

| Citizen Space Comments | | | | | |
|---|---|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| BADEN POWELL / NIGHTINGALE | NIGHTINGALE (2FE) | COLVESTONE / PRINCESS MAY | DE BEAUVOIR | RANDAL CREMER | Response ID |
| Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School | Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE) - Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE) | Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School | Proposal to discontinue De Beauvoir Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 - Proposal to close discontinue De Beauvoir Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 | Proposal to discontinue Randal Cremer Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 - Proposal to discontinue Randal Cremer Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 | |
| | | | | I believe that the proposal to close Randal Cremer is sad and disappointing. The school is the heart of a community that not only serves to educate the pupils who attend, but supports whole families of past and present pupils. Pupils who have left us to either move on to other primary schools or to go to local secondary schools frequently visit and as staff, we still continue to provide the love and support we gave them when they attended. The pupils who are on roll are shown love, support and inclusion, all of which are unique to our school. I have been working at Randal Cremer for the past seven years, as an LSA and then I came back to complete my teacher training and now I am a teacher and subject leader. The children are not the only people to receive love and support. I chose to come back to continue my career because I have never felt the love and inclusion I have felt at Randal Cremer and I know that the children and their families feel the same. Throughout COVID we gave families a lifeline by providing food and a safe, comfortable place for children to continue their education, an experience that brought the school and its wider community even closer than it was before. By taking away this support network, families will not survive. We still have many children on roll and local schools are at their capacity. I worry for the children who are still here and where they will end up as they cannot travel to other schools, further away. We have a high number of SEN children on roll and I know we provide an outstanding provision for them. I worry for their future as many schools do not show the inclusion and love that we do, families are heavily supported by us. | ANON-UR67-ZX9U-M |
| Do not agree with this at all | Do not agree. This school has works because it is small | Princess May works well at it is now, this will not help it. Do not agree | Do not agree, leaves these schools alone | Do not agree | ANON-UR67-ZX9S-M ANON-UR67-ZX9T-K |
| | | I disagree with this amalgamation as this will reduce the number of schools in Hackney. What is the government doing? Why are you reducing services? Princess May Primary School has worked hard to bring up it's standards, why derail that by amalgamating it with another school? I vehemently object to this proposal. Please leave the schools separate and work to improve struggling schools and maintain the number of schools in Hackney. | | Randal Cremer is an excellent school with great staff and resources. I hope it remains open. I work with a family with multiple generations who have attended this school and had positive outcomes. | ANON-UR67-ZX9X-Q ANON-UR67-ZX9F-F |
| Strongly agree with this proposal. The benefit for all the student body is far reaching, with more modern facilities, little change to distance of travel to school, and opportunity to move to a new site with students from same school. It is also a much better use of public funds with a dramatic reduction in overheads, both office and leadership. | strongly agree, better use of facilities already available | | | | |
| | | I do not agree to this proposal. A strong case has been put forward for Colvestone to amalgamate with DeBeauvoir. The "consultation" has not given any consideration to any of the previously submitted evidence. The process feels tokenistic, and not a true consultation. | | | ANON-UR67-ZX9B-Q ANON-UR67-ZX9H-7 |
| I think this proposal will be beneficial for the children from both schools, giving them more opportunities to make friends and understand more kids from different backgrounds | Nightingale has plenty of space for 2FE and the facilities are excellent, which the children from Baden Powell will enjoy | It feels so disheartening to be writing to the council again and again when no one is listening. Following Colvestone Primary would be devastating not only for the dalston community but also for the SEND children of Hackney that NEED to be able to attend a one form entry school. We have presented evidence, we have run financial projections- we have been fighting this for so long- and no one is listening. I don't even know why you are bothering running this survey. | | | ANON-UR67-ZX9F-5 |
| | | I strongly oppose the closure of Colvestone School. Colvestone has a strong academic record, new (and encouraging) leadership, fascinating architectural history and favourable air pollution figures (compared to Princess May school). A large number of parents have expressed concern to me over the impact on parental choice, with many parents at Colvestone saying they would not send their child to Princess May. I also have grave concerns over the impact that closing Colvestone would have on SEND provision and the impact on staff. | | | ANON-UR67-ZX9Q-G |
| | | | | Please do not close this school or any school with out increasing the capacity and funding of all surrounding schools. The teaching and non teaching cohort off the proposed schools for closure should have been an opportunity to be redeployed this academic year. The entire process of these closures has been horrid. Threatening schools and families and then have these closure schools suffer a slow demise which is nasty to experience as a parent, staff member, student and community. Also please tell us what you're expecting to do with the buildings and facilities of the closed schools. | ANON-UR67-ZX9Z-H |
| Is closing a school short-sighted? Only a few years ago we had to create extra places in schools. What happens if the numbers rise in future? If closing a school, the remaining school should get a lot more resources - a proper building program to improve its facilities. | | Given that Princess May faces on one side a polluted high street and cannot have an effective school street, why not do this the other way around - close Princess May school instead? Is closing a school short-sighted? Only a few years ago we had to create extra places in schools. What happens if the numbers rise in future? If closing a school, the remaining school should get a lot more resources - a proper building program to improve its facilities. | Is closing a school short-sighted? Only a few years ago we had to create extra places in schools. What happens if the numbers rise in future? If closing a school, the remaining school should get a lot more resources - a proper building program to improve its facilities. | Is closing a school short-sighted? Only a few years ago we had to create extra places in schools. What happens if the numbers rise in future? If closing a school, the remaining school should get a lot more resources - a proper building program to improve its facilities. | ANON-UR67-ZX9A-Z |
| Baden Powell Primary School has a long history and has been an integral part of Primary school education history for years. It has produced graduates and successful people in the society. I strongly oppose the closure and I believe that there are ways to secure the future of Baden Powell. Baden Powell does not have to be closed. | | | | | ANON-UR67-ZX9Z-S |
| | | I object to the proposal of to discontinue Colvestone primary school | | I object to the discontinue of de beauvoir primary school | ANON-UR67-ZX9B-1 ANON-UR67-ZX9I-G |
| | My concerns as a parent of nightgale is the current size of the playgrounds seem to feel over crowded already,my concerns are if a two form entry is implemented how will effect the space in which the children manuve and play safely,what are guidelines in terms of space assigned to facilitate safe numbers ? My other concern is that year one is already mixed with year 3 and these ages are very different. How does increasing the numbers affect benefits the school apart from socially and financially,what example do we have of this work ? | | | | |

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| <p>Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School</p> <p>That is not a very logical move. After COVID, the numbers can be decreased, education is not only the area affected negatively, many things affected. Instead of closing the school families who live/ moved close by the school needs to be notified...as some schools are hidden and so many EAL families don't know where the closest school... please keep the schools how it is</p> | <p>Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE) - Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE)</p> | <p>Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School</p> <p>No... if the numbers increases, would council open a new school??? Many families don't know where the closest school are...</p> | <p>Proposal to discontinue De Beauvoir Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 - Proposal to close discontinue De Beauvoir Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006</p> <p>Such a beautiful, local school...it should not be close... families needs to be known where the closest school for them. Some families don't speak English especially who came to the country recently or refugees...</p> | <p>Proposal to discontinue Randal Cremer Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 - Proposal to discontinue Randal Cremer Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006</p> | |
| | | <p>Colvestone primary should remain open. It is right in the heart of dalston and close to the proposed building of 600 flats as per dalston plan. People with children will not want to live in dalston if you close all the primary schools. I'm not interested in sending my children to Princess may and not having a choice/option so will look at moving to a new area if colvestone closes.</p> <p>This is wrong on many levels. Colvestone is a unique and thriving school which has a huge potential to prosper in future, if given the chance to overcome current financial difficulties.</p> | <p>Too many schools closing in close proximity</p> | <p>Too many schools closing in close proximity</p> | ANON-UR67-ZX94-K |
| | | <p>The current financial state is a result of the incompetence of the previous management and can be greatly improved under the new management which is a lot better.</p> <p>There are other options to deal with the current issues and Colvestone could remain open while the council's efforts could be geared towards increasing student numbers in this school. It is a great school for its high numbers of SEN children.</p> <p>There are no good alternatives for many Colvestone pupils and if the school closes many children will find themselves in a very difficult situation when it comes to their education.</p> | | | ANON-UR67-ZX95-J ANON-UR67-ZXBU-W |

