

Consultation: Tillydrone/Old Aberdeen New Schools Consultation – 114 total responses.

Question : Option A

Question : Do you support the proposals to create a new shared campus school on the former St. Machar School / former Tillydrone School site, as described under Option A above?

Yes/No (New shared campus St Machar/Tillydrone site)



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	20	17.54%
No	94	82.46%

Comments (Option A)

There were 30 responses to this part of the question.

Because school is overcrowded
I like this school and this place
pt referred option.
We live across the street from school. Option b will add additional traveling distance to the new building wher the existing one is well know what o Us and our kids
I do NOT support the proposal to create a new shared campus school. I think that the proposal does not allow for enough space for St Peter's RC to grow and flourish and become a more diverse school. A bigger St Peter's school on its own site would be able to accept more applications from those of any faith and none, making it a more vibrant community. St Peter's RC is the only primary in the city not to have its own nursery feeding into the school. I'm concerned that there would be bullying issues to deal with, and the parents, pupils and school community would be left to deal with them. I'm also concerned that a shared-campus model would in effect become a "segregated schools" model such as those in Dundee, where the Catholic community would not be able to put up their icons and religious imagery throughout the school and thus would be impoverished as a faith-based community.
I do not support this Option A proposal
I propose an Option C
That the Council should consider building a new 3 stream (3 -classes per year) school on the site of the former St Machar school on Tillydrone Avenue exclusively for St Peter's RC primary school, as well as nursery provision.
Reasons
1. Every year St. Peters RC receive enough applications and placing requests for 3 Primary one classes. If this trend continues, it would have enough pupils every year to fill much of a new 3-stream school.
2. Also, there will be enough room in a new 3-stream St Peter's school to accept applications from families of other or no faiths which would give our children a richer educational experience.
3. St Peter's school is currently 130% over capacity. The school does well with what it's got, but has been too crowded for too long and needs more space. The council needs to get it right for our

children.

4. Becoming part of a shared campus model is difficult to 'get right'. St Peter's may not be able to put up there images and icons freely, and thus be forced to lose some of the visual imagery that makes the school so beautiful.

5. St Peter's would have to share access to some facilities, and the work to merge the two communities would be left to the St Peter's staff, pupils, and parents to do.

6. St Peter's want to maintain her ethos as a Catholic/faith-based school and moving to a shared campus might make that difficult to do.

I have major concerns for a shared campus and I am strongly against it.

Potential incidents for sectarianism at the 'school gates' and in the playground could not be ruled out no matter how hard each 'community' works with each other.

Not aware of this system of a shared campus being tried and tested in Aberdeen previously so I am not prepared for my child to be a guinea pig in an effort to save money. I am not aware of any evidence or being offered any evidence highlighting the benefits of a shared campus.

On a practical note would a shared campus involve having two headteachers? (Two salaries!), two PTA's? two separate budgets? Who gets to use what, where and when if we have to share everything? One community would always lose out.

St. Peter's requires its own faith based school to be build on the st machar site.

Riverbank from my opinion will be fine staying on their existing site.

- This would address our accommodation issues and we would really find it exciting to be involved in planning the design and features of a new school to meet the needs of our current and future pupils.
- There would not be confusion about our identity as we would move there as the St Peter's RC School community, taking our values, ethos, culture and traditions with us.
- It is closer to our current site and therefore the families, especially those from the Seaton area, would be better able to make the journey more safely in all weathers. We would also have access to the spaces we use for outdoor learning in Cruickshank Gardens and Seaton Park.
- Our links with the Old Aberdeen community and Aberdeen University could be more easily maintained. When we have had space, many local families and University staff and students have made successful placing requests. Our pupils enjoy project work based on the history and architecture of Old Aberdeen and the university campus.
- We welcome the opportunity to create a successful and confident school alongside another school, sharing facilities appropriately and sensitively.
- We see opportunities for collegial working, sharing best practice and learning through joint continuing professional development, formally and informally.
- We have been finding out about successful shared campuses throughout Scotland and look forward to bringing this to Aberdeen.

I don't support this option because I don't like the idea of a shared campus. I would like St Peters to

have a new school with early learning and nursery included.

