

**ROCHDALE LOCAL AUTHORITY
MIDDLETON TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL
PROPOSED CLOSURE OF SIXTH FORM**

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in a complete proposal

Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 and Part 1 of Schedule 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):

In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

N/A

In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details

2. The name, address and category of the school.

Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council
Middleton Technology School, (Community School),
Kenyon Lane, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2GT

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

3 The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

The full proposals will be implemented by 31st August 2013. There was no new intake of pupils in the 6th form for the year 2012/13.

Objections and comments

4 A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —

- (a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and
- (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

Any person can make representations on the proposals by sending them in writing, by 20th February 2013, to: Dawn Jennings, by e-mail at dawn.jennings@rochdale.gov.uk, or in writing to this address: Dawn Jennings, School Support Officer, Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council, Schools Service, PO Box 70, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, Rochdale OL16 1YD or via

Alteration description

5 A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

The alteration proposed is the removal of the school's 6th form provision by 31st August 2013. Sixth Form provision for Middleton Township will continue to be provided through a range of providers- Rochdale Sixth Form College, Hopwood Hall College, St. Anne's Academy and Cardinal Langley RC High School. There are other post-16 providers in adjacent local authority areas. Copies of the consultation papers are on the Council website at: <http://consultations.rochdale.gov.uk/research/middtech/>

School capacity

6—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8, 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the proposals must also include —

- (c) details of the current capacity of the school and, where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

The new net capacity has been provisionally re-assessed as 1382, taking account of both BSF re-modelling and the availability of the sixth form area for teaching purposes. This gives an Indicated Admission Number of 276.

- (d) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

The school has a PAN of 210 and currently has a NOR of 1,023 11-16 (1,040 for 11-18). In September 2013 the school will have a PAN 210. The proposed Published Admission Number for September 2014 will be 270.

- (e) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

N/A

- (f) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

N/A

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals) /paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

There are currently 1,023 pupils on roll aged 11-16, no pupils in year 12 and 17 pupils in Year 13 (October 2012 School Census).

Implementation

7 Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.

N/A

Additional Site

8—(1) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

No additional site will be required.

(2) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with details of the tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site of the school will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease.

N/A

Changes in boarding arrangements

9—(1) Where the proposals are for the introduction or removal of boarding provision, or the alteration of existing boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

(a) the number of pupils for whom it is intended that boarding provision will be made if the proposals are approved;

N/A

(b) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

N/A

(c) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision; and

N/A

(d) except where the proposals are to introduce boarding provision, a description of the existing boarding provision.

N/A

(3) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

(a) the number of pupils for whom boarding provision will be removed if the proposals are approved; and

N/A

(b) a statement as to the use to which the former boarding accommodation will be put if the proposals are approved.

N/A

Transfer to new site

10 Where the proposals are to transfer a school to a new site the following information—

- (c) the location of the proposed site (including details of whether the school is to occupy a single or split site), and including where appropriate the postal address;

N/A

- (d) the distance between the proposed and current site;

N/A

- (e) the reason for the choice of proposed site;

N/A

- (f) the accessibility of the proposed site or sites;

N/A

- (g) the proposed arrangements for transport of pupils to the school on its new site; and

N/A

- (h) a statement about other sustainable transport alternatives where pupils are not using transport provided, and how car use in the school area will be discouraged.

N/A

Objectives

11 The objectives of the proposals.

To discontinue the sixth form provision at Middleton Technology School. This is because student demand and post 16 funding arrangements mean that it is not financially viable to continue.

Consultation

12 Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—

- (i) a list of persons who were consulted;
- (j) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- (k) the views of the persons consulted;
- (l) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and
- (m) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

The Local Authority has consulted with the following prior to publication of proposals:

- The Governing Body of Middleton Technology School
- Parents of children currently attending Middleton Technology College,
- Pupils and students at the school
- All staff at the school
- Middleton Township Primary Schools
- Rochdale Borough Secondary Schools
- The local MPs and Middleton and Hopwood elected members
- Secretaries of Recognised Trades Unions
- Representatives from the Manchester and Salford Dioceses
- Education Funding Agency
- All neighbouring Local Authorities

Copies of the Consultation Documents are attached as **Appendix One**. These documents were available on both the Rochdale MBC website and Middleton Technology School website. The consultation letter was sent to all the parties listed above. There were meetings with the school staff on 8th October and the Student Council on 15th October. An open drop-in session was arranged for parents and carers on 17th October 2012.

The views expressed by the consultees are attached as **Appendix Two**. The consultation took place from 1st October 2012 until 18th November 2012 (seven weeks to allow for the October half term).

The consultation complied with all applicable statutory requirements for this proposal. Adequate time was allowed for interested parties to respond. The consultation letter briefly outlined the proposal and signposted consultees to the School and Council websites where fuller information was available in the form of the Headteachers report to the Governing Body setting out the rationale for the proposal, and copies of the following: report to Cabinet on 17th September setting out the proposal and seeking authorisation to consult; the draft Prescribed Information; and the Equality Impact Assessment.

Project costs

13 A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local education authority, and any other party.

Removal of Sixth form provision itself does not require capital support.

14 A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Learning and Skills Council for England (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

N/A

Age range

15 Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

11 - 18

Early years provision

16 Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5—

- (n) details of the early years provision, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

N/A

- (o) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services and how the proposals are consistent with the integration of early years provision for childcare;

N/A

- (p) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;

N/A

- (q) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools and in establishments other than schools who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school; and

N/A

- (r) reasons why such schools and establishments who have spare capacity cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the number of such provision.

N/A

Changes to sixth form provision

17 (a) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

- (i) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (ii) increase participation in education or training; and
- (iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities
- for 16-19 year olds in the area;

N/A

(b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

N/A

(c) Evidence —

- (i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and
- (ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

N/A

(d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

N/A

18 Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school ceases to provide sixth form education, a statement of the effect on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

Sixth Form provision for Middleton Township will continue to be provided through a range of providers - Rochdale Sixth Form College, Hopwood Hall College, St. Anne's Academy and Cardinal Langley RC High School. There are other post-16 providers in adjacent local authority areas.

