

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

This document provides answers to commonly asked questions about the statutory consultation on proposals for Primary stage Additional Support Needs (ASN) provision linked to Carrongrange High School.

1. What is being proposed?

Falkirk Council is consulting on a proposal to:

- Establish Primary stage Additional Support Needs (ASN) provision at Carrongrange High School, creating a single all-through 5–18 ASN campus; and
- As a result, permanently discontinue existing Primary ASN provision currently delivered at: Kinnaird Primary School (Thistle Wing and Thistle Wing Annexe); and Maddiston Primary School (Timezone).

2. Why is Falkirk Council proposing this change?

The proposal aims to modernise and improve ASN provision by:

- Delivering a purpose-built, fully accessible learning environment designed specifically to meet the needs of children and young people with severe, complex and profound ASN
- Reducing transitions by allowing pupils to attend a single provision from Primary through to Secondary (ages 5–18)
- Improving consistency in learning, support and relationships with staff
- Replacing accommodation that no longer fully reflects current best practice or the level of pupil need
- Expanding capacity to help meet current and future demand for specialist ASN places

3. Is this proposal an investment or a savings exercise?

This proposal is an investment, not a cost-cutting or savings exercise.

It represents a significant capital investment (approximately £30 million) in Falkirk Council's learning estate, supported through the Scottish Government's Learning Estate Investment Programme (LEIP) and the Council's capital programme.

Key points to note:

- The proposal is focused on improving and expanding provision, not reducing it
- Existing budgets and staffing associated with current Primary ASN provision are expected to transfer to the new campus
- The new facilities will replace accommodation that is no longer fully fit for purpose, while also increasing overall capacity
- The investment is intended to deliver long-term benefits in terms of educational outcomes, wellbeing, accessibility and sustainability
- The Council does not expect this proposal to generate short-term savings. Instead, it is designed to provide best value over the long term by investing in modern, efficient and high-quality provision that meets rising and more complex levels of need.

4. Which schools and provisions are affected?

The proposal directly affects:

- Carronrange High School
- Kinnaird Primary School – Thistle Wing and Thistle Wing Annexe
- Maddiston Primary School – Timezone
- Moray Primary School is also linked to the proposal due to the location of works and the use of part of the playing field for the wider campus development.

5. Will Carronrange High School become a new school?

No. Carronrange High School will remain the same school. The proposal is to establish an additional stage of education (Primary ASN) within the existing school, creating a single all-through ASN campus for pupils aged 5–18.

6. When would the proposed changes take place?

If the proposal is approved following the consultation and decision-making process, the changes would take effect from January 2029, or as soon as practicable thereafter.

7. What will happen to pupils currently attending Thistle Wing or Timezone?

If the proposal is agreed:

- Pupils currently attending Thistle Wing, Thistle Wing Annexe and Timezone would transfer to the new Primary ASN provision at Carronrange once it is operational
- Transition planning would be carefully managed and personalized to minimize anxiety and disruption
- Familiar staff involvement, phased visits and detailed communication with families would form part of transition arrangements

8. How will children be supported through the transition?

Supporting children and families through any change is a key consideration. If the proposal goes ahead, support would include:

- Early and ongoing engagement with parents and carers
- Individualised transition planning for each child
- Opportunities for pupils and families to visit the new campus in advance
- Close collaboration between current ASN provision staff and Carronrange staff

9. Will staffing change as a result of the proposal?

The proposal is not a staffing reduction exercise. Existing staff and associated budgets are expected to transfer to the new 5–18 ASN campus. Over time, staffing will be reviewed to reflect pupil numbers and needs as the expanded capacity is utilised.

10. What are the educational benefits of the proposal?

The Council believes the proposal will provide significant educational benefits, including:

- Improved continuity of learning from Primary through Secondary

- Reduced transitions for pupils with complex needs
- Enhanced access to specialist facilities, including therapy spaces, sensory rooms, hydrotherapy and outdoor learning areas
- Improved opportunities for collaborative working across primary and secondary ASN staff
- Stronger integration of education, health and partner services within one setting

11. Are there alternatives to this proposal?

Yes. A range of alternative options are set out in the Proposal Document, including retaining existing provision or delivering improvements across multiple sites. These options were assessed by the Council.

Following that assessment, the Council concluded that the alternatives did not offer the same long-term educational, operational or sustainability benefits as the proposed all-through 5–18 ASN campus.

12. How long is the consultation period?

The statutory consultation runs from:

- Monday 27 April 2026 to Friday 12 June 2026

This meets the legal requirement for a minimum six-week consultation period (30 school days).

13. How can I take part in the consultation?

You can share your views by:

- Completing the online consultation at <https://participateplus.falkirk.gov.uk>
- Emailing your response to educ.consultation@falkirk.gov.uk
- Writing to:
New 5–18 ASN Campus Consultation
 Education Services
 Suite 1A, Falkirk Community Stadium
 4 Stadium Way, Falkirk, FK2 9EE

14. Are there public meetings?

Yes. Three public meetings have been arranged:

- In-person:

Carrongrange High School, Oxgang Road, Grangemouth
 Tuesday 19 May 2026, 18:30 – 19:30

- Online:

Wednesday 20 May 2026, 18:30 – 19:30 (Microsoft Teams)
 Monday 25 May 2026, 12:30 – 13.30 (Microsoft Teams)

These meetings provide an opportunity to hear about the proposal, ask questions and have views recorded.

15. What happens after the consultation ends?

After the consultation period:

- All written and oral representations will be considered
- His Majesty's Inspectorate of Education (HMIE) will produce a report on the educational aspects of the proposal
- Falkirk Council will publish a Consultation Report summarising responses and setting out its response
- The Consultation Report will be presented to the Executive (including Education) for a final decision on the proposal

16. Where can I find more information?

Further information, including the full Proposal Document, is available:

- On the Falkirk Council website: www.falkirk.gov.uk/carrongrange-campus-consultation
- Via Participation Plus: <https://participateplus.falkirk.gov.uk>
- By contacting the Forward Planning Team at educ.consultation@falkirk.gov.uk

This FAQ document forms part of the statutory consultation process and is intended to support understanding of the proposal. Consultees are encouraged to read the full Proposal Document before responding.