No - I do not support the proposals to create a new shared campus school. I am uneasy about a shared campus school, as I cannot see how this would work with two separate schools, and two educational identities, yet shared facilities all in the one place.

I am a not a Roman Catholic, but requested a RC education for my children, as I believed the ethos of a catholic education was holistic and inclusive, and something I wished my children to experience. My children have both benefited richly from their education at St Peter's RC Primary School.

St Peter's is a warm, inviting, and inclusive school which has provided my children with an excellent education. I am concerned that developing a shared campus school might have difficulties, with two conflicting school identities on one site. Having a shared campus might result in only RC children being able to access education at St Peter's, with capacity issues meaning non RC children might be barred from receiving such an education, which they are entitled to apply to receive through placing requests as a result of the the Children (Scotland) Act 1995 . Introducing a "them and us" scenario between denominational and non-denominational schools on the same site should be avoided, and we do not want sectarianism to appear where it does not currently exist (a concern raised in 2016 by Aberdeen City Council relating to a shared campus in its initial consultation papers).

A new build school will be better as it will be built fit for purpose. If it must be a shared campus then hopefully the children and Staff will start transition well before opening of new builds.

Out of the options provided, this would enable St. Peter's to remain relatively close to its original community, serving the Seaton area as well as Tillydrone. Having a new build would provide opportunities for St. Peter's to be a part of the planning process to ensure a design which supported the Catholic ethos and community spirit that is so evident in St. Peter's school. There would also be room to expand should the future require this.

There would also be opportunities to build a community with a new neighbouring school forming a new community identity. Option B would not provide this as it would involve moving a current school community into another school community which is known as "Riverbank" which may have its own identity implications.

The other benefit to option A is that it is located closer to Seaton Park than option B and so would enable lessons to be taken to Seaton Park as is currently possible at the current St. Peter's site.

My concern with option A however is that the neighbouring school community does not exist yet which means the relationship building process cannot be started before the school is built. I feel this would be a necessary step in ensuring a successful shared campus.

In an ideal world there would be an option for St. Peter's to have its own physical space with its own identity, such as building on the current site (relocating the archives and labs elsewhere) and having St. Peter's located temporarily elsewhere whilst the building process is completed (such as Braeside school but ideally closer). Or considering further the Dunbar Halls site.

NO.

I don't want St. Peter's RC School to be incorporated with any other non-denominational school. I believe St. Peter's RC School should be maintained as a religious school.

I am not comfortable putting my child into a school that has shared campus with another school. I like the schools to be exclusive to follow their own rules and to be independent. We have enough issues and problems in schools and getting a shared campus is just going to make things harder, with 2 head teachers with possibly different ways of working and different ethos. The children having a shared dining area and play area is not something I would be very comfortable with. I would be more happy with a small close knit school that is independent and able to follow its own sets of beliefs and rules and I see that this would be very difficult to maintain in a shared campus.

SHARED CAMPUS IS'T A GOOD IDEA

I don't know what your decision will be but it would be good if there is full fledged new school for St. Peter's pupils only without any shared campus because it would be a totally catholic school.

We leave in seaton and don't have our own vehicle...hence it would be difficult for the children to walk all the way from seaton.

It would be appreciated if there would be a school bus service from seaton to the school in the morning and a service again from school to seaton...so that at least all the parents can drop and pick their children from a particular place at a particular time in seaton.

No I do not support a shared campus, there are a multitude of reasons to why I do not support this option, however the over riding issue here which I feel is completely over looked is that this consultation is NOT FIT FOR PURPOSE.

There are two separate issues here which relate to capacity concerns of two separate schools. The options we are being presented with here are completely biased in favour of Tillydrone. This in my opinion is COMPLETELY UNSATISFACTORY.

A new consultation exercise / review is required for the parents of St Peter's who do not want options A or B. The way we are being asked to choose between these two options without being properly consulted with other alternatives for our school (and given the option to vote on them) is a TOTAL DISGRACE.

No, I do not support option A. I am worried that this option with having a catholic school and a non-denominational school on the same site might create discrimination and "finger pointing". I am not convinced that the two communities which would be on the same grounds would integrate well with one another.