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| | | <p>Dear [Name] and [Name],</p> <p>Thank you so much for sharing your experience with me and for this insight into the excellent progress you and the school staff at Colvestone have helped [Name] to achieve. I really appreciate the photographs and the time you have taken to make this case and will pass this on to the Hackney Education team for careful consideration.</p> <p>As promised in the meeting, Deputy Mayor Bramble and I will liaise with the school re: meeting you and other parents and carers of children with SEND who are concerned by the proposals and the implications for you and your children, with a focus on ensuring you are supported during the current period of uncertainty.</p> <p>Best wishes, Caroline Cllr Caroline Woodley, Cazenove Ward Councillor Cabinet Member for Families, Parks and Leisure London Borough of Hackney</p> <p>We are writing to express our disagreement regarding the recent proposal to include Colvestone Primary School in the consultation to close schools in Dalston (Hackney) by Hackney Council. We are very disheartened by this proposal and in the worst case scenario that this is going ahead, in total honesty, this will have a tremendous effect on [Name]'s education and subsequently in her future academic life and our life.</p> <p>We believe this will be an ill-considered and damaging move for children especially for our SEN children, parents and carers and the community in this area. As one of the only non-religious, non-academy, non-free schools in Dalston, it should remain open to offer families the choice to be part of a small, close-knit community school – run by the local education authority.</p> <p>We live on ** and have been part of the Dalston community for a long time, we love our diverse community. We have chosen Colvestone Primary school for our little [Name], who is * years-old and [SEND] because it provides a required quick journey access to school (5 minutes), a safe and happy environment (that a small one form school offers) and a wonderful SEN support ([Name] has a experienced SEN one to one). These are the 3 fundamental poles for [Name] to access education. It has taken time and great effort for [Name] to be happy and settled in * school (** years now) and changing school at this stage will have an incredible difficult impact on * and it will be practically impossible for * to access education, and this also will have an enormous impact on * mental health.</p> <p>Let me give you a brief history of [Name]'s life so that you have an insight of where * is coming from:</p> <p>[Name] was diagnosed at 2.5 years' old with [SEND] by Hackney A&E (with severe delays in communications, severe delays in social interactions and severe repetitive behaviour). [Name] regressed from age 18 months, * was prior to that stage able to say 5 words: Maman, Daddy, cheese, hello and bye (I am ** and Daddy ** - I only spoke *** to [Name] from note to 2) and literally became non-verbal and lost * sounds capacity A, E, I, O, U, [Name] was now only screaming, lost eyes contact and only presented with repetitive behaviours. With tremendous tenacity we managed to access straight away Hackney services of Speech Therapy (once a week where Specs was implemented) and Portage ([Name] attended the later services for one year, at home and in the Garden (in pre-school) once a week afterwards). At this point when I thought I would get back to my career I realised that [Name] needed so much support and decided to stop my career to support [Name] full time and at this point I went on a mission and to become my child's therapist and a nucleus that would utilise all services offered and my own therapies. I taught myself an American therapy which is called ESDM (Early Start Denver Model), taking my child everyday to Gymboree (a pre-school private center) and implementing ESDM at the same time, helped also [Name] to support * physical mobility as at this stage * upper-body and hands were going upwards (I used daily a home school bench at home, making [Name] copying me standing on one leg and other leg and also using a climbing wall we had at home). With all these combination of supports from Hackney services and my own therapies, [Name] progressed, we retrieved * eye contacts and * body posture developed now to a straight posture. At the end of the year, when [Name] turned 3, Portage Coordinator asked me what we foresee for [Name] academically and I expressed at this point that [Name] could go mainstream to a nursery, which was 7mins from home. Portage facilitated transition to nursery and [Name] entered nursery with an EHCP and worked hard at making sure * has all support needed so that she attend nursery. The setting kept on using pecs for promoting speech and in 2019, when [Name] started to make the sound A, I, O, I found the Gemini therapy programme and within a month [Name]'s perceptive communications improved tremendously. We have used this programme since then and [Name] is now talking more, single words and understand everything we are saying to *. [Name] attended nursery for two years 3 days a week with allocated one to one.</p> <p>We then chose Colvestone Primary School because it is a one form small school and just 5 mins from home. [Name] remained in one corner of the Reception class for a term and half and by the end of that year * had ventured in all corners of the school with a phenomenal support of * allocated TA. * attended Reception (with of course the pandemic, and attended school during the second lock-down)</p> <p>When [Name] was in year *, after a week at school (Sept. ****) * refused to go to school and leave the house, it took us 7 months to bridge * back to school and as you can imagine, it was a real isolated work for us as [Name] didn't want to go out anymore but with great effort, determination and tedious work we thankfully managed for [Name] to be happy going out and then managed to bridge * back to school, with the School Senco we worked very hard collaboratively to get [Name] back and * did for the end of year one. [Teacher] has done a tremendous work. Now, we have complete faith in the school SEN support which as you may have heard from other families is not a given. [Name] has an EHCP and now a level 5 in funding which goes towards * SEN and * needs to be cared by someone all the time.</p> <p>But even though, we have all in place on paper, the tremendous work we have had to do with the school in order to secure [Name]'s support has been a real effort, as well as working hard to make sure that [Name] is happy attending Colvestone and this in view to attend * years at Colvestone to year ***.</p> <p>To be honest I can't believe we have to write this and the idea of this plan going ahead is very difficult for us and we are trying not to think about it!</p> <p>We know our child feels safe and happy at Colvestone, * receives a wonderful SEN support with a fantastic experienced SEN one to one [Teacher] and a brilliant *** [Teacher]. Moving our child to another school will be strongly difficult and disruptive in our child's education and have consequences on * achieving long term education goals. And it will take us years to get to where we are and by then, it will be the end of primary school. This will literally damage all the hard work we have put together for the past * years. I hope you realise the difficulty of what we have to do on a daily basis to get to where we are. We are working hard at [Name]'s school foundation so that * can thrive in the future and become the astronaut * want to be (I asked lately [Name] what * wanted to be and * astonishingly responded to me: "Astronaut" and repeatedly saying: "Captain [Name], to the rescue".</p> <p>I have added few pictures below so that you can see how amazing [Name] is doing at Colvestone. In January, [Name] was awarded a Colvestone's Achiever for:</p> <p>"[Name] enjoys the creative aspects of the curriculum. In art lessons and in Music, [Name] shows good level of engagement. [Name] takes part in daily phonics lessons where * is exploring environmental sounds with * peers. [Name] enjoys drawing and will often draw pictures that are detailed in design. [Name] has drawn pictures linked to * favourite stories, such as "Class *** at the Zoo". Which * enjoys listening to and reading alongside the adult, some of the known phrases. [Name] takes part in PE lessons and will join the class line when * knows that it is time for PE. Well done [Name]!" - [Name] went to receive * award in front for **)* assembly.</p> <p>Last Friday [Name] was awarded 100% attendance Award, there again [Name] during full school assemble stood up when * name was called and went to receive * award and came back to sit with everyone else aside [Teacher]. (see 100% attendance! Incredible! What a journey, what an amazing achievement! And this done to the wonderful work of the school, one to one, Senco, staffs and the Leadership team, [Teacher], [Teacher] and team.</p> <p>I also included a picture showing how [Name] is happy at school with [Teacher] during Easter parade.</p> <p>Colvestone is a unique primary school offering my child an opportunity to develop and thrive in a single-form entry, community-focussed environment, which we strongly believe in and is required. We strongly hope that our wonderful Colvestone Primary School can stay open and all is done to support our school and for our [Name] to keep accessing education as well as all the SEN children and all the children.</p> <p>Yours sincerely, [Name] & [Name] Parent of [Name] (Year *) at Colvestone Primary School</p> | | | <p>ANON-UR67-ZXB1-J</p> |

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| | | | Hackney new school is on a tiny site with no outside space. Why not use this site? Has the school site already been earmarked for housing because this seems bizarre to have so many kids in a tiny place and nowhere safe to play when an empty school building exists around the corner er. | | ANON-UR67-ZXBH-W |
| No | No | No | No | No | ANON-UR67-ZXB9-1 |
| Agree | Agree | Agree | Agree | St Paul's with St Michael's primary should be closed instead | ANON-UR67-ZXBH-G |
| | | I am against this proposal | | | ANON-UR67-ZXB3-U |
| | | We are writing to express our disagreement regarding the recent proposal to include Colvestone Primary School in the consultation to close schools in Dalston (Hackney) by Hackney Council. We are very disheartened by this proposal and in the worst case scenario that this is going ahead, in total honesty, this will have a tremendous effect on [Name]'s education and subsequently in " future academic life. We believe this will be an ill-considered and damaging move for children especially for our SEN children, parents and carers and the community in this area. As one of the only non-religious, non-academy, non-free schools in Dalston, it should remain open to offer families the choice to be part of a small, close-knit community school – run by the local education authority. We live on "" and have been part of the Dalston community for a long time, we love our diverse community. 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We strongly hope that our wonderful Colvestone Primary School can stay open and all is done to support our school and for our [Name] to keep accessing education as well as all the SEN children and all the children. Yours sincerely, [Name] & [Name] Parent of [Name] (Year ") at Colvestone Primary School | | ANON-UR67-ZXB2-T ANON-UR67-ZXB8-A ANON-UR67-ZX9M-C ANON-UR67-ZXB8-D ANON-UR67-ZXB8-F | |
| | | I strongly object to closing colvestone primary school. I object to the above proposal. Please don't shut COLVESTONE Strongly disagree | | | ANON-UR67-ZXB2-T ANON-UR67-ZXB8-A ANON-UR67-ZX9M-C ANON-UR67-ZXB8-D ANON-UR67-ZXB8-F |
| Do not close the school please | Please do not close the school | Please do not close this school, it is so important for the children to stay together, and nurture the community that has been built between students and staff. Colvestone is such a precious school, by merging with Princess May you would be destroying a family. I strongly object to losing Colvestone as a primary school in its own right. My two elder grandchildren excelled in their education at Colvestone and the welfare was excellent. Colvestone primary school is the beating heart of the area - it's has engendered a unique sense of community among the local families and serves as an important counterpoint / softening influence to Ridley road market. It's a brilliant building that has recently had work done to it and unlike Princess May - it is not on a main road, a real concern given pollution levels. Disagree | Please don't close this school | Do not close this school | ANON-UR67-ZXBB-A ANON-UR67-ZXBN-P |
| Disagree | DISAGREE | I very strongly object to this. Colvestone plays a vital role in the community and should not be closed. It would be ashamne to see this school closed after so many years, heritage will be lost. | Disagree | Disagree | ANON-UR67-ZXBW-Y ANON-UR67-ZXBK-C ANON-UR67-ZXBD-C |