Special educational needs

19 Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs—

- (s) a description of the proposed types of learning difficulties in respect of which education will be provided and, where provision for special educational needs already exists, the current type of provision;

N/A

- (t) any additional specialist features will be provided;

N/A

- (u) the proposed numbers of pupils for which the provision is to be made;

N/A

- (v) details of how the provision will be funded;

N/A

- (w) a statement as to whether the education will be provided for children with special educational needs who are not registered pupils at the school to which the proposals relate;

N/A

- (x) a statement as to whether the expenses of the provision will be met from the school's delegated budget;

N/A

- (y) the location of the provision if it is not to be established on the existing site of the school;

N/A

- (z) where the provision will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs, a statement as to how the local education authority believes that the new provision is likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children; and

N/A

- (aa) the number of places reserved for children with special educational needs, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of such places.

N/A

20 Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs—

- (bb) details of alternative provision for pupils for whom the provision is currently made;

N/A

- (cc) details of the number of pupils for whom provision is made that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs during each of the 4 school years preceding the current school year;

N/A

- (dd) details of provision made outside the area of the local education authority for pupils whose needs will not be able to be met in the area of the authority as a result of the discontinuance of the provision; and

N/A

(ee) a statement as to how the proposer believes that the proposals are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children.

N/A

21 Where the proposals will lead to alternative provision for children with special educational needs, as a result of the establishment, alteration or discontinuance of existing provision, the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of—

- (ff) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local education authority's Accessibility Strategy;
- (gg) improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including any external support and outreach services;
- (hh) improved access to suitable accommodation; and
- (ii) improved supply of suitable places.

N/A

Sex of pupils

22 Where the proposals are to make an alteration to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of one sex only becomes an establishment which admits pupils of both sexes—

- (jj) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single sex-education in the area;

N/A

- (kk) evidence of local demand for single-sex education; and

N/A

- (ll) details of any transitional period which the body making the proposals wishes specified in a transitional exemption order (within the meaning of section 27 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975).

N/A

23 Where the proposals are to make an alteration to a school to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of both sexes becomes an establishment which admits pupils of one sex only—

- (mm) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single-sex education in the area; and

N/A

- (nn) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

N/A

Extended services

24 If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school's extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

The closure of the 6th form does not affect the provision of extended services at the school.

Need or demand for additional places

25 If the proposals involve adding places—

- (oo) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

N/A

(pp) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

N/A

(qq) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

N/A

26 If the proposals involve removing places—

(rr) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice; and

The removal of sixth form places inevitably reduces parental and student 'choice'. The Governing Body and the Local Authority believe, however, that the Sixth Form at Middleton Technology School is not sustainable and that not financially viable. Furthermore, by attempting to retain the 6th form there would be a significant negative impact upon its 11-16 provision at a time when standards have significantly risen. Sixth Form provision for Middleton Township will continue to be provided through a combination of provision- Rochdale Sixth Form College, Hopwood Hall College, St. Anne's Academy and Cardinal Langley RC High School.

(ss) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

Current Year13 students will be able to complete their study programmes. Sixth Form provision for Middleton Township will continue to be provided through a combination of provision- Rochdale Sixth Form College, Hopwood Hall College, St. Anne's Academy and Cardinal Langley RC High School. Potentially displaced future students for the non-advanced programme formerly offered can access appropriate alternative programmes at Hopwood Hall College.

Expansion of successful and popular schools

26A. (1) Proposals must include a statement of whether the proposer considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply, and where the governing body consider the presumption applies, evidence to support this.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies to expansion proposals in respect of primary and secondary schools, (except for grammar schools), i.e. falling within:

(a) (for proposals published by the governing body) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 or paragraph 12 of Part 2 to Schedule 2;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 4 or 18 of Part 4 to Schedule 4

of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

N/A

..... **ends**

APPENDIX ONE- CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

1. Consultation Letter

CHILDREN, SCHOOLS & FAMILIES SUPPORT FOR LEARNING SERVICE



Middleton Technology School

Sandra Bowness
Service Director

E-mail: consultation@rochdale.gov.uk
Date: 1st October 2012

To: Governors, Parents, Pupils, Staff of Middleton Technology School, Rochdale Secondary Schools, Secretaries of Recognised Trades Unions, neighbouring Local Authorities, Diocesan Authorities, Education Funding Agency, MPs for Heywood, Middleton and Rochdale
cc: Middleton Township Councillors,

Dear Sir/Madam,

PROPOSED CLOSURE OF MIDDLETON TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL SIXTH FORM PROVISION IN 2013.

The reason for this letter is to tell you that following a request from the Governing Body of the school, the Local Authority is considering the closure of the Sixth Form at Middleton Technology School at the end of August 2013. Before it takes the decision, the Local Authority wants to hear your views about the proposed closure.

What is being proposed?

The proposal is to close the Sixth Form Provision at Middleton Technology School on 31st August 2013. Sixth Form provision for Middleton Township will continue to be provided through a combination of provision- Rochdale Sixth Form College, Hopwood Hall College, St. Anne's Academy and Cardinal Langley RC High School. There are other post-16 providers in adjacent local authority areas.

Why does the Local Authority want to do this?

The Governing Body has looked at the educational and financial viability of continuing with the small sixth form provision at the school. The small numbers of students, together with changes to the funding arrangements for school sixth forms means that the school cannot afford to continue with a sixth form. The Local Authority has considered the views of the Governing Body and in the interests of the school has agreed to consult on proposals to close the sixth form.

What would happen and when?

The Sixth Form would close on 31st August 2013. The last admission to year 12 would have been September 2012, but there was insufficient demand to justify starting new courses. Those students who have started their Year 13 programme this September will be able to finish their studies at the school unaffected.

Is that the only change proposed by the Local Authority?

Yes. The only change the Local Authority is consulting on is to close the Sixth Form.

How will the closure be managed?

The Governing Body will plan the curriculum and staffing implications of the change in the context of managing the school budget.