Catholic education in the North-East, particularly, St Peter's, has a long-standing tradition of being inclusive and non-sectarian. The shared campus approach is an idea that MAY be relevant in Northern Ireland or the West of Scotland, but in Aberdeen would introduce a sectarian attitude that has not been present.

The two schools sharing the building would develop distinct identities, probably including referencing differences between each other. This could be on religious grounds, with an increasing difference between Catholic and non-Catholic pupils, or in some other way, such as increasing (class/cultural) distinctions between those associated with the University and Tillydrone residents.

The idea of a shared campus is therefore not just far from ideal, but a dangerously divisive one.

As a parent of St. Peters RC Primary school kids, this option is absolutely unacceptable. Share campus destroy all catholic ethos and create another large school.

I don't support this option!

Shared campus in that case (religious and non religious schools in one place) does not work out. As per the existing example in Dundee - where catholic school is not free to express fully its religious character (some partitions: physical and scheduling) as someone's feelings might be touched.

Also the number won't add up either - please see my comment for Option B.

Besides I don't see how one ship can have two skippers!

Please disregard my previous response - ANON-Z6JH-6CDD-3.

I don't support this option!

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is not free to express fully its religious character (some partitions: physical and scheduling) as someone's feelings might be touched.

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I do not support this option. I feel St. Peters should have their own building designed accordingly to their needs.

No I don't support it as there won't be any freedom into decorating the walls with our catholic symbols, it might disturb the other non catholic (sometimes even atheists) families. No freedom in celebrating our catholic priests with a mass in the school hall. Also our kids might get bullied and harassed because of our religion and beliefs.

From the options given, I think this is the preferred option. I think St Peters deserves a new school rather than inheriting another school's pre-existing problems.

St Peters RC school deserves a brand new school rather than inheriting a 'used' school with its own issues.

Having worked at a shared campus school in the past, I believe integration is down to the ethos created by the staff and the community. I had a positive experience of shared campus in the past. I believe the staff, parents and children of St Peters deserve a new school with new facilities as we continue to reaffirm St Peters identity in the local community.

I really think this school deserves a new building

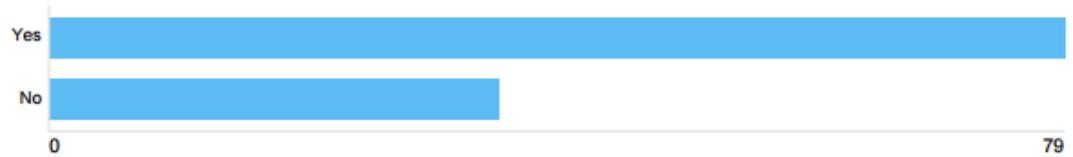
No I do not support the shared campus.

No, it took Riverbank many years to get into a community after the merger and now it could be split again. There was much tension and conflict originally. This will happen again in the playground of a new shared campus. Both Riverbank and St Peters communities are opposed to a shared campus. Restrictions imposed by the need to 'secularise' shared areas could adversely affect the normal daily practice and routines of teachers: distinctive programs of sacrament preparation activities appropriate to liturgical calendar, ongoing spiritual development ie: the catholic ethos.

Question : Option B

Question : Do you support the relocation of St. Peter's School into the Riverbank school building and for Riverbank School to relocate into a new build school on the former St. Machar School / former Tillydrone School site, as described under Option B above?

Yes/No (Relocation of St Peter's School into Riverbank)



Option	Total	Percent
Yes	79	69.30%
No	35	30.70%

Comments (Option B)

There were 65 responses to this part of the question.

I would like to keep my daughter in the riverbank with her friends. Making a a big school with every child from rc and riverbank would be ok to but I wouldn't like my daughter having to move to the new school and losing her friends as we would be out the catchment area for riverbank.
Don't want to divide the school
Am voting for opinion b as I don't think it's far to join to schools together and move children about and to put a catholic school
Children of Tillydrone should stay together in one school.
2 head teachers in 1 school is ridiculous and would confuse children unnecessarily.
Confusion of religion and this WOULD cause bullying and would also put children who do not follow the Roman Catholic to think they are different from those that do.
Children being separated from others as to where they live will upset routine and break bonds and relationships.
Children who need additional support - would they get this?! I doubt all children's needs could be countinuously met between the transitions of schools I.e. Autistic children getting new teachers and class mates will unsettle and disrupt every aspect of their lives.
Religious celebrations; as much as I embrace my children learning about different religions and mixing with children from all back grounds I do not wish for my daughter to miss out on important celebrations to her and my family if others don't celebrate it, and also celebrating significant events that are strictly religious to others.
I want my daughter to feel that she can befriend anyone without thinking she will be judged as to what she believes in. I.e loving and celebrating Halloween.
We don't need any more holidays and days off, it's ridiculous already.
The new school in Tillydrone should be for all children . St Peters school is on its own . And they will still want that

