

Option 1

«

[Previous topic](#)

|

[Sustainable School Estate Review Blog](#)

|

[Next topic](#)

»

[Login / Sign up](#) to join the discussion

Author	Message
SSER Admin	Monday 03 June 2013 11:04:29 am

Option 1

- Create a new '3 to 18 campus' in Alness. This 'all through' facility would replace the existing Alness Academy, and either two or three of the existing primary schools (Bridgend, Coulhill and Obsdale) along with related nursery and ASN provision; and,
- Create a new '3 to 18 campus' in Invergordon. This 'all through' facility would replace the existing Invergordon Academy, Park Primary and South Lodge Primary Schools along with related nursery and ASN provision.

We estimate that including a new pool and community facilities this will cost around £60 million. It could be built over six years between 2017 and 2022 inclusive.

Invergordon
Parent

Thursday 13 June 2013 1:21:41 pm

Option 1

This is the best option for Invergordon.

It retains Invergordon's identity - I fear this would be lost with a shared Alness-Invergordon school and could be detrimental to the town as a whole.

Invergordon Academy has an excellent reputation with strong leadership, high standards of discipline, excellent ethos and a successful record.

Invergordon should fight to retain this.

Brand new facilities for all of Invergordon's 3-18 catchment.

Access for our primary pupils to specialist teachers/facilities, e.g. sports, music, science, etc.

The combined role would justify a single Invergordon 3-18 campus.

Transition between primary and secondary would be much improved.

Children in the town can still walk to their school.

Thursday 13 June 2013 10:34:45 pm

Option 1

I wonder what consideration has been given to the other feeder schools which are not included in a 3-18 school in Alness and/or Invergordon. The smaller schools would have to

join a large established year group which could possibly have been together for up to 9 yrs. This would possibly cause problems for the pupils from the smaller schools during this transition stage.

Sharon

Tuesday 18 June 2013 9:43:21 pm

Option 1

Further details needed on exactly how the new 3-18 campus would operate for the different levels of schooling (nursery, primary and secondary) - will they function as separate entities to a certain degree? Starting nursery within a primary school as a 3-year old can be very daunting, never mind entering such a massive campus with hundreds of kids, many 10 to 15 years older than them.

Alness Parent

Local Parent Thursday 20 June 2013 11:00:20 am

Option 1

Prefer to keep primary and secondary separate. Not mixing young influential children with hormonal teenagers. Don't need another swimming pool, we have one in each town. There is no need for a Theatre, money would be better spent on better teachers.

Local Parent

Thursday 20 June 2013 12:45:14 pm

Option 1

Much more information regarding this type of facility is required to enable people to make an informed decision on this Option.

We need to know all the pros and cons of having such a vast age group on one site. Transition from Nursery to Primary to Secondary cannot be seen as "the be all and end all" of having such an educational establishment. Give us the facts from areas in Scotland where this type of Campus is up and running. - What are pupil numbers? What are subject choices? What is the teacher:Pupil ratio of WTE staff? What is the cost of building such an establishment in Invergordon?

Interesting to note that West of Scotland University is to undertake a study on the effects of this type of educational facility has on the education of pupils.

Option 2

«

[Previous topic](#)

|

[Sustainable School Estate Review Blog](#)

|

[Next topic](#)

»

[Login / Sign up](#) to join the discussion

Author

Message

SSER
Admin

Monday 03 June 2013 11:05:26 am

Option 2

- Refurbish and upgrade the existing Alness Academy and Invergordon Academy buildings to a high standard; and,
- Build a new primary school in Alness to replace either two or three of the existing primary schools (Bridgend, Coulhill, Obsdale) along with nursery and ASN provision.; and,
- Build a new primary school in Invergordon to replace Park Primary and South Lodge Primary Schools along with nursery and ASN provision.

We estimate that this will cost around £56 million and could be built over six years between 2017 and 2022 inclusive.

Wednesday 12 June 2013 4:23:11 pm

option 2

why is this even an option if Alness Academy can not be refurbished??

Local
Parent

Thursday 20 June 2013 10:57:58 am

Option 2

This is my preferred option. Keep schooling local. Keep primary separate from academy. Young children should run free among young children, not among hormonal teenagers.

Local Parent

Thursday 20 June 2013 1:30:06 pm

Option 2

In this time of austerity and the possibility of many years of the same to come - this would appear to be the best option.