| Citizen Space Comments | | | | | |
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| BADEN POWELL / NIGHTINGALE | NIGHTINGALE (2FE) | COLVESTONE / PRINCESS MAY | DE BEAUVOIR | RANDAL CREMER | Response ID |
| <p>Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School</p> <p>It's said that hackney is decreasing in pupil numbers making hackney in the near future to a couples only area.</p> | <p>Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE) - Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE)</p> <p>Is nightingale big enough to hold 2 forms of entry?</p> | <p>Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School</p> <p>Why doesn't two failing schools merge to become one instead?</p> <p>The school provides excellent education, the teachers are caring and due to the small number of classes the staff can support the welfare of the students in the difficult post Covid traumas</p> <p>I object to this. Colvestone is a great school with an amazing community and it's important that it stays the way it is.</p> <p>I am against Colvestone Primary School as there are many children with learning difficulties and autism that Princess May could not deal with. It will also destroy the community. Colvestone is an established and friendly, nurturing school. It will be a huge disservice to the children who attend to merge it. Please re-consider</p> <p>I strongly oppose because Colvestone has a high proportion of vulnerable SEN children who should be protected and allowed to remain at Colvestone, not uprooted and sent to Princess May on a very busy main road. This is abuse of vulnerable children in your care.</p> <p>I do not support the proposal to amalgamate Colvestone primary with Princess May. We want Colvestone Primary to remain as it is in the original site and open. Thanks.</p> <p>Absolutely against this proposition.</p> <p>Such a significant part of our community</p> <p>No . My daughter came here from a different school. We just moved here. While we were expecting it to be difficult to get used to, my daughter adapted to school very quickly and loved it. I can't wait for her to get used to it by taking her to a different school once again. This will be very difficult for him. We do not want school to be stopped. Thanks</p> <p>I has become evident that it makes not one bit of difference to how we respond to these fake consultations, that council has made a plan, they defend it with everything they have, even lies and none of what anyone is saying is shaping the proposals.</p> <p>At the beginning of the process and put in a lot of effort, time and words to explain why closing Colvestone Primary School is not the correct solution to combat the growth in vacant places across the borough. Many parents from this school did the same. We demonstrated how the data, which the council is relying on is inaccurate and unreliable, why Colvestone is crucial to the community of Dalston and a unique desirable parental choice for local families. This has all been for nothing.</p> <p>Hackney Labour are feeling so secure and powerful in this borough without any oversight or meaningful debate, which as led to such fake democracy. We've had several rounds of consultation to make it look like there is a dialogue, but in fact the council has made no effort whatsoever to determine what it is Hackney parents want for their children (i.e. proximity, size, faith/non faith etc) and no effort to deliver a vision, which families wish for. Hackney Labour is fueling the departure of families from the borough and risk of 'run-for-profit education'. I am so utterly disappointed in how weak, shortsighted and disengaged the current leadership is.</p> <p>As parents we are no longer just fighting against the closure of Colvestone, but the overall management of Hackney Education. We will do everything we can to bring more scrutiny to the appalling form of leadership by the Labour Party. If necessary we will take this fight to Judicial Review.</p> <p>This school has been in existence for so long and is at the heart of the local community. To close it and amalgamate to princess may school is so sad and shouldn't happen. Schools of this age and stature should be cherished, funded properly and left alone to survive for eternity. This proposal must be canceled.</p> <p>Colvestone is uniquely placed as a one-form entry, non-religious, non-academy, non-free school which should be celebrated instead of being punished - it is harder for the council to propose to close religious schools, free schools or academies so it chooses the easier option of proposing to close this school instead of protecting it.</p> <p>Colvestone School is a listed Victorian purpose-built which should remain true to the purpose it has been fulfilling for over 150 years. Too many new schools in the area are occupying completely unsuitable buildings eg Halley House which has no outside space to speak of.</p> <p>Colvestone is in the centre of the Dalston Plan which says it will build family homes. Colvestone needs to be kept open as it is the closest school to this development.</p> <p>Colvestone Crescent is planned to turn into a 21st Century Street, Hackney's first permanent play street. Crucial to this plan is that it's located next to a primary school. Colvestone School is essential to this ground-breaking project.</p> <p>Hackney Council need to look solutions for the dropping enrolment in the borough: lack of affordable family homes.</p> <p>I strongly disagree with this proposal. Colvestone Primary School is a unique offering within Dalston, the small, one-form entry school is especially nurturing and supportive for children who will struggle in a larger, busier environment. SEND and other children who are particularly suited to a smaller school. Hackney is a wonderful, vibrant place to live but it is also hectic and noisy for primary-age children and Colvestone offers respite from this, which I don't believe will be replicated in a larger school like Princess May, partly because of the size but also because of the location on a busy main road and the longer journey time which we would have to travel there. I feel that discontinuing Colvestone is very shortsighted and that not enough value is being placed on its unique offering.</p> <p>My family are seriously considering moving out of Hackney if Colvestone Primary is discontinued because we want to find a school with a similar feel and ethos and we don't think this is possible within the schools which have vacancies in our vicinity. So this proposal will potentially drive more families out of the area.</p> <p>I would like to express my serious concern and dismay at the proposal to amalgamate Colvestone school.</p> <p>Colvestone is a successful, intimate school in a purpose built listed building offering the children of local families a calm and inclusive educational environment in which they can thrive.</p> <p>Unusually it offers a maintained (ie free) nursery facility in a separate space providing a seamless progression to the main school.</p> <p>More broadly, the proposals seem to ignore the transformative 'Dalston Plan' which comprises of 600 new homes (including 200 affordable family homes). These would place Colvestone as the school nearest to and best serving the new found needs.</p> <p>For years Colvestone has shown great energy and commitment to the local community, be it fundraising for deserved improvements to the school, to fighting insensitive developments encroaching on its space.</p> <p>Far from being threatened with closure it deserves full backing and recognition for the important function it serves in the area. Please reconsider these plans.</p> <p>It's a terrible idea. Do not discontinue Colvestone School.</p> <p>One entry form is a safe way possible for my child with (SEND) its not too crowded * is very comfortable loves to go school before the new headteacher started my [child] had meltdowns to not go school* hated now everything is changed for [child] * has developed learned even saying words I personally love colvestone primary school too. I have seen so many improvement in my [child] dont want to start from fresh as we have made a long process for * to get to the stage * is in.</p> <p>I strongly disagree with closing this perfectly good school. With extensive building for family homes planned in the area it seems very shortsighted to cut provisions for the local area at this time. In addition, one form entry schools have strong advantages over multiple entry schools in almost every peer reviewed study which suggest the councils decision is financial rather than in the interest of the local community. Colvestone is a priceless resource that the council has undervalued and once sold, it will never be able to be returned to the local community.</p> <p>Disagree as colvestone is a valued community school and essential to the dalston plan</p> <p>I am not supportive of the amalgamation with Princess May and wish for Colvestone to remain open. I still do not understand why the children from the two local schools due to close are not placed on school roll at Colvestone and Princess May to increase numbers</p> <p>My children have just started here having moved to the area. It has been amazing and welcoming for them and they have settled with no issues and made friends. The school really is a community and I have no doubt that if kept open the enrolment numbers would go up (people are leaving because they think the decision has already been made). I have heard nothing but praise from other partners and this is particularly where children have additional support needs. For my gender non conforming child the school has been open and accommodating and normalising. It would be such a shame for the school to close.</p> <p>Colvestone is a wonderful school. She lives up the neighborhood.</p> <p>I object</p> <p>No I do not agree with this</p> <p>I don't believe this decision has been properly thought through with regard to actual numbers of TEACHERS and students in the schools the Colvestone (and other schools) pupils would be distributed to. It is shortsighted and foolish to crash ahead without reexamining the grounds for this decision, and it's repercussions.</p> <p>I strongly disagree with amalgamation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Colvestone Primary School has a proven track record for successfully receiving children with disability where all others in London, even far west have failed. -Traditional schools where money was invested in a building that lasts need saving. -Schools of a single stream are essential to reasonable life and a valuable legacy to London as a whole. -Colvestone School has the best air quality because of its distance from main roads and children's health should be considered over and above teaching. <p>Disagree. As it stands, Colvestone Primary School is of immense value to the local community and would lose inherent value and tradition by being merged with Princess May Primary School.</p> <p>Opposed- the school is needed for the community and the children.</p> <p>Keep this lovely Victorian school small and focussed on the local community; not amalgamated</p> <p>Keep this small caring school open and relevant to the local community</p> | <p>I'm glad.</p> | <p>Okay</p> <p>Hi,</p> <p>Had there been any assessment on the impact of this in nearby schools?</p> <p>Sebright school is one of the closest, is there work being done w these schools to prepare for a surge in applications or increased demand?</p> <p>Also, what happens to the site? Randall cremner has a lovely historical building, will it be protected?</p> | <p>ANON-UR67-ZXB1-S</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXB6-X</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXB7-Y</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXBR-T</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXB4-V</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXBV-1</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXBS-U</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXBM-N</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYU-M</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXY5-M</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYT-K</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYQ-Q</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYP-F</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXY9-R</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXY8-Q</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYX-N</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYH-7</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYF-5</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYG-Q</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXY3-J</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXY2-C</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXY2-H</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYZ-S</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYE-4</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYE-6</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXYB-1</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXN-D</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXY-A</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXW-P</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXD-3</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZX1-G</p> |

| Citizen Space Comments | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|------------------|
| BADEN POWELL / NIGHTINGALE | NIGHTINGALE (2FE) | COLVESTONE / PRINCESS MAY | DE BEAUVOIR | RANDAL CREMER | Response ID |
| Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School | Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE) - Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE) | Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School | Proposal to discontinue De Beauvoir Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 - Proposal to close/discontinue De Beauvoir Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 | Proposal to discontinue Randal Cremer Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 - Proposal to discontinue Randal Cremer Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 | |
| | | Merging Colvestone Primary with Princess May is a very short sighted move from Hackney Council and not well thought through. Closing so many schools in the area will lead to a squeeze of school places in the near future. Colvestone is a single form entry school which don't really exist anymore despite being crucial for SEND children. My own children benefited from the wonderful environment Colvestone provided, academically and socially, and gave them the best start into further education a child could wish for. That is the reason why I now send my third child back to Colvestone despite the threatening closure which I hope will not go ahead. Colvestone's building on the proposed 21st century road is the perfect location for children - with cleaner air than many other schools. Please do not go ahead with the plans and keep Colvestone open. You owe it to the children and the staff who are doing a brilliant job despite everything that's going on. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXV7-P |
| | | This is a unique one form entry's hook in a historic building with a diverse group of pupils - this school represents what Hackney is all about DO NOT CLOSE IT | | | ANON-UR67-ZXV8-H |
| | | I am not sure what to say now. I have sent so many message and emails trying to argue against this proposal in the various consultation phases that filling in this box seems rather pointless. Overall I think the proposals to close both Colvestone and De Beauvoir and leave Dalston without any places at a local community school are shameful - Holy Trinity and Princess May have both restructured since this process began and there are no longer a surplus of places locally - in fact there is a shortage. If you continue with this proposal you will force parents to choose faith schools or out of borough. AND/OR you force Princess May to take an unknown number of pupils and put them in a difficult position. We have argued that Colvestone is unique with the proposed 21st Century Street outside and Grade 11 listed building and a new leadership that is making rapid improvements. As a parent at the school, I will not be sending my child to Princess May but will be looking at other options. Colvestone is a great school whose families want to stay and Dalston needs more spaces in community schools not less! Please look again at the figures locally and rethink the proposals. We know that we need to increase pupil numbers but that is impossible with this proposal hanging over us. Stop the proposal to close Colvestone and encourage families from Randal Cremer and De Beauvoir to come to here. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXV6-N |
| We want small local schools and strongly oppose the dismantling of our local communities and we strongly oppose attempts to destroy small schools to pave the way for large academies. | We strongly oppose plans to increase the number of forms. We want the school to remain a single form entry. | We want small local schools and strongly oppose the dismantling of our local communities and we strongly oppose attempts to destroy small schools to pave the way for large academies. | Strongly oppose | Strongly oppose | ANON-UR67-ZXV4-K |
| Please do not close this school. School closures are terribly disruptive for children, staff and parents. Small classes sizes benefit children. Once closed these schools can only be reopened as academies which are secretive undemocratic institutions as opposed to democratically controlled council schools. | | Please do not close this school. School closures are terribly disruptive for children, staff and parents. Small class sizes are good for children. Once closed, these schools can only be reopened as secretive undemocratic academies as opposed to democratically controlled council schools. | Please do not close this school. School closures are terribly disruptive for children, staff and parents. Small class sizes are good for children. Once closed, these schools can only be reopened as secretive undemocratic academies as opposed to democratically controlled council schools. | Please do not close this school. School closures are terribly disruptive for children, staff and parents. Small class sizes are good for children. Once closed, these schools can only be reopened as secretive undemocratic academies as opposed to democratically controlled council schools. | ANON-UR67-ZXYY-R |
| | | I am not in support of this proposal as a relative's child is happy at Colvestone where their individual needs are being met well. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXYS-J |
| | | This is an ill-advised and badly founded proposal, which ignores all the findings from the consultation. Closing a really good school which plays a key role in a local community, has a very high percentage of SEND, also the only local school for the proposed 500 dwellings in the Dalston plan, continues to be a disastrous proposal and the council is not listening to the evidence. The evidence suggests that the proposal goes against all of the council's own proposals and policies on education (including its own 21st century plan). | | | ANON-UR67-ZXYM-C |
| | | I as a parent and local inhabitant refuse the validity of this proposal and completely disagree with it. The financial claims made by the Council as a reasoning behind it are false, have not been proven nor researched, there are no models or actual calculations that have been made after the very first proposal, so none of the financial consequences are based on fact. Closing this school actually creates a lack of local places should all proposals proceed, putting local families in a position of having to commute quite far and having no local choices. Finally I question the legality of the consultation itself, as my experience has been a disaster, with the council misleading me as to the terms of the consultation, not giving proper notice for events, not carrying out what they say they will do, not listening to parents, not consulting the local community. This is a failure of local democracy and it is in direct contradiction with Labour's policies, alienating your local voter base. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXMU-8 |
| | | This is unacceptable. I have 2 neurodivergent children who cannot be accommodated by other schools and I will have to go out of borough. We have not been heard and our appeals and questions have gone unanswered. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXWU-M |
| | | Very sad if the most prominent of the Birkbeck Schools - 1862 and still serving the local community today - is to close. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXMS-8 |
| | | I am writing to express my disagreement regarding the recent proposal to include Colvestone Primary School in the consultation to close schools in Hackney. I believe this will be an ill-considered and damaging move for children, parents and carers in this area. As one of the only non-religious, non-academy, non-free schools in Dalston, it should remain open to offer families the choice to be part of a small, close-knit community school - run by the local education authority. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXMT-7 |
| | | As a parent of a child at Colvestone Primary School, I know my child feels happy at Colvestone and is thriving academically. We have been part of the school community for over four years. Moving my child to another school will be upsetting and disruptive to her especially given that it took us almost three years for her to settle in and stop crying at drop off every single day. | | | |
| | | Only days before we were given the news of your plans, you tweeted your commitment to SEND provision in the Borough. Here is your chance to prove that commitment to the SEND children at Colvestone who would find this move particularly distressing. | | | |
| | | Personally, I'm particularly concerned about the move to Princess May and the children being exposed to further harmful pollution. I think it's quite frankly laughable that you love call yourselves a 'greener' Borough with a vision of 'low traffic neighbourhoods' and yet you clearly see no issue with our children being moved right next to the A10 with constant traffic over the fence at break times. In case you've forgotten this 'vision' please, see below link: https://news.hackney.gov.uk/low-traffic-hackney-at-heart-of-vision-for-greener-healthier-borough/ | | | |
| | | The new leadership team, through the Blossom Federation partnership, has made a positive impact on the school - and with the extra funding from Hackney Council - we have seen great improvements to the facilities, redecoration of internal spaces and a renewed energy at the school. | | | |
| | | Colvestone is a unique primary school offering my child an opportunity to develop and thrive in a single-form entry, community-focused environment. It is very narrow minded to think that closure is the only way forward here and we will fight you every step of the way! We will not allow you the opportunity to shaft our children and families in order for to make money from the sale of the school site to the highest developer bid to create more multi-million pound 'luxury apartments' that nobody in the community can afford. | | | |
| Do not agree | Do not agree | This is absolutely disgusting behaviour from a Labour Council which is behaving no better than the Tories!! | | | ANON-UR67-ZXM9-C |