I am one who campaigned to keep St Machar open . And I have always said we need a new school for the children of Tillydrone

Separation of one friendly community making a divide.

Option A seems more complicated.

Option B for me is the more logical of the two. I have a daughter who is currently at nursery and a son who will be starting next year. I chose option B based on the fact of more nursery places.

Absolutely NOT! Why should the St Peter's community be placed once again in a second hand facility that was not designed for its pupils? This happened when we moved to our current site in 1983. How long would it be before we outgrew the Riverbank site and end up in the same position we are in now? Also, I'm concerned that the move to the complete other side of Tillydrone would create problems for families in Seaton and beyond who currently attend St Peter's. It would also place us farther from the University of Aberdeen where many of our pupils' parents work and/or study. The council has promised us a new school, and the council should deliver on that promise if it does not want a huge backlash. Do NOT put us in Riverbank.

My preferred option would be for an "Option C": that the council build a new school on the former St Machar school site for St Peter's RC school alone. This new school would include provision for early education and childcare facilities. The council would then expand Riverbank on its own site to accommodate future growth in that school and allow for some of the families who wish to move to St Peter's.

Tillydrone requires a new school and nursery to facilitate the current and future

School roll in the area. Riverbank despite its extension is not be large enough for the growing community of Tillydrone and Donside Urban Village .

I therefore support Option B

I do not support this Option B proposal

I propose an Option C

That the Council should consider building a new 3 stream (3 -classes per year) school on the site of the former St Machar school on Tillydrone Avenue exclusively for St Peter's RC primary school, as well as nursery provision.

Reasons

1. St Peter's has been in Old Aberdeen since 1983. When it moved to the current site, it was already a 'second hand' school. It was promised a new school years ago which was never delivered. A new school was promised earlier this year. Why should our children move to another 'second hand' school (i.e. Riverbank) that was not designed for them? Why should the children not get a new school as was promised?

2. St Peter's moving into the Riverbank premises would happen after the new school is built and after repairs are done to the Riverbank school. This would involve an additional wait for the pupils which is not satisfactory.

3. Moving into the Riverbank school would mean that families who live in Seaton might find it difficult to walk to school and therefore impact on their ability to choose St Peter's RC school for

their child's education.

I have been a resident of Tillydrone for over 50 years and had attended both St Machar and Tillydrone primary schools, my own children attended Donbank, St Machar & Tillydrone, therefore after the closure of St Machar and the demolition of Tillydrone it is time for Aberdeen City Council to build a school fit for purpose for the school role of the children of Tillydrone and catchment area.

The best option would be for St Peter's to move into Riverbank and the new school purposely built to suit the ever-growing needs for the residents of Tillydrone.

You only have one chance, don't screw it up like you have done over the years with the schools in Tillydrone.

Remember we vote next year.

I can only say the closing and knocking down of St Machar Primary was a big mistake (local residents knew this BUT COUNCIL THOUGHT THEY KNEW BETTER)

Totally unforgivable !!!

Tillydrone has been robbed of so many facilities and the CHILDREN deserve a new school !

I do not agree with this option either.

St. Peter's school is currently oversubscribed and sitting at 130% capacity.

Riverbank is under capacity.

Having visited both schools my overwhelming opinion is Riverbank school is a spacious campus which has welcomed 2-3 renovations/extensions over the years. Class room sizes at RB were under capacity and spacious. I could not see any reason for the school to move.

St. Peter's school on the other hand is an antiquated school that is not fit for purpose and grossly oversubscribed of pupils.

It has not benefited from any capital investment over the years.