Further information

Further information on this proposal is available on the Council Website [www.rochdale.gov.uk/about the council/ more on about the council/consultations.aspx](http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/about_the_council/more_on_about_the_council/consultations.aspx) or the School website www.middletech.com follow the link to '6th form closure consultation'

Consultation

There is a 7 week consultation period starting on 1st October 2012. This ends at midnight on 18th November 2012.

Who takes the decision?

On 17th December the Local Authority will consider all responses received within the consultation period. It will decide whether to publish statutory proposals to close the Sixth Form in 2013. If the Local Authority decides to publish proposals, at the end of a 6 week representation period the Local Authority will then make the final decision in accordance with Statutory Guidance and Regulations.

How can I make my views known?

Meetings have been arranged as follows-

School Council	10.35am on 15 th October 2012	LE 1 in the School
School Staff	3pm on 8 th October 2012	Main hall in the School
Open Drop-in for Parents & carers	Starts 4pm until 6.30pm Wednesday 17 th October	School hall, Middleton Technology School

The closing date for comments is midnight on 18th November 2012

Comments should be sent to consultation@rochdale.gov.uk, or in writing to Dawn Jennings, School Support Officer, Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council, Schools Service, PO Box 70, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, Rochdale OL16 1YD or via the consultation website [www.rochdale.gov.uk/about the council/ more on about the council/consultations.aspx](http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/about_the_council/more_on_about_the_council/consultations.aspx)

Yours Faithfully



Sandra Bowness
Service Director
Support for Learning

2. Governors Report- Middleton Technology School Governing Body



Middleton Technology School

Briefing Note to Governors

Proposals to close the Sixth Form provision

Background

In 2005 the Government laid out its vision for the 14-19 phase of education in England in the coming years and set out its aims:

- introduce greater choice of what and where to study and make it easier to combine academic and vocational learning;
- retain GCSEs and A levels as cornerstones of the new system;
- introduce new specialised Diplomas, including academic and vocational material, covering each occupational sector of the economy. The Diplomas will be available at levels 1 (foundation), 2 (GCSE) and 3 (advanced);
- require that anyone achieving a Diploma at level 2 must have functional English and maths at level 2;
- put employers in the lead through Sector Skills Councils, in designing specialized Diplomas which provide the right grounding for work and further study, supported by higher education and the QCA

In 2006 Middleton Technology School benefitted from a "presumption". Which was a policy aligned to the White Paper that came directly from the Prime Minister's office which allowed highly successful schools to set up six form provision and become 11-18 schools. At the same time there were a number of "policy collisions" .Building Schools for the Future BSF was becoming a faint possibility on the horizon for Rochdale but the price of consideration was an 11-18 sponsored academy within the project. The now defunct Learning and Skills Council (LSC) conducted a StAR of post 16 provisions in Rochdale which concluded there was a need for better L3 (academic) provision in the borough. Thus it was agreed that there would be a "competition" for a new academic sixth form in Rochdale Town centre and that there could be a "mixed economy" in Middleton because of the "collision" of the BSF academy policy, the presumption and the StAR.

During 2006/7 the school planned a collaborative 6th form offer with the St Anne's Academy and CLHS. It was agreed that MTS's would be a purely vocational offer that consisted of diploma lines to begin with in Engineering and Society, Health and Development (SHD) with other lines in Manufacturing and ICT to follow to match the 14-19 agenda for education and our offer would blend with SAA which would be focused on the Arts and CLHS which would be a L3 academic offer to provide the learners of Middleton with a choice without duplication or over provision.

Present Position

From a high point of over 70 learners in the two diploma lines at L2 and L3 we have been unable to grow the sixth form provision to a viable size and find ourselves for September 2012 with only 9 applications to the sixth form provision, 8 in Engineering



and 1 in HSC. We have also only 17 students in Engineering /SHD in Year 13 going forward not including the Y13/12 CLHS students we have for Sociology (approximately 25). This position is financially unviable and an unacceptable use of resources in that it is neither efficient nor effective and we are charged with making our educational provision both efficient and effective. The reasons for this are several fold:

- With the change in Government has come a change of emphasis about Diplomas the requirements for these lines of learning 14-19 have been removed and the qualifications themselves do not carry the currency that they were developed for.
- We have not been able to expand the scope of our offer significantly or offer other diploma lines which is unattractive to a broad range of students
- We cannot expand our offer to include a range of L3 academic qualifications as this will cause duplication and overprovision within the borough with the development of the Rochdale Sixth Form
- Funding arrangements for post 16 are changing
- Similarly the new funding body YPLA is clear that the school cannot meet its success criteria for funding based on the courses offered
- We cannot attract the calibre of students required to complete the Advanced Diploma in Engineering (aimed at top flight students with excellent maths and physics qualifications) and have had to offer L3 BTEC Engineering in its place and again have had to switch the SHD to BTEC H & Social Care because of the reluctance of HEI to accept Diploma qualifications.
- Whilst we had success with our beginning students accessing HE and University places, nearly all of the students who have accessed vocational provision have continued with us without L2 Maths and English qualifications and have struggled to achieve these awards by age 18/19.
- Students have not readily wanted to access provision at other schools .The exception to this has been L3 Sociology which we have offered to compliment the offer at CLHS and their students have come here to study.
- No student from MTS or CLHS has accessed any provision from SAA and we have seen a reduction to zero of their students accessing provision at MTS or CLHS
- Collaboration despite our efforts has proved unsuccessful

Implications

- There are no staffing implications and no teaching staff affected by the proposals other than minor internal staff deployment arrangements managed by the school
- There are no other HR or personnel implications for the LA that arise from this closure
- There are no financial implications other than the school receiving less revenue funding in line with the reduction in numbers



- There is no sex, disability or race discrimination issues which arise from the changes proposed.
- There are other providers within less than 3 miles of the school
- With no intake in September 2012, existing students will complete their studies without impact to them.
- All students who are to access post 16 education, including those with Special Educational Needs, are accommodated by sufficient places at Rochdale Sixth Form and other post 16 providers
- Whilst the removal of the sixth form ,it could be argued lessens choice in the provision of this type of post 16 provision, the reality is, that all , but a very small number, wish to exercise their choice at providers other than MTS.
- The school will be able to continue to be Outstanding and to focus on the very high achievement of students 11-16 and its pursuit of excellence for every child. For post 16 learners the opportunities available through the sixth form college and other providers will be much broader than those available within the school. Thus resources within the school and across the borough are appropriately targeted to be effective and efficient (and thus VfM).
- The school is currently benefitting from the BSF programme and thus there are no capital issues. The net capacity will be consistent with that required for an 1100 place 11-16 school.