| Citizen Space Comments | | | | | |
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| <p>Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School</p> | <p>Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE) - Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE)</p> | <p>Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School</p> | <p>Proposal to discontinue De Beauvoir Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 - Proposal to close discontinue De Beauvoir Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006</p> | <p>Proposal to discontinue Randal Cremer Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 - Proposal to discontinue Randal Cremer Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006</p> | |
| | | <p>I object completely, and in the strongest terms, to this proposal.</p> <p>There is no good reason to force this closure on Colvestone Primary School, and force it to amalgamate with Princess May Primary School. It is I believe unnecessary and wrong – misguided, myopic, and a needless violence against the hundreds of children and families who will be harmed by your action.</p> <p>Under new leadership Colvestone Primary has a lack of recent deficit: Blossom Federation – who also run 3 other schools successfully in the borough – are the new leadership of Colvestone Primary since 2022. The Federation has turned a budget surplus – despite a low pupil roll – in its first 6 months in charge. So doing Blossom Federation has shown that the school can be financially viable under its new leadership. We, as parents, carers and students, love the stability and improved facilities Blossom Federation has brought the school. Colvestone is financially viable in the future.</p> <p>Colvestone Primary is core to the future of Dalston: It is situated central to your (now) approved policy Hackney's first 21st Century Street on Colvestone Crescent. Without families, children and the school it was envisaged around, this street will be a tragic token. Furthermore, Colvestone Primary is situated just 200m from the recently approved Dalston 2033 development plans. To me and my family it feels wrong, simply bad policy, tragically myopic, and needlessly violent, of the council to close this successful, high-academic achieving community school, when plans are in place to build affordable housing, and create civic environments/streets designed to attract families but with no school within a short walking distance.</p> <p>It is clear from the information we shared with you during our public meeting on April 24th, 2023, and the summary document we submitted in advance of the cabinet meeting on May 22nd, 2023, that with the support from Hackney Council, Colvestone Primary can turn into an – even more – definitive example of a one-form entry, local authority school to attract pupils from across the borough, and beyond, in a pioneering future facing 21st century street.</p> <p>As parents we worked hard to produce and submit that summary document of reasons to you in advance of the cabinet meeting on May 22nd, 2023. Please read it if you have not done so, and take time (as professionals) to re-read it (carefully, professionally, and with integrity) – again – if you have already. In it you will find our additional and very clear evidence for why Colvestone Primary should not be closed (or as you choose to describe it 'discontinued'), and, Hackney Education's proposal is flawed.</p> <p>As you will see, with careful planning, Colvestone can serve as an even-more attractive, local, one-form community school that parents from the closed schools will want to send their children to. To re-iterate, as well as the lack of deficit under our new leadership, key reasons are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of parental choice <p>The closure of Colvestone (and nearby De Beauvoir) would mean there would be no non-faith, one-form entry local authority schools within a mile of the Colvestone building. Our local area would be dominated by religious schools, free schools and academies, which are currently not being considered for closure, regardless of numbers. This is simply wrong.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impact on the Dalston development plan <p>Colvestone plays a key role in the Council's development in Dalston. Closing Colvestone will have a significant impact on the new housing developments and plans for greener, pedestrian spaces. Closing Colvestone will also mark a tragic absence – children and families – in Hackney's 21st Century Street on Colvestone Crescent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impact on children with special educational needs <p>Seven percent of Colvestone students have an Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP), more than well above the 4.3 percent average across the borough. Many of these children would find the transition particularly challenging. Closing a school with such an unusually high proportion of the most vulnerable children is cruel. In doing so you are choosing to harm these children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Air pollution <p>The Council is proposing to send students from Colvestone to Princess May, whose main playground is right next to the A10. (Even) the Council's (own) air quality monitoring system shows Princess May had 40 percent higher levels of Nitrogen Oxide (NO2) in 2021 than Colvestone. Adding more students to a school closer to the A10 with higher pollution levels is a backwards step in the effort to reduce children's exposure to air pollution. In doing so, again, you are choosing to harm our children.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Historical significance <p>Built in 1852, Colvestone is a Grade 2 listed building, the last remaining William Ellis/Birkbeck school. Closing it would mean shutting the last surviving example of an important 19th century radical education movement. This is a loss of national significance.</p> <p>Finally, we did not choose Princess May (it was a second choice school for only a very small percentage of Colvestone families). We do not want our children to go there. We chose, and want our children to go to, Colvestone Primary School, like all of the other families who send their children to this wonderful school.</p> <p>As is clear from the above, there is no reason to force this merger and closure on Colvestone and its families. Doing so, you are choosing to do lasting, life-long, harm to children and families. Please do not act with such violence towards our children, us, and Colvestone's children and families. Please do not close Colvestone.</p> | | ANON-UR67-ZXMP-3 | |
| | | <p>This is frustrating for parents and pupils . The school is fine so well as well as the kids . Why would you close and amalgamate it with Princess may which is in the main road.If I wanted princess may I would have gone in the 1 st place I do not need to be guided or referred there .</p> | | | ANON-UR67-ZXMB-B |
| | | <p>I don't agree that colveston primary school closes . Please reconsider .</p> | | | ANON-UR67-ZXMP-9 |
| | | <p>This school has long been at the heart of a community, with a unique single form pupil body housed in a historic building. It would have a detrimental effect on Dalston and the area to lose this important social glue, and create pressure on other schools and student bodies. It is horribly short-sighted and limits the prospects of a generation of children - to be replaced by what, more unaffordable housing?</p> | | | ANON-UR67-ZXMH-U |
| | | <p>The council is making a huge mistake if it decides with the proposal. Colvestone primary is a really good school which has contributed immensely to my son's (SEND) development. The teachers and staffs are dedicated, friendly, helpful. They treat my son with respect and dignity. Taking my son from his former school to Colvestone has been a big blessing to us. The location of the school is top notch, it is well secured, less hazard and less environmental pollution. The school is not over crowded which gave my son control and awareness of his environment, not too stimulated for him and the fear of bullying has been eliminated. My son doesn't have any anxiety going to school.</p> | | | ANON-UR67-ZXMF-S |