It lacks basic facilities like a kitchen and dining area.

Despite all of this the school and community continues to nurture pupils in the ethos and culture of St. Peter's that is renowned and well respected across Aberdeen.

If St. Peter's move to the existing Riverbank school would there be a risk that the majority of current Riverbank pupils (and parents) decide they don't want to move to the new St Machar site due to travel time, practicality or would prefer a faith-based education? This could lead to St. Peter's (based at Riverbank) being at capacity or close to it from day one.

St. Peter's requires a new school built for its own pupils on the St Machar site. If budget permits we would accept a two-stream school however a three-stream school would be preferred for future growth

No - I feel it would be better to further develop and upgrade the existing Riverbank school

(currently under capacity), in order that it can continue to meet the educational needs of current and projected increasing numbers of children attending from its immediate vicinity.

I feel St Peter's would benefit from being sited in a new, three stream denominational school building - with early education and childcare facilities - on the site of the former St. Machar School and former Tillydrone School. This would mean logistically, for Aberdeen City Council, only one school community would need to be moved to a new location - not two, thereby minimising disruption and reducing the associated moving costs. It is known that the current P1 role at St Peter's would currently fill three classes, and St Peter's would therefore fill the roll available in a three stream school.

Being sited at the former St Machar School site would keep St Peter's closer to its current home in Old Aberdeen, and allow it to flourish in a building purpose-built for delivering a high quality education throughout the 21st century. Building a three stream denominational school for St Peter's (which is currently 130 pupils OVER capacity, and lacks separate gym and dining facilities) would ensure its buildings and classrooms were accessible and fit for purpose, and would address the lack of nursery provision in the shortest time-frame: parents cannot currently access early years 'Curriculum for Excellence' education for their 3-5 year olds within an RC school in the north of Aberdeen, as St Peter's has no building, classroom or playground space for nursery education (and is the only school in the city so compromised).

I believe creating a single three stream school on this site would meet the needs of St Peter's children and staff, both for children who have been baptised as Roman Catholics, and from those from other faiths - and none - who wish to access a faith based education for their children.

NO

I am as well not in support of this plan. Although, I am strongly in support of St. Peter's School maintaining her denominational status. I believe St. Peter's School should not be relocated to the current Riverbank school building.

Finally, I believe the 2 options (A & B) should be amended to include Option C, which would states that a new school building should be constructed for St. Peter's RC School.

While this a suitable option I fail to understand the reasoning behind the logic of having 2 school moves. Why not simply build the new school on the former St. Machar School / former Tillydrone School site and move St. Peters to this new school.

Why take the trouble of 2 relocations, i.e. move Tillydrone to the new school and then move St. Peters RC to the old Riverbank school?? I see this as being hard on students, teachers and parents as well. This would also require more time for readjustment and settling in.

Has there been any logical calculation, future planning, financial impact assessment, cultural benefit or any other reasoning of giving the new school to Riverbank? Moving St. Peters RC school which is a denominational school to the old Riverbank school would pose its own issues with the

local community suddenly having a new denominational school in the vicinity. I would not be comfortable taking my child to a school in this vicinity.

Hence my preference would be for a new school on the former St. Machar School / former Tillydrone School site and to move St. Peters to this new school. If at all there is reason why this is not feasible or cost effective, I would like to see a clear explanation for the same and logical reasoning for the same.

I would also like to be convinced that this decision is not simply done giving St. Peters RC the lower preference simply on account of being denominational school as without any explanation to the contrary, this is what it clearly appears to depict.

No I do not support relocating St Peter's school into Riverbank, there are a multitude of reasons to why I do not support this option.

We need an option where the parents of St Peter's are provided with a new school of their own (and at a location which is local to the area i.e. on the existing school site or the old Dunbar Street Halls site).

My personal opinion is that the old Dunbar Street Halls site is perfect for a new school for St Peter's. I have heard some reasons why this option has not been taken forward however I question whether due care and attention has been given to this option and that a full due diligence exercise has been completed. We (as a community) deserve complete transparency on the selection process. Have sufficient attempts been made with the University to explore the option of land purchase or have sufficient attempts to vary the school design to fit with the shape of the land been completed? I would welcome that this option is re-examined as a minimum.