Recommendation

That the school close it's sixth form provision with effect from 31st August 2013

Allison Crompton CBE
Head Teacher

9th July 2012

3. Cabinet Report - 17th September 2012



ROCHDALE
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH
COUNCIL

Subject: Middleton Technology School: Prescribed Alteration to Remove Sixth Form Provision	Status: For Publication
Report to: Cabinet	Date: 17 th September 2012
Report of: Chris Swift School Organisation and Development Manager	Email: chris.swift@rochdale.gov.uk Tel: 01706 925016
Cabinet Member: Councillor Donna Martin, Portfolio Holder for Children Schools and Families	
Comments from Statutory Officers:	Section 151 Officer <input type="checkbox"/> X Monitoring Officer <input type="checkbox"/> X
Key Decision: Yes / No	
Forward Plan <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Exception <input type="checkbox"/> Special Urgency <input type="checkbox"/>	

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Governing Body of Middleton Technology School at a meeting to be held on 5th September will request that the Local Authority, as the Admission Authority for the school, discontinues the Sixth Form at the school with effect from 31st August 2013.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Cabinet is asked to consider the request from the governing body of the school and to Authorise public consultation on the proposal

3. MAIN TEXT INCLUDING ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED/ CONSULTATION CARRIED OUT

- 3.1 The Governing Body of Middleton Technology School has considered a report from the Headteacher setting out the implications for the school in continuing with sixth form provision. That report set out the background to the establishment of sixth form provision at the school, it's place in post 16 provision in Middleton Township and the Borough as a whole. The provision at Middleton Technology School was a vocational offer, consisting initially of 2 diploma courses in Engineering, Society, Health and Development and planned to be followed by other diplomas in Manufacturing and ICT. These courses were to be part of a collaborative Sixth Form offer in the Township in partnership with St.Anne's Academy and Cardinal Langley High School.
- 3.2 In the past the Sixth Form has had up to 70 students in the 2 diploma courses at Level 2 (GCSE equivalent) and Level 3 (A level equivalent). However, the school has

not been able to grow the provision to a viable size, and for September 2012 there were only 9 applications to the Sixth Form so it has not been possible to offer any places. There are only 17 students going forward into Year 13 in September 2012. This is not financially viable, nor is it an effective use of resources by the school.

- 3.3 If the proposal to discontinue the sixth form provision is to proceed there needs to be consideration of the implications for current and future potential students. As indicated above there has been no recruitment to Year 12 for this September. Those students continuing in to Year 13 will be able to complete their programme of study. For future students who wish to access post-16 education these can be accommodated by a range of post 16 providers- other school sixth forms, Hopwood Hall College and Rochdale Sixth Form College.
- 3.4 The arrangements for consultation on Prescribed Alterations to schools are set out in Department for Education (DfE) statutory and other guidance. Consultation would comply with these arrangements and a draft timeline for consideration, determination and implementation of the proposals is set out as **Appendix One**.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Funding for sixth form provision is through the Education Funding Agency, and there are to be changes in how the whole of post-16 funding is determined and allocated. The number of students in the sixth form means that the provision is not financially viable.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The Local Authority is the Admission Authority for the school and is responsible for undertaking consultation, publishing any statutory proposals and determining those proposals in accordance with statutory and other guidance.

6. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The governing body is responsible for managing any staffing changes and meeting any costs associated from their decision to seek closure that might arise following a proposed closure of the Sixth Form.

7. RISK ASSESSMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no specific risk issues for members to consider arising from this report.

There are no background papers to this report

APPENDIX ONE**MIDDLETON TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL
TIMELINE FOR PROPOSAL TO DISCONTINUE SIXTH FORM PROVISION**

Week Commencing		
3 rd Sept	Middleton Technology School Governing Body meet 6 th Sept.	
10 th Sept		
17 th Sept	Cabinet 17 th September	
24 th Sept		
1 st Oct	Start Consultation 7 weeks to include half term	7 weeks
8 th Oct		consultation
15 th Oct	Consultation drop-in 4pm to 6.30 (17 th Oct) + staff & Student meetings	
22 nd Oct	Half Term	
29 th Oct		
5 th Nov	Middleton Township Committee 8 th November	
12 th Nov	End of Consultation	
19 th Nov		
26 th Nov		
3 rd Dec		
10 th Dec	Overview & Scrutiny Committee 13 th December	
17 th Dec	Cabinet 17 th December	
24 th Dec	Christmas Holidays	
31 st Dec		
7 th Jan	Publish statutory proposals if approved	Statutory
14 th Jan		6 week
21 st Jan		representation
28 th Jan		Period
4 th Feb		
11 th Feb		
18 th Feb	Half Term	
25 th Feb		
4 th March		
11 th March		
18 th March	Cabinet 18 th March to determine statutory proposals Overview & Scrutiny 21 st March	
25 th March	Notify DfE/OSA, School, statutory objectors etc. of decision	
AUGUST	31 st August Sixth Form closes	
<p>CONSULTEES-</p> <p>Parents, Pupils, Staff, Middleton Technology School, Rochdale Secondary Schools, Secretaries of Recognised Trades Unions, neighbouring Local Authorities, local MPs Middleton Township Councillors. Education Funding Agency</p>		

4. Cabinet Minutes- Extract 17th September 2012

Cabinet Minutes

Monday, 17th September, 2012 6.15 pm

The minutes of the relevant section of the cabinet meeting are shown below.

The minutes of the full cabinet meeting are available to view online at:-
[http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=116&Mid=1762
&Ver=4](http://democracy.rochdale.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?Cid=116&Mid=1762&Ver=4)

59. Middleton Technology School: Prescribed Alteration to Remove Sixth Form College

Minutes:

The Service Director – Support for Learning advised that the Governing Body of Middleton Technology School, at a meeting held on the 5th September 2012, had requested that the local authority, as the Admission Authority for the school, discontinues the sixth form at the school with effect from 31st August 2013.

