-statutory, pre-consultation, a further report, informed by the pre-consultation, would be submitted to the Education Executive on 13 January 2026.

It is proposed that the statutory consultation would last from 19 January 2026 to 13 March 2026.

Following the end of the statutory consultation period West Lothian Council must provide Education Scotland with a report detailing all findings pertaining to the Consultation period.

All written and oral comments received during the consultation process are recorded and represented in said report, along with the Council's response to those comments.

Education Scotland will consider the Council submission and advise their response accordingly.

West Lothian Council will ensure that considerations received from Education Scotland are included in the Final Consultation Report. This Final Report will be made available, and notification will be given to those individuals or groups that have made representations during the Consultation period.

West Lothian Council will not make any decisions, or put any changes into effect until the Final Consultation Report has been concluded, published and subsequently presented to the Education Executive on 23 June 2026.

**The Consultation Timeline set out in detail below encompasses statutory legislative requirements detailed as per Schools (Consultation)(Scotland) Act 2010.**

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Description</b>
7 October 2025	Education PDSP Meeting	To present proposal to undertake non-statutory pre-consultation
11 November 2025	Education Executive Meeting	To approve above
17 November 2025	Start of Non-Statutory Pre-Consultation	Public meetings held at WCHS, JYHS, Winchburgh Academy and Calderwood PS
12 December 2025	End of Non-Statutory Pre-Consultation	
13 January 2026	Education Executive Meeting	Consider outcome of non-statutory consultation and recommendation to move to statutory consultation
19 January 2026	Start of Consultation including public meetings	Beginning of formal public consultation (min 6 continuous weeks consultation period including min of 30 school days)
13 March 2026	End of Consultation	
13 April 2026	Submit report to Education Scotland	
4 May 2026	Deadline for Education Scotland three-week period for reporting back to Education Services	
27 May 2026	Give Education Scotland at least 5 days' notice prior to publishing final report	
2 June 2026	Publication of final consultation report	A minimum of three weeks after publication of consultation report Authority will make final decision
23 June 2026	Education Executive Meeting	Decision made

Propozycja władz lokalnych West Lothian Council dotycząca przeglądu obwodu niewyznaniowych szkół podstawowych w następujących placówkach: West Calder High School, James Young High School and Winchburgh Academy., W celu uzyskania kopii niniejszego dokumentu należy zadzwonić do Catherine Campbell pod numer telefonu 01506 281666. NALEŻY PODAĆ IMIĘ I NAZWISKO, JAK I JĘZYK, W KTÓRYM WYMAGANE JEST TŁUMACZENIE

West Lothian savivaldybės pasiūlymas peržiūrėti ne denominacinių pradinį mokyklų pasiekiamumo zonas West Calder High School, James Young High School and Winchburgh Academy

Jeį norėtumėte šio dokumento kopijos prašome skambinti Catherine Campbell telefonu 01506 281666. PATEIKITE SAVO VARDA, ADRESA IR KALBĄ J KURIA NORĖTUMĖTE, KAD DOKUMENTAS BŪTŲ IŠVERSTAS.

Vestloziānas domes (*West Lothian Council*) priekšlikums pārskatīt nekonfesionālo pamatskolu – West Calder High School, James Young High School and Winchburgh Academy

Ja jūs vēlaties saņemt šī dokumenta eksemplāru, lūdzam zvanīt Catherine Campbell uz 01506 281666. JUMS JĀNORĀDA JŪSU VĀRDS, UZVĀRDS UN ADRESE, KĀ ARĪ VALODA, KURĀ JŪS VĒLATĪES ŠO DOKUMENTU SAŅEMT

بلدية ويست لوثيان West Lothian Council – عرض لمراجعة مناطق القبول العائدة للمدارس الابتدائية غير الدينية وذلك لكلا من مدرسة لينليثغو West Calder High School, James Young High School and Winchburgh Academy. ومدرسة سبرينج فيلد الابتدائية.

اذا رغبت بالحصول على نسخة من هذه الوثيقة ، فيرجى منك الاتصال بميلاني لوري Catherine Campbell على رقم الهاتف 01506 281666 وذكر اسمك وعنوان سكنك واللغة التي ترغب بأن تتم ترجمة هذه الوثيقة إليها.

ويست لوتهين كونسيل، لنلتهاگاؤ پرائمرى اسكول، لنلتهاگاؤ برج پرائمرى اسكول، اسپرنگ فيلڈ پرائمرى اسكول، لويورٹ پرائمرى اسكول اوريوگ بال پرائمرى اسكول پرايک غيرفرقه ورانه پرائمرى اسكول كے جغرافياى علاقوں كا جائزه لينے كى تجويز  
اگر آپ اس دستاویز كى ايک نقل حاصل كرنا چاہیں تو برائے مہربانی 01506 281666 پر ميلينى لاوری سے رابطہ کریں، اپنا نام، يتہ مہيا کرتے ہوئے اور اس زبان كے بارے ميں بتاتے ہوئے جس ميں آپ چاہتے ہيں كہ اس دستاویز كا ترجمہ كيا جائے

西洛錫安議會政府關於對 West Calder High School, James Young High School and Winchburgh Academy (林利斯戈小學) 林利斯戈橋小學)

如果您想要一份本文檔的副本，請致電給 Catherine Campbell，號碼是 01506 281666。請將您的姓名、地址和希望將該文件翻譯成的語言告訴我們。

West Lothian Council (西洛錫安议会) · 提议审查 West Calder High School, James Young High School and Winchburgh Academy.

如果您得到本文件的一份副本，请致电 Catherine Campbell 01506 281666 提供您的姓名地址和您希望以何种语言获得翻译文件

ওয়েস্ট লখিয়ান কাউন্সিল নির্দিষ্ট ধর্মীয় মূল্যবোধের বাইরের নিম্নোক্ত প্রাইমারি স্কুলগুলোর ক্যাসমেন্ট এরিয়া পর্যালোচনার ব্যাপারে প্রস্তাবনা করছে, স্কুলগুলো হল লিনলিথগো প্রাইমারি স্কুল, লিনলিথগো ব্রীজ প্রাইমারি স্কুল, স্প্রিং ফিল্ড প্রাইমারি স্কুল, লোপার্ট প্রাইমারি স্কুল এবং বগহাল প্রাইমারি স্কুলের

আপনি এই ডকুমেন্টটির একটি কপি পেতে চাইলে অনুগ্রহ পূর্বক মেলানি লরিকে 01506 281666  
নম্বরে টেলিফোন করুন। কল করার সময় আপনার নাম, ঠিকানা এবং আপনি যে ভাষাতে  
ডকুমেন্টটির অনূবাদ পেতে চান তা জানাবেন।