| Citizen Space Comments | | | | | |
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| BADEN POWELL / NIGHTINGALE | NIGHTINGALE (2FE) | COLVESTONE / PRINCESS MAY | DE BEAUVOIR | RANDAL CREMER | Response ID |
| <p>Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School</p> <p>Dear Hackney Council,</p> <p>I am writing to express my objections to the proposed closures of Baden Powell, Colvestone, De Beauvoir, and Randal Cremer primary schools, and I have set out below why I believe these closures, and any cuts to schools in the borough, must be rejected.</p> <p>Eroding community in the heart of Hackney: these schools, and the staff who work in them, have been pillars of education in our community for decades. Their closure would be a devastating loss for current and future generations. This is an opportunity to reduce class sizes and improve education in the borough, not make it worse.</p> <p>Forced redundancies: these are not amalgamations, they are closures. Staff in these schools worked throughout Covid, and are some of the most under-paid and overworked in the whole borough. They are being rewarded with forced redundancies and financial insecurity. All schools should remain open so excellent staff who have served the community for many years are retained, and can continue to provide excellent standards of education.</p> <p>Disruption to families' lives: many pupils will be separated from their friends at a key time in their lives, with SEN pupils who have built relationships with staff particularly affected. Relationships between Families will be forced into longer commutes.</p> <p>SEN pupils: Hackney council spends vast amounts of money sending SEN pupils to be educated outside the borough, due to a lack of SEN resource bases. 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| | | <p>My daughter goes to Colvestone Primary School which, in this proposal, is planned to close. However, Princess May Primary School is not a school that I would choose for her to attend and was not one of my choices when applying for a primary school in the borough of Hackney. There are a number of reasons for this:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Colvestone Primary School is a small, welcoming, creative school with a unique feel and benefits hugely from single form entry in terms of the focus and attention this affords the teachers and pupils. In conversations with other parents the reasons they repeatedly give for choosing Colvestone Primary are exactly these and are the reasons that I chose Colvestone. As a smaller single form entry school I believe this affords more individual attention and a more nurturing environment which has benefited her development and learning. Choosing a single form entry school was a deliberate choice based on the experience we wanted for our daughter and the closure of Colvestone Primary School would unfairly remove parental choice for this form of school in the borough. 2. Colvestone Primary School is in a sheltered but stimulating area of Dalston which provides distance from traffic pollution but exposes our daughter to the bustling market life of Ridley Road Market and all the community and history that accompanies it. The pollution levels at Princess May Primary were 40% higher than Colvestone Primary School in 2021 due to the extremely busy main road that the school sits on. With 70% of eligible roads in Hackney becoming LTNs and the councils drive to promote LTNs in the borough the diverted volume of traffic is only going to increase this pollution. Also, the risks and dangers of having my child arriving and leaving a school on such a busy main road are not risks and dangers I would ever choose. 3. Colvestone Primary School is not a Free School, a Faith School or an Academy. I chose Colvestone Primary School because I believe in the Council State-run school model. I am bewildered as to why so many Free Schools and Academies have been granted permission to open with no consideration for the possibility of fluctuating pupil numbers. Why was there a lack of focus on the healthy maintenance of the existing schools in the borough? <p>My daughter has had a fair amount of disruption in her Education already with COVID, redundancies and a change of Head teacher. The council's proposal to close the school is another forced disruption which is not taking her education and well being as its priority.</p> <p>The consultation has listed 6 out of 38 primary schools in the borough to merge or close but Paul Senior, in a consultation meeting on the 27th of June, said this is only the first stage of the 'process' and more schools, including faith and free schools, would be consulted in the next stages. If Princess May Primary is included in the next stage of closures this will mean more disruption to my daughter's education which, as a parent, makes me question whether the well being of my daughter and her education is a priority to Hackney Council and whether the borough is the best choice for raising a family.</p> <p>This brings me as to why the consultation has chosen Colvestone Primary School as a school that needs to close. The reasons for placing Colvestone Primary School on the list of potential closures is unclear and has been unclear from the start. In a number of meetings with Paul Senior the only reason given was that Princess May Primary is a larger building with a two form entry so can accommodate more children. Again, this does not imply that the children are at the forefront of this 'process' and purely financial and logistical factors are at the forefront. I am aware that all schools in the borough are facing financial challenges due to falling child numbers but Colvestone Primary, under its new Blossom Foundation partnership and with proactive help from Hackney Council, has started to reverse its financial situation and is on a path to recovery. To close it now would remove the schools chance to complete its journey of recovery and remove its potential to become a strong and flourishing asset to the borough.</p> <p>I feel that the consultation 'process' as a whole has been completely unfair to the six schools thrown into the melting pot with no solid reasons given as to why they have been singled out. If this was a fair and considerate consultation all schools in the borough would have been included in the 'process' from day one. The six schools chosen are now having to fill their enrolment quotas for the coming school year with the shadow of closure hanging heavily above them. This is obviously going to have a massive negative influence on their success. If this was a 'consultation' I do not understand why Hackney Council would put a small number of the borough's schools at such a debilitating disadvantage.</p> <p>There have been discussion as to what will happen to the Colvestone School building when it is closed as an educational establishment. The council has stated that it will not be sold and will be kept as a 'closed school' with the potential to reopen. Surely the cost of moth-balling a historic building, already undergoing remedial work, will be considerable. Could we not forecast the potential spending of these funds into the existing and active 'school'? In the duration of this consultation I have not heard of any creative 'outside the box' suggestions to counteract the closure of Colvestone Primary School, only that numbers of children in the borough have fallen and so we must close schools. This also highlights a bigger question as to where Hackney Councils sees the future of the borough and whether this included the a thriving family friendly, diverse and desirable borough with children at its heart.</p> <p>I am grateful for the chance to put forward my concerns and objections to the closure of Colvestone Primary School as my daughter loves attending the school and the closure would leave a gaping and irreversible hole in the community of Dalston. We, as a family, have chosen to make Hackney our home and I hope the council will listen to ours and all the voices put forward to find a way to prove that children in the borough are its foremost priority.</p> | | | ANON-UR67-ZXMS-6 |

| Citizen Space Comments | | | | | |
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| <p>Baden Powell has been a school which has been loved by the community and many members of Hackney. Baden Powell is unique to nightingale and I feel it would be negatively impactful to lose the school, not only would families struggle to find schools and a educational home for their children, the impact of staff losing their jobs and losing something beloved to the community I feel will cause a negative impact. Many cuts can be made, but education is important therefore cutting Baden Powell with the history it holds and all the great impact it's had would be detrimental. I don't feel educational institutions should ever be cut as this is a important pillar to the community, and located and situated in a good space for a lot of families.</p> | <p>I do not know much about nightingale to comment, however if this will positively impact society, community and everyone collectively it's worth it. With negative changes there's only a sequence of negative events to follow, so right choices are important.</p> | <p>My answer is the same as my 2nd response</p> | <p>Inspections are important if this inspection is crucial to the safety and well-being of other then I do not see why this should be discontinued</p> | <p>I believe inspections are crucial and should not be cut</p> | <p>ANON-UR67-ZXM2-5</p> |
| <p>Against the closer of Baden Powell school.</p> | <p>Nightingale was designed to be an two form school. That is fine, but they should not be allowed to close a school in order to fill spaces.</p> | <p>Disapprove of Colvestone School closing</p> | <p>Against De Beauvoir closer.</p> | <p>Also against Randal Cremer Primary school closing.</p> | <p>ANON-UR67-ZXMA-M</p> |
| <p>It's terribly upsetting that the school is being CLOSED. It is not a merger of students and staff IT'S A SCHOOL CLOSURE. The staff are a community a family who are being forcefully being separated. Many of us are suffering anxiously with the unknown. The cost of living crisis, no job. The uncertainty is stressful.</p> | <p>Nightingale can continue to run as a 1 form entry. Staff there will have jobs unlike the rest of us.</p> | | | | <p>ANON-UR67-ZXMZ-D</p> |
| <p>[Name]</p> | | <p>I am against the proposals. Hackney needs one form entry schools and this some was purpose built. In the long run it will cost Hackney more money to support the SEND children who are happy at Colvestone as their needs will increase. We are on a 21st Century street and the school is key. Please take us off the list for closure so we can encourage new students to come to the school as we have shown what a strong community we have through this difficult process.</p> <p>Deeply disagree with this proposal. Colvestone has been an exemplary example of a small primary school delivering great learning outcomes. We need to retain some smaller primary schools to suit children who need this environment to thrive and gain confidence. It is extremely shortsighted to discontinue this school.</p> <p>Oppose this proposal as Colvestone school is at the heart of our community and a unique one form entry school which supports children with additional educational needs.</p> | | | <p>ANON-UR67-ZXME-R</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXMG-T</p> |
| <p>Disagree</p> | | <p>Disagree with the proposal due to it being a community school and my daughter absolutely loving the school.</p> <p>This is a terrible proposal. Colvestone is the beating heart of Dalston. It's a thriving school in an area with no other single form entry schools. It's on a school street, it's away from a main road so has lower pollution levels than Princess May. It excels at supporting children with SEN. The playground is an asset of community value. Please don't close Colvestone.</p> <p>Please keep Colvestone Primary open. Our 2 children are incredibly happy there, the staff are incredible and no one wants it to close!</p> <p>No, important for the community and the safety of the area.</p> | | <p>Disagree</p> | <p>ANON-UR67-ZXMB-N</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXMN-1</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXMW-A</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXMK-X</p> |
| | | | | | <p>ANON-UR67-ZXMI-4</p> <p>ANON-UR67-ZXMG-9</p> |

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| n/a | n/a | n/a | n/a | Although I fully understand the reasoning behind the closure I would like to make the following points: 1. It is a tragedy that a school that has served the community for nearly 150 years is closed whilst schools opened within the last decade are protected because of their academy status. I appreciate Hackney Council's attempt to raise this at a governmental level. My concern is that more primary schools will take the academisation route in order to protect themselves from potential future closures. This will further weaken the Local Authority's decision making. 2. The process of consultation has been too long leading to children leaving each week. Future consultations need to be shorter and also parents given clear information about how the transfers will be managed - for example through a similar process to Reception or Y1 to 6 transition. Too much of the communication with parents included the right to request an In Year Transfer at any time rather than a clearly communicated plan about how children would be placed in preferred schools. This has been difficult to manage not only for the closing schools but also schools receiving children. 3. The strategy for Hackney Education needs to be shared and shaped by educators and Unions alongside the council. 4. Care must be taken over how some of the most marginalised residents of Hackney are kept informed and supported. More affluent and confident parents from other schools seem to have a louder voice which has made the process even more difficult for the school community. As the [title] of Randal Cremer I have been raising the issue of falling rolls for 7 years and although the process has been difficult and challenging, I also know how difficult it is to provide a quality of education for children when budgets are forever shrinking and staffing is having to be reduced. Difficult decisions do need to be made but also alongside this there needs to be efforts to show parents who seem only to choose a small number of preferred schools just how amazing other local schools are. It saddens me that some schools are oversubscribed with waiting lists whereas other, equally good schools are not considered. | ANON-UR67-ZXM7-A |
| | | Please think about the impact the closure of all these schools will have on the children, the staff, the parents and the communities. Hackney Council could be supporting all these people, but it is choosing not to. It is not too late to step away from this process and find a more constructive and community focussed response. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXM4-7 |
| | | I object to this proposal on the following grounds: 1) Higher pollution levels at princess May school, affecting all the children but particularly those with asthma and other breathing issues 2) closure of the only one form entry school that parents chose because of its size. It's also the easiest school to "fill" 3) the building has a covenant that means it can only be used for educational purposes. So to keep the school will be a huge waste of local taxpayers money. Princess May CAN be turned into flats. Colvestone can't. 4) If the school age numbers are dropping across the Borough why have all schools across the borough not been reviewed and included in the consultation? the fact that locally authority run schools have been picked out for consultation first without considering faith schools, academy or free schools means they have been unfairly penalised and the consultation has not been correctly framed 5) colvestone has a higher than average SEN population who would be more negatively affected by the proposal. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXM5-6 |
| | | I object to this proposal on the following grounds: 1) Higher pollution levels at princess May school, affecting all the children but particularly those with asthma and other breathing issues 2) closure of the only one form entry school that parents chose because of its size. It's also the easiest school to "fill" 3) the building has a covenant that means it can only be used for educational purposes. So to keep the school will be a huge waste of local taxpayers money. Princess May CAN be turned into flats. Colvestone can't. 4) If the school age numbers are dropping across the Borough why have all schools across the borough not been reviewed and included in the consultation? the fact that locally authority run schools have been picked out for consultation first without considering faith schools, academy or free schools means they have been unfairly penalised and the consultation has not been correctly framed 5) colvestone has a higher than average SEN population who would be more negatively affected by the proposal. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXMM-Z |
| | | I'm very much opposed to this proposal. I am extremely concerned that the council is forcing us to move our child to a school on one of the busiest roads in London. Also, I am really concerned that the council has not actively looked at other options that do not involve closing the school. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXHJ-R |
| | | I strongly disagree with this proposal. I believe Colvestone should stay open. It is such a special school, giving an excellent education. The single form entry enables the school to provide a really good environment for SEN students to engage in learning in a local primary school. It seems to me that you are intent on closing on all the single form entry schools and I think this would be disastrous for your SEN provision. It would seem a much better fit to amalgamate De Beauvoir and Colvestone keeping the friendship groups and single form entry. Is this move to close single form entry simply a cost cutting measure? | | | ANON-UR67-ZXH5-3 |
| | | I do not agree with this proposal because of the damaging effect it will have on the local community especially the existing pupils | | | ANON-UR67-Z2HX-6 |
| | | I totally disagree | | | ANON-UR67-Z2HP-X |
| | | I object | | | ANON-UR67-Z2H9-7 |
| | | I object to the closure of Colvestone Primary School. | | | ANON-UR67-Z2H4-V |
| Deny | Deny | Deny | Deny | Deny | ANON-UR67-Z2HH-P |
| | | I object to the closure of Colvestone Primary School. | | | ANON-UR67-Z2HF-M |
| | | I strongly object to this proposal | | | ANON-UR67-Z2H3-S |
| | | I object to the closure of Colvestone Primary School | | | ANON-UR67-Z2HC-H |
| | | I object to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School. | | | ANON-UR67-Z2H2-Z |
| I feel, and from feedback from parents/carers BP being a small school can and does cater to the needs of all the students especially the students with SEND and EAL. They say the school is very open and easily approachable and their concerns are listed to. Furthermore could you please refrain from using the word amalgamate as this is confusing for students and parents/carers alike, as they are taking this to mean the all students and staff will be going over to nightingale. Which as you are very much aware this is not the case. | | | | | ANON-UR67-Z2MD-Q |
| | | Strongly oppose. Colvestone Primary is small, providing a really happy family atmosphere and safe, intimate environment allowing children to thrive. It is well loved and respected in the community. It would be a massive loss to Hackney, and also a very distinctive building like that should not be privatised / lost to community use. Also, Dalston Town Centre is earmarked for significant future development and population growth, so retaining school places across two sites offers the option to increase places at Princess May in future while maintaining Colvestone, when population growth leads to an increase in demand for places a few years down the line. This resilience and flexibility will be lost if Colvestone is closed down and merged with Princess May. That would be a mistake. | School closures seem like short-sighted, short-term thinking. As far as I know, Hackney is planning to build lots more housing and increase its population. What happens when the number of families with children increases and there is then a shortage of school places because schools have been shut down or merged? It's easy to lose a school but much harder (and expensive) to create one a few years down the line. I have seen this happen in Barking & Dagenham where they went through a spate of closures and 5-10 years down the line had to open new schools because there was no longer enough places for a growing population. Once former schools are sold off it's too late to reclaim those sites. This is a serious risk that should be given more consideration. | | ANON-UR67-Z2H2-8 |