The recommendations were presented as the Local Authority was the admission authority for the school and was responsible for undertaking consultation, publishing any statutory proposals and for determining those proposals in accordance with statutory and other guidance.

Alternatives considered: None – The local authority is required to undertake its statutory duties.

DECIDED – That

- (1) the request from the Governing Body of Middleton Technology School with regard to the discontinuance of the sixth form be noted;**
- (2) public consultation on the proposal be authorised.**

Eligible for call-in - No

5. Draft Prescribed Information

DRAFT PRESCRIBED INFORMATION
MIDDLETON TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL
PROPOSED CLOSURE OF SIXTH FORM

PROPOSALS FOR PRESCRIBED ALTERATIONS OTHER THAN FOUNDATION PROPOSALS: Information to be included in a complete proposal

Extract of Part 1 of Schedule 3 and Part 1 of Schedule 5 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools)(England) Regulations 2007 (as amended):

In respect of a Governing Body Proposal: School and governing body's details

1. The name, address and category of the school for which the governing body are publishing the proposals.

N/A

In respect of an LEA Proposal: School and local education authority details

2. The name, address and category of the school.

Middleton Technology School
Kenyon Lane, Middleton, Manchester, M24 2GT
Community School

Implementation and any proposed stages for implementation

3. The date on which the proposals are planned to be implemented, and if they are to be implemented in stages, a description of what is planned for each stage, and the number of stages intended and the dates of each stage.

The full proposals will be implemented by 31st August 2013. There was no new intake of pupils in the 6th form for the year 2012/13.

Objections and comments

4. A statement explaining the procedure for making representations, including —

- (a) the date prescribed in accordance with paragraph 29 of Schedule 3 (GB proposals)/Schedule 5 (LA proposals) of The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), by which objections or comments should be sent to the local education authority; and
- (b) the address of the authority to which objections or comments should be sent.

Any person can make representations on the proposals by sending them in writing, by 18th November 2012, to: Dawn Jennings, School Support Officer, Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council, Schools Service, PO Box 70, Municipal Offices, Smith Street, Rochdale OL16 1YD or via email consultation@rochdale.gov.uk or via the RMBC website www.rochdale.gov.uk/about_the_council/more_on_about_the_council/consultations.aspx

Alteration description

5 A description of the proposed alteration and in the case of special school proposals, a description of the current special needs provision.

The alteration proposed is the removal of the school's 6th form provision by 31st August 2013. Sixth Form provision for Middleton Township will continue to be provided through a combination of provision- Rochdale Sixth Form College, Hopwood Hall College, St. Anne's Academy and Cardinal Langley RC High School. There are other post-16 providers in adjacent local authority areas.

School capacity

6—(1) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1 to 4, 8, 9 and 12-14 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/paragraphs 1-4, 7, 8, 18, 19 and 21 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), the proposals must also include —

- (c) details of the current capacity of the school and, where the proposals will alter the capacity of the school, the proposed capacity of the school after the alteration;

The new net capacity is being re-assessed to take account of both BSF re-modelling and the availability of the sixth form area for teaching purposes.

- (d) details of the current number of pupils admitted to the school in each relevant age group, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of pupils to be admitted in each relevant age group in the first school year in which the proposals will have been implemented;

The school has a PAN of 210 and currently has a NOR of 1,023 11-16 (1,040 for 11-18). From September 2013 the school will have a PAN 240 and successive years, subject to Net Capacity assessment, (proposed Net capacity of 1,200) in line with the new build

- (e) where it is intended that proposals should be implemented in stages, the number of pupils to be admitted to the school in the first school year in which each stage will have been implemented;

N/A

- (f) where the number of pupils in any relevant age group is lower than the indicated admission number for that relevant age group a statement to this effect and details of the indicated admission number in question.

N/A

(2) Where the alteration is an alteration falling within any of paragraphs 1, 2, 9, 12 and 13 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals) /paragraphs 1, 2, 8, 18 and 19 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended), a statement of the number of pupils at the school at the time of the publication of the proposals.

There are currently 1,023 pupils on roll aged 11-16, no pupils in year 12 and 17 pupils in Year 13

Implementation

7 Where the proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary controlled school a statement as to whether the proposals are to be implemented by the local education authority or by the governing body, and, if the proposals are to be implemented by both, a statement as to the extent to which they are to be implemented by each body.

N/A

Additional Site

8—(1) A statement as to whether any new or additional site will be required if proposals are implemented and if so the location of the site if the school is to occupy a split site.

No additional site will be required

(2) Where proposals relate to a foundation or voluntary school a statement as to who will provide any additional site required, together with details of the tenure (freehold or leasehold) on which the site of the school will be held, and if the site is to be held on a lease, details of the proposed lease.

N/A

Changes in boarding arrangements

9—(1) Where the proposals are for the introduction or removal of boarding provision, or the alteration of existing boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

(a) the number of pupils for whom it is intended that boarding provision will be made if the proposals are approved;

N/A

(b) the arrangements for safeguarding the welfare of children at the school;

N/A

(c) the current number of pupils for whom boarding provision can be made and a description of the boarding provision; and

N/A

(d) except where the proposals are to introduce boarding provision, a description of the existing boarding provision.

N/A

(3) Where the proposals are for the removal of boarding provisions or an alteration to reduce boarding provision such as is mentioned in paragraph 8 or 21 of Schedule 2 (GB proposals)/7 or 14 of Schedule 4 (LA proposals) to The School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended) —

(a) the number of pupils for whom boarding provision will be removed if the proposals are approved; and

N/A

(b) a statement as to the use to which the former boarding accommodation will be put if the proposals are approved.

N/A

Transfer to new site

10. Where the proposals are to transfer a school to a new site the following information—

(c) the location of the proposed site (including details of whether the school is to occupy a single or split site), and including where appropriate the postal address;

N/A

(d) the distance between the proposed and current site;

N/A

(e) the reason for the choice of proposed site;

N/A

(f) the accessibility of the proposed site or sites;

N/A

(g) the proposed arrangements for transport of pupils to the school on its new site; and

N/A

(h) a statement about other sustainable transport alternatives where pupils are not using transport provided, and how car use in the school area will be discouraged.

