



**North Tyneside Council**

Diane Buckle  
Assistant Director for Education Learning and Skills  
North Tyneside Council  
Langdale Centre  
Langdale Gardens  
Howdon  
Wallsend  
NE28 0HG

**Tel: (0191) 643 7100**

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Dear

**Statutory consultation on changes to provision at the Melrose Centre and Southlands School**

I wrote to you in January following our informal consultation about the proposed changes to the Melrose Centre and Southlands School. My letter explained that the changes, if approved, mean that the Melrose Centre would be led by Southlands School. It would stay in the same location at Longbenton High School. This would provide stability for the pupils now at Melrose, who would remain there, and the existing staff team would continue to support them.

On 20 January the Council's Cabinet considered the outcome of the informal consultation and decided that there should now be a period of statutory consultation. This will begin on Thursday 27 February and end on Thursday 2 April 2020.

A Statutory Notice will be posted outside Longbenton High School and Southlands School and published in the press on 27 February. The Statutory Notice will also be posted on the engagement section of the [North Tyneside SEND Local Offer](#) website throughout the consultation period. The Statutory Notice will explain how you can respond to the proposal. If you would like a paper copy of the Statutory Notice to be sent to you in the post, please contact the Commissioning Team on 0191 643 8698 or e-mail [Commissioning@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:Commissioning@northtyneside.gov.uk). I will write to you again to update you when the statutory consultation has ended.

In the mean time if you have individual questions or concerns about your child and their Education Health and Care Plan please contact the SEND Support Service on 0191 643 8684.

You can get impartial information and advice from the Special Educational Needs and Disability Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS). This specialist service can help you with all aspects of special educational needs. Contact Details:

Amanda Durrant or Nicola Gregg tel. (0191) 643 8313 or (0191) 643 8317 or email: [SENDIASS@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:SENDIASS@northtyneside.gov.uk)

You may also want to contact the North Tyneside Parent Carer Forum – tel. (0191) 406 0018 or e-mail: [info@ntpcf.co.uk](mailto:info@ntpcf.co.uk)

Yours sincerely



**Diane Buckle**

Assistant Director for Education Learning and Skills