| Citizen Space Comments | | | | | |
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| BADEN POWELL / NIGHTINGALE | NIGHTINGALE (2FE) | COLVESTONE / PRINCESS MAY | DE BEAUVOIR | RANDAL CREMER | Response ID |
| Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Baden Powell Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Nightingale Primary School | Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE) - Proposal to increase Nightingale Primary School from 1 form of entry (1FE) to 2 forms of entry (2FE) | Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School - Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School | Proposal to discontinue De Beauvoir Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 - Proposal to close discontinue De Beauvoir Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 | Proposal to discontinue Randal Cremer Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 - Proposal to discontinue Randal Cremer Primary School under s15 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 | |
| | | Although there is a statutory consultation, sadly it does feel like no-one is really listening in this case. Colvestone is a wonderful community school, and should be cherished and nurtured rather than thrown under the bus in this short sighted way. It is one of very few schools in the area with a single form intake, and is being penalised for this, rather than the benefits of smaller school environment being valued as they should. My children attended this school for their primary education. Throughout, they felt safe and supported and were well prepared for secondary education when that came. The staff knew ALL the children, and knew them well, which meant that their individual needs were thought about and acted on. The children also knew one another well; relationships across year groups were actively promoted, and this led to a culture where bullying was extremely rare. The relationships between children and families are strong in this small setting. My kids are now towards the end of their secondary educations, but remain solid friendships with their Colvestone colleagues, despite the cohorts being spread across the various secondary schools in the Borough. It has been said many times during consultations that this school provides particularly well for children with additional needs, and that was definitely visible. It is an inclusive environment, which holds true to its motto "everyone matters". Children with additional needs thrive (as opposed to survive) at Colvestone. To "merge" 2 such different schools is a merger in name only. Many of the qualities that make Colvestone so special will be lost. That is a great shame for the current and future cohort of children. I do hope that some actual thinking in response to this consultation will take place, and some more appropriate and creative solutions sought. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXHE-K |
| | | I object to the closure of Colvestone Primary School. It is a model of what a thriving, accessible, local school should be with an excellent reputation, in particular for SEND pupils. As a parent of an autistic child who struggled in a large two-entry Hackney primary, I understand all too well that Colvestone would have been a far better environment for my daughter: it's too late for her now - the distress that began in primary escalated in a large secondary, resulting in autistic burn out by mid Year 8. She has never fully recovered and, at nearly 17, has missed almost all her secondary education. Hackney Education are well aware of the borough's failures regarding autistic pupils. So why are they pursuing the closure of a school that stands as a beacon of how to support these vulnerable children. The closure of this school will have lifelong impacts on current pupils and those who would have blossomed there. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXHA-F |
| | | Please do not do this. This small local school offers a place for SEN children who thrive in this environment and will struggle in bigger schools. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXHG-N |
| | | The small community at Colvestone supporting a number of send children is essential in the area in which it is located. Some of the children being moved on from Colvestone will have their education severely disrupted and as a parent of a send child myself I strongly believe this will seriously affect the education and mental health of those children. Please do not close Colvestone! | | | ANON-UR67-ZXHG-G |
| | | I object to the closure of Colvestone Road as the school provides an integral part to the local community that cannot be replaced by another school. Furthermore there is a need for more school places in the area, not less! Closure makes no sense at all. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXHV-V |
| | | This wonderful school provides a safe and caring environment for all the children who attend with autism and other special needs. It has cultivated a community of support and understanding that is not only beneficial to its students but also for their families. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXHW-5 |
| | | I object to closing colvestone primary school | | | ANON-UR67-ZXHS-S |
| | | I object to the closure of Colvestone Primary School | | | ANON-UR67-ZXH1-Y |
| | | My [niece/nephew Name] attends this school, and should this closure go ahead the impact on * and other children with Special needs will have a devastating impact on their mental health and social integration and learning and educational needs for many years to come. The school offers exceptional facilities a small school can offer, that will not be provided in other schools nearby. This is not the solution. I do not know how [Name] will be able to access education in the way * is currently. As a family the impact on * parents will be devastating. It has taken years of hardworking by them and other parents, to create the environment, to develop trust, to enable their children to attend this school on a regular basis to a relieve the results they are managing. Even small changes, take months to manage for these children to feel safe and to build trust amongst their small school community. By forcing them to close you will be impacting on all areas of their development, changes that could have a life long effect. These children have no voice. They trust us to make their world better. This move has not been thought through and is not the answer. The stress to parents, teachers and children will be devastating for all especially those unable to comprehend and deal with change. Our children deserve better, the effect on [Name]'s future learning social interactions and subsequently in her future academic life will be totally overwhelming for all involved. The emotional, social and educational cost to all involved is a damaging move for children especially for our SEN children, parents and carers and the community in this area. This school serves a unique group, formed as the only non-religious, non-academy, non-free schools in Dalston, it should remain open to offer families the choice to be part of a small, close-knit community school - run by the local education authority. Our [niece/nephew Name] and * parents have lived on *** and have been part of the Dalston (London E8) community for a long time, we love our diverse community. They have chosen Colvestone Primary school for our little [Name], who is * years-old and [SEND] because it provides a required quick journey access to school (5 minutes), a safe and happy environment (that a small one form school offers) and a wonderful SEN support ([Name] has a experienced SEN one to one). | | | ANON-UR67-ZXHT-5 |
| | | These are the 3 fundamental poles for [Name] to access education. It has taken time and great effort for [Name] to be happy and settled in * school (* years now) and changing school at this stage will have an incredible difficult impact on * and it will be practically impossible for * to access education, and this also will have an enormous impact on * mental health and have a huge impact on our family. | | | |
| | | Colvestone Primary School is a friendly, close-knit, one-form entry community school with a strong academic record and close ties to Ridley Road Market and the surrounding community. Colvestone has been part of the Dalston community for more than 170 years. It is a beautiful Grade 2 listed building, and the only surviving example of the original Birkebeck school buildings, part of a mid-19th century radical education movement. Colvestone is the only non-denominational school in Dalston, and with the proposed closure of nearby De Beauvoir school, current and future parents in this area have few nearby options that are not either religious schools, academies or free schools. | | | |
| | | Colvestone Primary School serves the community it represents, don't destroy this most valuable part of the community. Many thanks [Name] AND ALL FAMILY OF [Name] XX | | | |
| Why do this? I have pals who's kids are dependent on this school. They would be lost without the support the school provides | N/A | Wrong decision (see 1st box) | Cannot understand why you'd want to do this | See above | ANON-UR67-ZXHS-1 |
| | | I object the closures of Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School | | | ANON-UR67-ZXHM-U |
| | | I am deeply against this proposal. As a parent we have tried very hard to engage with Hackney Council on this proposal and we have been met with a wall of silence. There are many reasons to keep Colvestone open. I do not accept the idea of a merge with Princess May. I want our small one form inclusive Community school to be available for families of Dalston for years to come. This is a backward step for this area - why are you not engaging with us about our concerns for our SEND children? Our emotional concerns about making us swap a greener location for a playground on the A10? We have the right to choose and this proposal takes away all choice - if Colvestone closes and we don't choose Princess May what are we left with? We want to keep Colvestone open and bring children here that want a smaller, calmer and greener environment that is not religious or an academy. Please help to do this and not close Colvestone-which is now thriving in its new management. We would be so happy to work with the council on ways to ensure sustainability-pupil wise. Please please reconsider and talk to us. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGJ-Q |
| | | Colvestone School should remain a separate school in the current premises | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGS-2 |
| | | I'm in opposition to this proposal | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGT-1 |
| | | Colvestone school is an integral part of our community and is really valued. Parents welcome having a small school and also one which is neither an academy nor a faith school | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGX-5 |
| | | I think this will be a good opportunity to gain additional funding for Princess May and hopefully Hackney Education will then back the school financially to improve the premises and cater for these 2 very special communities under one roof. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGP-W |
| | | This is a bad proposal as it limits parents choice in the area and gets rid of one of the best single form of entry schools. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGS-6 |
| | | I utterly object to this proposal as a resident of Colvestone Crescent, a former parent and former governor. I would have a massive negative impact on the children, their families and the community. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGV-3 |
| | | I object to the closure of Colvestone Primary school. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGN-N |
| Neutral | Neutral | As a resident without children in the school, I would like Colvestone Primary School to remain open, as I personally appreciate the energy and community it brings to the neighbourhood. Object strongly for so many obvious reasons. We live in Ridley Road and the school is really vital to the community. Lots of young families choose it as it is one of the only 1 form entry schools available. It's so important to have the choice of a smaller schools as for many children this is preferable for lots of reasons including anxiety, overwhelm and SEN. The community will suffer if you close it; young families will be less inclined to choose this area. Keeping families around Ridley Road and Colvestone is what is keeping it wholesome amidst the areas socio economic and crime challenges. It is detrimental to close the school. | Neutral | Neutral | ANON-UR67-ZXG8-5 |
| | | No | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGQ-X |
| | | I object to this school being discontinued. It provides more than just education to these amazing children and their families. Please just leave it as it is and give these worried families a break for the stresses that arise from these awful worries. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGS-Z |
| | | I object to the closure of Colvestone Primary School. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGC-G |
| | | I strongly disagree with the proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School. I also do not understand how you can say you will amalgamate the student body - unless you are recognising that you are forcing this to happen, and against parental/carer choice. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGY-2 |
| Please keep open as it helps the local community Xx | | | No pls | No pls | ANON-UR67-ZXGA-E |
| | | This is a consultation in name only. The council has failed to review primary provision in Hackney holistically. In addition, at no point have you engaged constructively with the parents and community to form creative alternatives for consideration. Yes, there are falling pupil numbers but you have gone about this whole process in entirely the wrong way. | | | ANON-UR67-ZXGZ-7 |