N/A

Objectives

11. The objectives of the proposals.

To discontinue the sixth form provision at Middleton Technology School. This is because student demand and post 16 funding arrangements mean that it is not financially viable to continue.

Consultation

12. Evidence of the consultation before the proposals were published including—

- (i) a list of persons who were consulted;
- (j) minutes of all public consultation meetings;
- (k) the views of the persons consulted;
- (l) a statement to the effect that all applicable statutory requirements in relation to the proposals to consult were complied with; and
- (m) copies of all consultation documents and a statement on how these documents were made available.

The Local Authority will consult with the following prior to publication of proposals:

- Governing Body of Middleton Technology School
- Parents of children currently attending Middleton Technology College,
- Pupils and students at the school
- Headteachers of Middleton primary schools
- Rochdale Borough Secondary Schools
- All staff
- The local MPs and Middleton and Hopwood elected members
- Secretaries of Recognised Trades Unions
- Representatives from the Diocese
- Education Funding Agency
- All neighbouring Local Authorities

This list will be updated after the closure of the consultation.

All documents related to the consultation are available on

www.rochdale.gov.uk/about_the_council/more_on_about_the_council/consultations.aspx
or the School website www.middtech.com - follow the link to '6th form closure consultation'

Project costs

13. A statement of the estimated total capital cost of the proposals and the breakdown of the costs that are to be met by the governing body, the local education authority, and any other party.

Removal of Sixth form provision itself does not require capital support.

14. A copy of confirmation from the Secretary of State, local education authority and the Learning and Skills Council for England (as the case may be) that funds will be made available (including costs to cover any necessary site purchase).

N/A

Age range

15. Where the proposals relate to a change in age range, the current age range for the school.

11 - 18

Early years provision

16. Where the proposals are to alter the lower age limit of a mainstream school so that it provides for pupils aged between 2 and 5—

- (a) details of the early years provision, including the number of full-time and part-time pupils, the number and length of sessions in each week, and the services for disabled children that will be offered;

N/A

- (b) how the school will integrate the early years provision with childcare services and how the proposals are consistent with the integration of early years provision for childcare;

N/A

- (c) evidence of parental demand for additional provision of early years provision;

N/A

- (d) assessment of capacity, quality and sustainability of provision in schools and in establishments other than schools who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage within 3 miles of the school; and

N/A

- (e) reasons why such schools and establishments who have spare capacity cannot make provision for any forecast increase in the number of such provision.

N/A

Changes to sixth form provision

17. (a) Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school provides sixth form education or additional sixth form education, a statement of how the proposals will—

- (i) improve the educational or training achievements;
- (ii) increase participation in education or training; and
- (iii) expand the range of educational or training opportunities for 16-19 year olds in the area;

N/A

(b) A statement as to how the new places will fit within the 16-19 organisation in an area;

N/A

(c) Evidence —

- (i) of the local collaboration in drawing up the proposals; and
- (ii) that the proposals are likely to lead to higher standards and better progression at the school;

N/A

(d) The proposed number of sixth form places to be provided.

N/A

18. Where the proposals are to alter the upper age limit of the school so that the school ceases to provide sixth form education, a statement of the effect on the supply of 16-19 places in the area.

Sixth Form provision for Middleton Township will continue to be provided through a combination of providers - Rochdale Sixth Form College, Hopwood Hall College, St. Anne's Academy and Cardinal Langley RC High School. There are other post-16 providers in adjacent local authority areas.

Special educational needs

19. Where the proposals are to establish or change provision for special educational needs—

- (a) a description of the proposed types of learning difficulties in respect of which education will be provided and, where provision for special educational needs already exists, the current type of provision;

N/A

(b) any additional specialist features will be provided;

N/A

(c) the proposed numbers of pupils for which the provision is to be made;

N/A

(d) details of how the provision will be funded;

N/A

(e) a statement as to whether the education will be provided for children with special educational needs who are not registered pupils at the school to which the proposals relate;

N/A

(f) a statement as to whether the expenses of the provision will be met from the school's delegated budget;

N/A

(g) the location of the provision if it is not to be established on the existing site of the school;

N/A

(h) where the provision will replace existing educational provision for children with special educational needs, a statement as to how the local education authority believes that the new provision is likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children; and

N/A

(i) the number of places reserved for children with special educational needs, and where this number is to change, the proposed number of such places.

N/A

20. Where the proposals are to discontinue provision for special educational needs—

(a) details of alternative provision for pupils for whom the provision is currently made;

N/A

(b) details of the number of pupils for whom provision is made that is recognised by the local education authority as reserved for children with special educational needs during each of the 4 school years preceding the current school year;

N/A

(c) details of provision made outside the area of the local education authority for pupils whose needs will not be able to be met in the area of the authority as a result of the discontinuance of the provision; and

N/A

(d) a statement as to how the proposer believes that the proposals are likely to lead to improvement in the standard, quality and range of the educational provision for such children.

N/A

21. Where the proposals will lead to alternative provision for children with special educational needs, as a result of the establishment, alteration or discontinuance of existing provision, the specific educational benefits that will flow from the proposals in terms of—

(a) improved access to education and associated services including the curriculum, wider school activities, facilities and equipment with reference to the local education authority's Accessibility Strategy;

(b) improved access to specialist staff, both educational and other professionals, including any external support and outreach services;

(c) improved access to suitable accommodation; and

(d) improved supply of suitable places.

N/A

Sex of pupils

22. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of one sex only becomes an establishment which admits pupils of both sexes—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single sex-education in the area;

N/A

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education; and

N/A

- (c) details of any transitional period which the body making the proposals wishes specified in a transitional exemption order (within the meaning of section 27 of the Sex Discrimination Act 1975).

N/A

23. Where the proposals are to make an alteration to a school to provide that a school which was an establishment which admitted pupils of both sexes becomes an establishment which admits pupils of one sex only—

- (a) details of the likely effect which the alteration will have on the balance of the provision of single-sex education in the area; and

N/A

- (b) evidence of local demand for single-sex education.