It is imperative that a completely new consultation is started which will provide us with other more credible options for our community. Despite the harsh economic environment Aberdeen is faced with today, the future of our children should not be determined on the best way to "cut costs." They deserve better than this.

No, I do not agree with this option either.

1. St Peter's school has put up with bad estate conditions for a long time now. Why should we get a second hand school. We could possibly adapt a few things but we can not have major influence in the school layout as it is already in place. I feel St Peter's should have priority in this process to get what our kids need as we have coped with bad conditions for a long time now.

2. I think St Peter's is a very special school and it is unique in Aberdeen. The values and the school ethos are creating a very inclusive, supportive and motivating environment. It is a positive example of integration of lost of different nationalities and social backgrounds. Children are highly motivated to learn and identify positively with their education.

I think all this is put at risk if you would move the school into the wrong environment. And the

middle of the Tillydrone Community is very likely the wrong environment from my point of view. I have lived in Tillydrone myself and we had crime and drugs at our door step. I do not understand why you would need to put the "treasure" St Peter's into such a difficult area which I do not feel creates a positive and safe environment for development and education of our children.

And this leads on to the next problem. Speaking to other parents, I am not the only one who shows concerns regarding this. I think there is a significant number of parents who would consider taking their children out of the school and sending them to an alternative school, if St Peter's would move to the Tillydrone area for the above reasons. And this is likely to lead to a breakup of the so well functioning school community that we are enjoying at the moment.

Unfortunately, I do not feel that either of the options is acceptable for me. I would prefer a stand alone St Peter's in a different area.

Both schools need new buildings based on an appraisal of their to their needs. A new-build for Riverbank on the former St Machar's Primary site seems reasonable as it will be possible to design modern (and long-awaited) facilities that meet the needs of Riverbank School.

However the Riverbank School buildings should not be used to accommodate St Peter's as:

a) That they are not seen as appropriate for continued use by Riverbank is an acknowledgment that they are not appropriate for a 21st century school.

b) The proposal is clearly not based on an appraisal of the needs of St Peter's School - it is inconceivable that one building seen as unsuitable for one school would be suitable for another!

c) There needs to be an appraisal of the best location for St Peter's, to take into account travel arrangements for pupils with the aim of reduce the use of cars and increasing cycling, walking and public transport. There is clearly an attraction to a location as close to Old Aberdeen as possible, but the main need is for a reliable appraisal, rather than simply the re-use of a redundant building.

This option are promoted riverbank school and live St. Peters School smaller building and in few years time capacity of this school can be again to small for school.

Location of riverbank school create additional walking distance 1.6 miles for our family.

Do support this option either!

At present only St. Peter's school has a problem with overcapacity - 256 pupils for 198 places (129.3% over) whereas Riverbank does not have that problem now 386 for 420 (92%) and will only have a similar issue 3 years down the line in 2019 - 553 for 420 (131%). Providing that your estimation are correct as one says 553 but other 450 only (in a new, better school).

Actually I don't really understand the forecasts for Riverbank and St. Peter's for the next 6 years at all.

Forecast for St Peter's is not changing regardless of the option chosen nor the location offered etc. Surprisingly steady state.

But the forecast for Riverbank is even more interesting - if the school stays as it is you predict that it will be 639 kids willing to attend it in 2022 but if the school is replaced by a brand new, modern unit placed just 600 yards away from the old location (Option B) it will be only 476 pupils willing to

go there!? Where would the remaining 163 students go if you predict that they won't go to St. Peter's school placed at this location (constant 313 regardless of the option chosen)? Or maybe you are predicting that they would be willing to go/stay at the old location (taken then by St Peters); which would bring St. Peter's roll for 2022 to 476, which equals to 113% of the max capacity (100% in 2019 107% in 2020, 112% in 2021).

For Option A the situation for St. Peters looks even worse. According to your forecast and assuming that all pupils not willing to go to Riverbank (ex. In 2019 that would be 271) would like to go St. Peter's (actually there won't be too much choice) the population of St. Peter's would rocket to 589 which gives 140% of the capacity of 420. The following years would be even worse – 147% in 2020, 152% in 2021 and 154% in 2022.