| Citizen Space Comments | | | | | |
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| | | I object to this. | | | ANON-UR87-ZXGG-M |
| | | I disagree with this wholeheartedly. This is a good school , delivering careful education to special needs children. | | | ANON-UR87-ZXGE-J |
| | | I disagree with this proposal. | | | ANON-UR87-ZXGB-F |
| | | I object to this proposal. | | | ANON-UR87-ZXGD-H |
| | | I disagree with this completely. It is the wrong thing to do | | | ANON-UR87-ZXGW-4 |
| | | I object. | | | ANON-UR87-ZXGK-R |
| | | The closing of four schools in one go in Hackney is unprecedented. It is a fundamental reorganising of the education system in the borough. And it is the first wave of more cuts to come – we understand there are 15 schools in frame for 2024. Ask yourself what this is in service of – and if can it be justified. Current place data suggests that Local Authority surplus is around 11% - not so far from the 10% target after all. Perhaps the problems are elsewhere in the system – in faith schools specifically – and these swinging cuts will ultimately end up with Hackney Labour either just entering a death spiral of families leaving the borough with provision at risk or removed, or demand the opening of more free schools and academies – run for profit (profits found in teachers and staff wages), out of the control of the local authority, buildings lost for 125 years on peppercorn rents. Ask yourself what the consequences are of these proposals and if the evidence supports the stated aims. | | | ANON-UR87-ZXG1-X |
| | | As a parent who has contributed to the drafting of the Save Colvestone submission I implore you to read that report and to consider the findings and contained data within it – much of which is new. If you are an elected official, please read this with an open mind – challenge and scrutinise the claims made both in it and in the Cabinet Briefing documents. This is your job, your elected responsibility. If a claim is made that is not supported, do not allow it without further scrutiny. Ask yourself whether the case is made for what is being claimed, suggested, or dismissed. If the supporting evidence is not there – ask yourself why: why hasn't the underlying data been included that would help me make this decision? Can I demand it? Ask for what you need, and scrutinise any failings to publicly provide it in either the pre- informal or formal consultation. | | | |
| | | We have not been invited to consult – I feel throughout that as a parent my questions have been unwelcome, that scrutiny from any parents has been unwelcome. We all (I think) want the same thing – a strong local authority education system in Hackney. Ideas, proposals should be challenged. We know difficult decisions have to be made – but they also have to be the right decisions, for the residents of the borough. Just because you are meeting resistance it doesn't follow that you must be right. Just because we don't work for Hackney Education, it doesn't necessarily follow that we can't read Council, GLA, Statutory reports and guidance. Read these submissions, open your ears to what is written in them. Scrutinise your and our work. This is a ruinous path that you are on – please, turn back, take pause, and listen to the people you are elected to serve. Don't close Colvestone Primary School. | | | |
| | | I object | | | ANON-UR87-ZXG6-3 |
| | | I object | | | ANON-UR87-ZXGR-Y |
| | | Colvestone is a wonderful school. I strongly object to this proposal. | | | ANON-UR87-ZXG7-4 |
| | | I object | | | ANON-UR87-ZXG4-1 |
| | | I object | | | ANON-UR87-ZXGY-6 |
| | | I object | | | ANON-UR87-ZXGS-Z |
| | | No I thoroughly disagree | | | ANON-UR87-ZXGM-T |
| | | I disagree with this proposal | | | ANON-UR87-ZXRU-D |
| | | I object | | | ANON-UR87-ZXRJ-2 |

| EMAIL ID (E-date-number) | Date | Email subject | Email contents |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---|---|
| E-071023-1 | Sat, 7 Oct, 11:57 | Baden Powell | <p>My grandchildren went to this school and were very happy there and have since done well with the education they received. There is a need for a school like this in the community and it would be extremely bad planning to close it.</p> <p>[NAME]</p> |
| E-091023-1 | Mon, 9 Oct, 18:01 | OBJECTION TO PROPOSALS TO MERGE OR CLOSE SIX SCHOOLS IN HACKNEY | <p>Hello,</p> <p>I am writing to register my opposition to the planned merging/closure of six primary schools in Hackney, on the basis of the extremely deleterious impact the closures would have on the education standards and therefore quality of life of hundreds of young people and their families across the borough.</p> <p>The school I am most familiar with is Colvestone Primary School in Dalston, as I was an ex-student and my parent was a governor there for almost a decade, although it seems that my concerns about the closure of that school apply to many of the others also.</p> <p>It is certain that the quality of education provided to young people in Dalston and broader Hackney would suffer enormously if these plans are approved. Colvestone's single form entry is highly unusual for a Hackney primary school, and is a tenet of the school that has and continues to enable it to meet a wider range of educational and personal needs than other schools in the borough.</p> <p>For example, I know of numerous children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) whose parents have said that were Colvestone not single form entry, they would not have sent their children there, as the scale of a multiple form entry primary school would have been overwhelming for them.</p> <p>Children in Hackney with SEND will then suffer as a result of these changes, potentially never entering mainstream education as the provision for their attendance will not exist within feasible travel distance.</p> <p>The 'discontinuation' of Colvestone school would also severely undermine any feasibility of Colvestone Crescent's future status as a '21st century street.' The 21st century street concept is centred on the benefit both to residents and schoolchildren of a minimum 40% tree cover, traffic restrictions at school open and close times, and more facilities for bike travel, critical for many parents.</p> <p>The move to Princess May would not only cause great disruption in the education of Colvestone schoolchildren and therefore directly worsen the quality of Hackney's educational provision, but would also expose an additional 134 children to the extreme pollution on the A10. For example, pollutant NO2 which impairs respiratory function with a particularly pronounced effect on children is present at 37 ug/m3 in the Colvestone school playground, whereas its level in the Princess May playground is above 58 ug/m3.</p> <p>By moving children from Colvestone to Princess May Hackney Council would be directly reducing the quality of education in the borough, undermining the provision of services to children with SEND and its own plans for the future of Hackney, and worsening the health outcomes of more than a hundred children.</p> <p>I urge the Council to reject these proposals.</p> <p>Sincerely, [NAME]</p> |
| E-091023-2 | Mon, 9 Oct, 18:31 | Objection to the proposal | <p>Good evening,</p> <p>I am writing to express my objection and sadness about the proposal of our little lovely school Baden Powell Primary school to be merged with Nightingale School. My son (Name) is with SEN and currently in year * in Baden Powell Primary School. Since we heard the news earlier this year we are devastated. I already had worries about the transition to secondary school and how we are going to cope with it but did not expect and I am not ready to deal with another big challenge. I am a single parent of two boys. I am working and looking after them by myself without any support from a partner. I try my best to raise healthy, happy, sensible and kind children.</p> <p>Moving to Nightingale School, losing their "little safe place" (as my son calls it), their lovely playground in Baden Powell will have a huge impact on [Name] and I believe on other SEN children too. As his mum I know that it will take him a year to settle in and before his confusion ends he will have to go to secondary school. I can't even imagine what tough couple of years are going to be ahead of us. We have had enough hard time during Covid-19. This is not fair on our children, parents, teachers and staff! Please don't make our lives harder! Please let us be in our little community.</p> <p>Kind Regards, [Name] Parent of [Name] (Baden Powell Primary School)</p> |