N/A

Extended services

24. If the proposed alterations affect the provision of the school's extended services, details of the current extended services the school is offering and details of any proposed change as a result of the alterations.

The closure of the 6th form does not affect the provision of extended services at the school.

Need or demand for additional places

25. If the proposals involve adding places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the need or demand for the particular places in the area;

N/A

- (b) where the school has a religious character, a statement and supporting evidence of the demand in the area for education in accordance with the tenets of the religion or religious denomination;

N/A

- (c) where the school adheres to a particular philosophy, evidence of the demand for education in accordance with the philosophy in question and any associated change to the admission arrangements for the school.

N/A

26. If the proposals involve removing places—

- (a) a statement and supporting evidence of the reasons for the removal, including an assessment of the impact on parental choice; and

The removal of sixth form places inevitably reduces parental and student 'choice'. The Governing Body believes, however, that it is not sustainable and that it is financially unviable. Furthermore, by attempting to retain the 6th form there would be a significant negative impact upon its 11-16 provision at a time when standards have significantly risen. The evidence in Rochdale is clear: at post-16, students are increasingly choosing to attend a college rather than school-based provision. Sixth Form provision for Middleton Township will continue to be provided through a combination of provision- Rochdale Sixth Form College, Hopwood Hall College, St. Anne's Academy and Cardinal Langley RC High School. There are other post-16 providers in adjacent local authority areas.

(b) a statement on the local capacity to accommodate displaced pupils.

Current students will be able to complete their study programmes. Sixth Form provision for Middleton Township will continue to be provided through a combination of provision- Rochdale Sixth Form College, Hopwood Hall College, St. Anne's Academy and Cardinal Langley RC High School. There are other post-16 providers in adjacent local authority areas.

Expansion of successful and popular schools

25A. (1) Proposals must include a statement of whether the proposer considers that the presumption for the expansion of successful and popular schools should apply, and where the governing body consider the presumption applies, evidence to support this.

(2) Sub-paragraph (1) applies to expansion proposals in respect of primary and secondary schools, (except for grammar schools), i.e. falling within:

(a) (for proposals published by the governing body) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 2 or paragraph 12 of Part 2 to Schedule 2;

(b) (for proposals published by the LA) paragraph 1 of Part 1 to Schedule 4 or 18 of Part 4 to Schedule 4

of the School Organisation (Prescribed Alterations to Maintained Schools) (England) Regulations 2007 (as amended).

N/A

.....ends.....

6. Equality Impact Assessment

Equality Impact Proforma

1. State which function you are assessing and identify who should be involved in the equality impact analysis

Policy/Service Area Selected
MIDDLETON TECHNOLOGY SCHOOL
What function, policy, procedure or practice is being assessed?
Closure of school Sixth Form from 31 st August 2013
Who is responsible for it? Council or Other Organisation/Partnership?
Rochdale Council as the Admission Authority for the school is responsible for proposals to change the range of the school. The Governing Body of the school is responsible for the day to day operation of the school and decisions about provision.
What are the aims and objectives of the function, policy, procedure or practice?
Closure of School Sixth Form
Who are the key stakeholders?
Middleton Technology School- staff, pupils and governors
Lead Officer for this analysis (i.e. service manager who will co-ordinate the EIA)
Chris Swift
Others consulted and involved in the analysis (i.e. colleagues/peers/key internal and external stakeholders)
Middleton Technology School Consultation arrangements on this proposal must comply with statutory guidance.

2. Identify the scope of the equality impact assessment

Please provide a summary of:

- What is to be included in this impact assessment/what issues will you consider? i.e. are all aspects of the policy/service to be covered or is it confined to a limited area? Please explain. This is likely to reflect the relevance to equality of different aspects.
- Does this service/policy have link to other service areas, or other Equality Impact Assessments?

1. A key consideration for the school is the financial viability of the current sixth form provision, because of the effect that has on resources available to the rest of the school. The low numbers interested in joining the sixth form, together with changes in funding arrangements for sixth forms means that it is no longer cost effective to continue the programmes.
2. Under education legislation the school is responsible for the management of the school and the curriculum. The Local Authority is the Admission Authority for the school and is responsible for making any changes to the age range of the school- which is what this proposal entails.
3. There are no links to other service areas.

3.State the data that you have considered for this assessment and any gaps in data identified. What action will be taken to close any data gaps?

1. The sixth form provision at Middleton Technology School is a vocational offer, consisting initially of 2 diploma courses in Engineering, Society, Health and Development and planned to be followed by other diplomas in Manufacturing and ICT. These courses were to be part of a collaborative Sixth Form offer in the Township in partnership with St.Anne’s Academy and Cardinal Langley High School.
2. In the past the Sixth Form has had up to 70 students in the 2 diploma courses at Level 2 (GCSE equivalent) and Level 3 (A level equivalent). However, the school has not been able to grow the provision to a viable size, and for September 2012 there were only 9 applications to the Sixth Form so it has not been possible to offer any places. There are only 17 students going forward into Year 13 in September 2012. This is not financially viable, nor is it an effective use of resources by the school.
3. If the proposal to discontinue the sixth form provision is to proceed there needs to be consideration of the implications for current and future potential students. As indicated above there has been no recruitment to Year 12 for this September. Those students continuing in to Year 13 will be able to complete their programme of study. For future students who wish to access post-16 education these can be accommodated by a range of post 16 providers- other school sixth forms, Hopwood Hall College and Rochdale Sixth Form College.

4. Assess the impact the policy/service has on equality will reference to different groups or communities. To do this, consider the questions on page 5 of the guidance, which relate to unequal outcomes or disadvantage; access barriers; unmet needs; encouraging participation; fostering good relations. The Equality Impact Assessment Checklist may also be helpful at this stage.