If that's the case I don't any improvement for St. Peter's School situation whatsoever.

Have you checked how many applications per year are rejected from St. Peter's, due to lack of space and how many of those rejected are now in the Riverbank and whether they would like to change the school if only had that chance?

So maybe, just as a pure academic divagation, you could consider an option C (New St. Peter's School built at St. Machar School / former Tillydrone School site and Riverbank remain at the old location); where St. Peter's has capacity for 650 students and Riverbank still 420, as it might happen that even then St. Peter's school would be oversubscribed.

I DON'T support this option either!

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school would be oversubscribed.

Additional comments added to paper forms are as follows:

- I would like to support option C which is to build a new school just for St Peters on the site of the former St Machar School.
- I'd like to ask the council to consider the Option C what was offered by St Peters school's parent council. We all believe that our school needs to have a new bigger building where we would accept all kids who wanted to come to this school but were rejected due to lack of space. Please remember that lots of non-Catholic families would like to send their kids to our school.
- Option C – a 3 form St Peters school to be situated at the St Machar/Tillydrone sites, open to all in the community. St Peters until very recently was a school which welcomed families of all faiths (and none) and all nationalities and celebrated this with them. Now the school is predominantly catholic, over 60% of the children speak Polish as a first language. These families want to be integrated into Scottish society and want their children to learn English. This will happen only when St Peters is large enough to accommodate all who wish to enrol their children there. A 2 form entry school would be too small for full integration. This area houses many migrants – Eastern European and soon, those from the Middle East. Muslims generally opt for faith schools. Both option A and option B mitigate against the assimilation of these migrants into the wider community. We must learn not just to tolerate each other but to understand, welcome, appreciate and celebrate each other's traditions, beliefs and ways of life. We need not segregate the schools by creed. And this is exactly why a 3 form St Peters is needed. Alex Salmon the former first minister of Scotland remarked that 'children in catholic schools gain a wider sense of responsibility and identity and a desire to help improve the community in which they live'

There was also a poster submitted by St Peters RC Pupil Voice.

Option 1: Move into Riverbank School in Tillydrone:

- NO why should we get a used school if it is already well used.
- Why do they get a new school and we don't, unfair.
- Use their space and build more to fit their needs.
- Too far away from where I live.

Option 2: Move into a brand new school in Tillydrone. There would be two school built close together, we may share the playground and hall. We would have our own uniform, classrooms, teachers and we would still be called St Peters RC.

- Meeting new friends.
- Doing project work together.
- We can have more cooperation skills.
- We can have more learning opportunities.
- More respectful.
- Sharing ideas by meeting together.
- Would be a good distance from both communities.
- 2 communities working together.
- Clubs together.

9 people in total suggested an Option C – These are all mentioned above but I have collated them below as they are not consistent:

- That the Council should consider building a new 3 stream (3 -classes per year) school on the site of the former St Machar school on Tillydrone Avenue exclusively for St Peter's RC primary school, as well as nursery provision.
- that the council build a new school on the former St Machar school site for St Peter's RC school alone. This new school would include provision for early education and childcare facilities. The council would then expand Riverbank on its own site to accommodate future growth in that school and allow for some of the families who wish to move to St Peter's.
- That the Council should consider building a new 3 stream (3 -classes per year) school on the site of the former St Machar school on Tillydrone Avenue exclusively for St Peter's RC primary school, as well as nursery provision.
- which would states that a new school building should be constructed for St. Peter's RC School.
- C (New St. Peter's School built at St. Machar School / former Tillydrone School site and Riverbank remain at the old location); where St. Peter's has capacity for 650 students and Riverbank still 420, as it might happen that even then St. Peter's school would be oversubscribed.
- New St. Peter's School built at St. Machar School / former Tillydrone School site
- I would like to support option C which is to build a new school just for St Peters on the site of the former St Machar School.
- I'd like to ask the council to consider the Option C what was offered by St Peters school's parent council. We all believe that our school needs to have a new bigger building where we would accept all kids who wanted to come to this school but were rejected due to lack of space. Please remember that lots of non-Catholic families would like to send their kids to our school.
- Option C – a 3 form St Peters school to be situated at the St Machar/Tillydrone sites, open to all in the community.