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| E-061023-1 | Fri, 6 Oct, 14:52 | Colvestone Statutory Notice | <p>Hi [Name] and SES Team,</p> <p>I was not aware that the full statutory proposal would include financial projections and it would have been courteous for us to have been made aware of this. I would also like to unpick and counter some of the points that are put forward on the document which I am aware stem from the report which was presented to Cabinet at the recent meeting on 25 September.</p> <p>3. Reason for discontinuance</p> <p>'Colvestone is not financially viable and ended the 2022/23 year with an extremely large deficit balance of £561,646'.</p> <p>This is put in as a separate sentence with no context and so could imply that the deficit is not historical, unrelated to the fall in roll and construed as poor financial management. This is quite damning and I feel undermines the hard work I have undertaken with the leadership team to help reduce the historical deficit balance whilst still improve educational outcomes. This could also have a negative reputational impact on me personally.</p> <p>'In order to avoid unnecessary process duplication and to ensure efficient use of resources the council's finance department has not produced alternative modelling for Colvestone following the agreement with the school on the deployment of a SRMA report process. This was carried out by an independent SRMA'.</p> <p>As you must be aware, the deployment of a SRMA is an independent support tool provided by the DfE as part of their School Resource Management Strategy. From my understanding, it is not a replacement for the council's finance department to undertake their duties to help support schools. As stated on the Hackney Services for Schools website, 'the Schools Finance Support Team delivers strategic support to schools by offering a comprehensive financial management, support and advice service'. If LBH are planning to use the DfE SRMA tool as a replacement way to support schools, then this should be mentioned on the S4S website. We have so far only met twice since September 2022 so do not feel we have had adequate strategic support. I also do not feel this 'ensuring efficient use of resources' as adequate time spent with schools could highlight thousands of pounds in savings (which the SRMA highlighted but has not been incorporated in the proposal report). It also needs to be noted that the school requested the SRMA visit and not the LA.</p> <p>'The local authority does not accept the statement made in the report that "the SRMA and school have discussed the pupil number forecasts with the LA, who advised that these numbers are not unrealistic." The local authority is firmly of the view that the projected number of children joining the school, on which the budget is based, are unrealistic'.</p> <p>If this was the case, then why was the draft report approved for publication and the approved school budget accepted without challenge by the council? The statement above again, in my opinion, makes the schools financial management and budget forecasting/setting process sound incompetent.</p> <p>This same paragraph goes on to say 'The budgets are based on 24 children joining reception in September 2023...14 children joined the school in the Reception class in September 2023'.</p> <p>It must be borne in mind however that these lower numbers were, in my opinion, as a result of the communication going out to the public that the school was on the list for closure which deterred the school's projected number of parents from applying for a place. Your original projection during our initial discussions of only 6 pupils joining Reception by October 2022 was inaccurate as we in fact had 14 pupils joining (more than double) but this is not mentioned anywhere on the report. We are also STILL accommodating parent tours and admissions even though the parents are fully aware of the proposals to close the school.</p> <p>'Supported by a £50,000 mid-year additional cash injection'</p> <p>The Schools Contingency Fund is there to support schools who are in financial difficulty. The school has made significant savings elsewhere on the budget so it is not solely the £50k 'cash injection' which helped the £28,319 in-year surplus balance in 22/23. Indeed, other schools have historically received support via this fund in much larger sums but this is not publicised the way you have done so for Colvestone.</p> <p>6. Impact on the community</p> <p>There is nothing on the notice to state the wider negative impact on the community.</p> <p>11. Special Educational Needs provision</p> <p>'As a result of these proposals, outcomes for pupils with SEND may improve as they would move to a more financially viable and therefore long term sustainable school'.</p> <p>This statement is disingenuous in my opinion as a parent could move their child to another school which is not financially viable and unsustainable in the long term. What would you define as 'long term'?</p> <p>I look forward to your response.</p> <p>Kind regards,</p> <p>[Name] [Title] Blossom Federation</p> |
| E-061023-2 | Fri, 6 Oct, 08:55 | Falling Rolls - Statutory Proposals and Representation Period | <p>Dear all,</p> <p>I also want to reiterate all the points that [Name] has made. I asked at the beginning what financial modelling had been made and there was NO mention of the SMRA at all by the interim director, interim school estate strategy manager and councillor Bramble at the initial and subsequent meetings. We asked these meetings to be minuted but have not seen the minutes.</p> <p>In addition I would like to refer back to my point made at the start of this process:</p> <p>Thomas Fairchild - the only school in the same context as Colvestone a year ago and also with a large deficit budget and also has falling to 2 form to 1 form (a loss of 30 children more than Colvestone) has not been put under this level of scrutiny. They have been given an opportunity to work with their partnership and federate if they do wish, has not had this added pressure whilst doing the day in day out business of the school which is to give children a high quality education and keep them safe and happy.</p> <p>Have they had an SMRA? Did they engage in one? If they did what would they say? I imagine that if an SMRA carried out in any Hackney school currently - including the ones who have seen a significant deficit in one year - would have similar cautionary language. There has been NO reflection of all the positive financial work.</p> <p>I look forward to hearing how this reputations damage is going to be repaired.</p> <p>[Name] [Title]</p> |

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| E-061023-3 | Fri, 6 Oct, 08:37 | Falling Rolls - Statutory Proposals and Representation Period | <p>Good Morning [Name]</p> <p>Thank you for the information.</p> <p>Indeed, very unfortunate timing given the additional pressure we have been under at the school this week.</p> <p>Fortunately, we had a very pleasing Ofsted outcome.</p> <p>Just to point out a few points from the notice:</p> <p>No one in the Council had a conversation with [Name] or I about the Colvestone budget apart from in June 2022 when we were in discussion about taking on the partnership and then not until May and June of this year. No support has been given to attempt different financial modelling</p> <p>No one in the Council asked to see the financial modelling the school undertook prior to the announcement of the 'merger'. The school commissioned the SMRA not the Council</p> <p>The notice is disingenuous and implies the deficit is the whole reason for the proposal. This was not the sole criteria at the start of this process.</p> <p>The notice also implies that the deficit is our making not the Council's failure to adequately monitor and hold the school to account prior to our involvement.</p> <p>The Blossom Team stepped in to help the school and the Local Authority out. Had the school been inspected this time last year, the school would have been inadequate.</p> <p>The Senior Leadership Team have not been obstructive to the Council's proposal and have kept our distance from the other campaigns for the school. We understand the reasons why the proposals, even though they change - merger / closure / choose Princess May if they want etc - and have maintained a professional and supportive stance.</p> <p>The dropping off of the material at the gate and the notices being put up at night after everyone has gone home is incredible.</p> <p>The reputational damage this notice implies to our leadership of the school in 'not managing the financial situation, not of our making' is considerable.</p> <p>There continues to be little acknowledgement or consideration to the pressure this process creates for leaders in managing a very difficult situation for children, staff and parents.</p> <p>I do feel the Council simply do not care.</p> <p>Regards</p> <p>[Name] [Title] Blossom Federation of Daubenev, Sebright and Lauriston Primary Schools and Children's Centres & In Partnership with Colvestone Primary School</p> |
| E-061023 | Fri, 6 Oct, 09:51 | Statutory Notice | <p>Hi [Name],</p> <p>I hope you are well.</p> <p>I just wanted to raise a couple of concerns about our statutory notice:</p> <p>In section 4 it states that our PAN in Year 4, 5 and 6 is 60. This, and therefore the % of unfilled places, is very inaccurate.</p> <p>In section 3 it talks about the forecast deficit position in 23/24. It would have been preferable if this could have been contextualised, i.e. the impact of further depletion of the roll as a result of consultation - I suspect that many will read this as poor financial management.</p> <p>I still remain concerned about the 'promise' in Section 5 that children will be placed in a primary school near to their home. Many parents are already unable to find places in schools that they want and are on waiting lists. There are also a number of schools locally where PANs have been reduced so year groups are over roll with additional waiting lists.</p> <p>In section 11 I think it is disingenuous to say that children with SEND may have improved outcomes as a result of a move to a more financially viable school. Sadly I think there is no school in Hackney which is in a financial position to provide the level of support which some of our highest needs pupils require - in addition, there will be a number of schools in the Dalston / Haggerston area which are going to be inundated with pupils, including pupils with EHCPs. I question that they will be able to provide a better quality of support than we have been giving them.</p> <p>I appreciate that the documents are produced now and need to go home today. It would have been good to have had sight of the document and been able to raise these points with you before they were printed.</p> <p>Kind regards, [Name]</p> |
| E-021123-1 | Thu, 2 Nov, 14:32 | Consultation Response | <p>Good afternoon</p> <p>I have submitted a short personal perspective via the online form but I also wanted to send some research of the current vacancy rates (based on data from LB Hackney published on 19 September).</p> <p>I did circulate an earlier draft of this report on the day of the last Cabinet meeting on 25th September.</p> <p>Essentially your September Cabinet report was based on information that seemed to be out of date. It used the formal PAN for each school and that created the impression of a large number of vacancies across the borough. However during the last 6 months, several schools have requested a temporary cap of their PAN due to internal restructures in response to falling rolls. It is these lower figures that the in-year admissions team are working with.</p> <p>This means that the actual number of vacancies is much lower (only a few % above your target of 5 - 10%) and that parents have much more limited options if they are trying to find another school places for their child(ren). In Dalston and SW Hackney THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH PLACES AT LOCAL SCHOOLS. You are forcing parents to choose faith schools or go out of borough as this is where the majority of vacancies are.</p> <p>I urge you to revisit the overall vacancy statistics and then to consider the proposal to close each school individually in light of alternative options that are actually available to parents.</p> <p>Yours sincerely</p> <p>[Name]</p> <p>[Attachment: Oct 23 Analysis of vacancy data PDF]</p> |

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| E-021123-2 | Fri, 3 Nov, 15:21:00 | re submission to consultation | <p>Please find attached a submission from Hackney Education Unions to the proposal to discontinue/amalgamate 6 Hackney Schools</p> <p>Best wishes [Name] [Title] Hackney NEU [Telephone]</p> |
| E-021123-3 | Fri, 3 Nov, 16:50 | Final consultation response - objection. attached | <p>Hi.</p> <p>Please find attached our objection to the formal consultation to the Statutory Notice and Full Statutory Proposal to discontinue Colvestone Primary School and amalgamate the student body with Princess May Primary School.</p> <p>Please can you confirm safe receipt.</p> <p>Save Colvestone Primary School E: [email]</p> |

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| L-021123-1 | <p>Re. Proposed discontinuation (closure) of Randal Cremer Primary School, Ormsby Street, Shoreditch. This proposal is preposterous and should be nipped in the bud (cancelled immediately). My name is [Name], I was a pupil at Randal Cremer Primary School from 195*-196*. In 195* I joined Randal Cremer in the nursery aged 4. In 195* I entered the infants school aged 5 years. My class teacher was [Name] (no relation) and my head teacher was [Name]. In 195* I entered the juniors, my class teacher was [Name] and my head teacher was [Name]. My birthday is ***, at the end of January 196* I took my 11-plus examination, aged 10 years ***. I left in July 196*. I entered grammar school in September 196* aged 11 years ***. This is my old primary school and I object very strongly indeed to my old primary school being discontinued. I saw our old rival school, Laburnum, in Laburnam Street closed and demolished, I do not want the same to happen to Randal Cremer, which is a fine example of an original east end ex-LCC primary school. This is a beautiful and fine building and I do not want it demolished to make way for some modern monstrosity. Randal Cremer is a fine example of a primary school. It is a magnificent building and it should be preserved for posterity not to make way for a block of flats or some other ugly building. Laburnum School was demolished to make way for the Bridge Academy, I do not want this to happen to Randal Cremer, my old primary school. It is an absurd suggestion and it should be opposed most vehemently. Under no circumstances should Randal Cremer building be demolished for some modern piece of junk. Even the closure of the school as a teaching establishment should be stopped. These plans should be cancelled forthwith immediately. This is a further destruction of our heritage and must be stopped right away. Find somewhere else to build you modern rubbish blocks. PS. Save Colvestone Primary School too!! Stop its closure!!! The upper stream of Randal Cremer Primary School Class 1 in 196*.* (*****). The class teacher was [Name] (a white South African woman about 25 years old, who wore a ban the bomb badge). The teachers in the juniors were [Name] the headmistress, [Name] my class teacher. [Name] wore glasses, [Name] did not wear glasses, [Name] ([Name], [Name]?) did wear glasses, [Name] did not wear glasses, [Name] (who was Italian) did not wear glasses (she taught choreography, dancing etc). [Name] did not wear glasses, [Name] (balding on top of head, with hair at the back and side) did not wear glasses. There was another [Name], dressed like an artist, who did not wear glasses – he was not a regular class teacher, nor was [Name]. The others were in charge of classes. [Name] and [Name] ([Name], [Name]) were in charge of classes. The others in charge of classes were [Name], tall (about 6 foot) wearing clear framed glasses. [Name] wore glasses, [Name] (I think this was the correct spelling). [Name] was the school keeper in the room facing into Pearson Street (he was 6 foot approximately). He did not wear glasses. He was heavy as well. [Name] and [Name] were in charge of the play centre, after school hours)</p> |