Race Equality
n/a
Disabled People
n/a
Carers
n/a

Gender
n/a
Older and Younger People
<p>The proposal affects young people who would otherwise seek a place in the Sixth Form at the school. There is a range of post-16 and Sixth Form provision available to potential students in the Township- through school sixth forms, Hopwood Hall College or Rochdale Sixth Form College, and this therefore reduces the impact of the removal of this provision at one school.</p> <p>Students who are currently in Year 13 will be able to complete their programmes at the school without disadvantage.</p>
People who are Socio-Economically Disadvantaged
n/a
Religion or Belief
n/a
Sexual Orientation
n/a
Gender Reassignment
n/a
Pregnant Women or Those on Maternity Leave
n/a
Marriage or Civil Partnership
n/a

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

<i>What are the main conclusions from this analysis?</i>
<p>The continuation of Sixth Form provision at the school (with low overall numbers, a narrow curriculum range and with changes to the funding regime for post 16 provision) is no longer viable. Reverting to an 11-16 age range will enable the school to focus entirely on that age range.</p>
What are your recommendations?
Equality objectives and targets to address the unequal impact/unmet needs/barriers/low participation
<p>There is sufficient alternative provision in the township and elsewhere in the borough to meet potential displaced demand. Those students who would have wanted to continue their education at the school have been supported by the school to make alternative choices. The school is also ensuring that current Year 13 students are able to complete their programmes at the school.</p>
Suggested actions to meet those targets
<p>No specific actions are required</p>

6. Consult your stakeholders on the main findings and conclusions of the equality impact analysis and ask for their comments. State your consultation and inclusion methodology.

The Consultation and Inclusion Methodology Used

Consultation of the proposal must comply with statutory guidance. The consultees comprise the following:

Governors, Parents, Pupils, Staff, Middleton Technology School,

All Rochdale Secondary Schools,

Secretaries of Recognised Trades Unions,

neighbouring Local Authorities,

local MPs

Middleton Township Councillors.

Education Funding Agency

Middleton Primary Schools

Consultation documents will be published on the Council and school websites, there will be open drop-in sessions.

7. Produce an impact analysis action plan for 2012/13. Details of this should be included in your service delivery plan.

8. Equality impact analysis sign off

Name	Position	Date
Chris Swift	School Organisation & Development Manager	23-08-12

APPENDIX TWO- RESPONSES TO CONSULTATION

Responses received for the Middleton Technology College 6th Form closure consultation

Received via email:

- Headteacher Siddal Moor (High School)- 2nd October @ 9.45am
I realise there are difficulties as to the Local Authority control in this matter, nevertheless I would like to see the consultation have an open approach to the future PAN for the School and any plans in place for future use of the buildings. Without this a consultation would have very little meaning. It appears they have already in effect closed the provision.
- Mrs W - 2nd October @ 14.09
I am contacting yourselves to express my objections to the proposed closure of the 6th Form at Middleton Technology school. My son has just begun year 7, had I have known there would not be the above provision and given that my son will be required to stay in education until he is 18 I would not have opted for the above school. The problem is around low intake, surely canvassing the existing pupils into what courses they would prefer to take then piloting this would at least give the pupils an option, it seems that there are too few courses therefore you would expect a low demand. I would like to see proactive evidence of the school and the local authority trying to improve the above situation therefore allowing existing pupils to continue with their education with the least disruptive option or is this proposal already signed and sealed as is so often the case. If I wanted my son to use the 6th form facilities at other schools I would have sent him there.
- Calderdale MBC - 4th October @ 11.05
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed closure of Middleton Technology College Sixth Form. From reading the literature on your web site I do not believe there will be any impact on Calderdale young people, parents or schools.
- DG - 6th November @ 13.06
I think it is a little unfair of the school to close the facility, my daughter is due to leave middle tech next year and she is now looking at going to rochdale six form college, I understand that the number of children attending was low, maybe the school should look at the demand for courses? I hope the school re considers the closure!

Received by response form at the open evening (transcribed from the written version)

KW - 17th October @ 7pm

1. Disturbed at potential inflexibility to mix A Level and 'vocational' based subjects. 2. Middleton A Level provision is biased to faith based schools, this would limit choice for atheist pupils.

Suggest Q what subjects are covered where, throughout the RMBC would be helpful for forward planning for parents.

Notes from Consultation Meetings:

* Staff Meeting 8th October (CSwift in attendance):

**Staff Meeting Monday 8th October 2012 3pm
Consultation on proposed closure of MTS Sixth Form**

Comments: None

Questions: None

* Student Council Meeting 15th October- extract:

Mrs. Crompton attended our meeting to consult with students on the closure of the 6th Form as all students have the right to make their views known.

Main points:

1. We propose the 6th Form will close in Summer 2013
2. It is not economically viable to keep the 6th Form provision going . It is too expensive and we would rather that money go into the education of students in the school.
3. There aren't enough students who want to do the courses we offer.
4. There will be no job losses.
5. There is a lot of consideration around how we can best use the building.
6. Information for students and the community is on the school website.
7. Letters have gone to parents and carers.
8. If you would like to make your views known go to www.rochdale.gov.uk

* Parent and Community Forum- (17th October) extract:

Attendees: A. Crompton (MTS), K. Anderton (MTS), C. Swift (Rochdale MBC), N. Keogh (Parent Governor), Parents: L. Simpson, S. Murphy, M. Kori, K. Farrar, J. Young, K. Walmsley

Items discussed:

1. **Closure of the 6th Form.** Mrs. Crompton explained the decision to end the 6th Form provision as it is no longer economically viable. There will be no job losses. Parents raised their concerns mainly about what replacement provision will be offered by Rochdale to replace that offered by our school. These were addressed by Chris Swift. Further views and concerns can be put in writing to Rochdale MBC. Please see MTS website or Rochdale MBC website for more details.

Middleton Township Committee- 8th November- extract from Minutes:

62. Proposed Closure of Middleton Technology School Sixth Form

Minutes:

The Committee considered the report of the Service Director for Support for Learning which sought the views of the Committee on the request from the governing body of Middleton Technology School to close the Sixth Form at the school with effect from 31st August 2013. The Cabinet, at its meeting on 17th September 2012 had agreed that the proposal should go out to consultation and the views of the Township were sought as part of the consultation process.

DECIDED – that the report be noted.

Eligible for Call-in: No.

.....ends.....