Invergordon Academy lends itself to an upgrade/refurbishment/extension to ensure that pupils have an education in an establishment that is fit for purpose for many generations to come. Architects would be able to come up with an innovative design package for Invergordon Academy that encompasses all the requirements of a modern school - it has been done for other schools so why not Invergordon Academy?

Invergordon Academy is an excellent school, is the hub of the community and is a location where people want an Academy to remain.

Aless Academy was built many years after Invergordon Academy - What a pity the "Powers that Be" at the time were not visionary - Who on earth agreed to building a school with a flat roof in the Highlands of Scotland?

Give us some architects impressions of what can be done for both schools and drawings of the Primary schools.

This is the way forward for the pupils of both towns- having our own schools in our own locality.

eZ Publish™ copyright © 1999-2013 eZ Systems AS

Option 3

«

[Previous topic](#)

|

[Sustainable School Estate Review Blog](#)

|

[Next topic](#)

»

[Login / Sign up](#) to join the discussion

Author

Message

SSER
Admin

Monday 03 June 2013 11:06:33 am

Option 3

- Build a single new secondary school to replace Alness Academy and Invergordon Academy; and.
- Build a new primary school in Invergordon to replace Park and South Lodge Primary Schools along with nursery and ASN provision; and,
- Build a new primary school in Alness to replace either two or three of the existing primary schools (Bridgend, Coulhill, Obsdale) along with nursery and ASN provision.;

We estimate that this will cost around £56 million including a new pool and community facilities and could be built over a three year period.

Tuesday 18 June 2013 9:33:00 pm

Option 3

If this option were to be chosen the location of new combined Academy is absolutely crucial. Wherever it is located, a higher number of pupils would need to be transported by road (bus or taxi) to get there, greatly increasing traffic in and around the school. Not exactly in keeping with healthy options of walking or biking to school.

Alness Parent

Local
Parent

Thursday 20 June 2013 10:55:36 am

Option 3

This is not an option. Invergordon & Alness will never come to an agreement of where the school should be. Our children will be unable to walk or cycle to school. Most parents have no transport and would find it costly to get children to and from school. If they need to leave school early for any reason, same problem. They will be forced to eat within the academy as will have no way of coming home for lunch. This will takeaway the pupils freedom.

Local Parent

Thursday 20 June 2013 1:59:02 pm

Option 3

Not clear cut as to where this joint academy would be sited. Highland Council need to give us more of an indication as to where it is really envisaged that the site is likely to be. Always going to have either one towns' pupils having to be transported to the school or if the school is situated between the two towns, we would have the pupils of 2 towns travelling to

school. Lots of cost implications on transport in the future - what about the carbon footprint and the environmental impact of many more townspeople travelling? It is all very well about taking about Safer Routes to School and Cycling to school - at the moment it does not happen in large numbers - why would it be different in the future?

We are being sold this type of facility as it would give "more options to study different subjects as there would be more available to Advanced Higher Level" - this should not be the motivator being put forward as a plus for this type of establishment - schools are much more than what academic subjects may or may not be available for students.

Students from both Alness and Invergordon Academies have achieved many of their goals to enable further academic qualifications and careers - are we really to believe that the present system of 2 Academies is hindering their potential and those of future generations?

Bigger is not always better and do not see this Option as a way forward for both towns.

Thursday 20 June 2013 2:27:50 pm

Option 3

Personally I think option 3 is the way forward, however if a decision is not made soon, we will miss the opportunity altogether and the funds will be allocated elsewhere. School children all over Scotland have to travel by bus to school, it's just the way it is. Wherever the new school is built you aren't going to please everyone.

The option that gives all children the best opportunities for a wide curriculum in a decent building and makes financial sense is the sensible choice.

Alness Parent

Monday 24 June 2013 1:22:32 pm

Option 3

I attended the meeting on Thursday night for the Alness primary school parent councils. At the meeting it certainly seemed that option 3 was the one that the council and those building the schools seemed to favour. I take their point about a combined bigger academy and how it would allow more subjects to be taught i.e. advanced Highers etc. which would therefore promote a wider range of vocational and academic understanding across a range of topics. One of my concerns was that if this proposed option was to go ahead, what they were basically saying was that there would be 2 separate primary schools and one academy. But one of the primary schools would be built alongside the academy, pretty much meaning it would be a 3 - 18 school. One of the gentlemen at the top table (sorry can't remember the name) went on to talk about the importance of transitions from primary to secondary which I fully understand working in education myself. However if this plan was to go ahead how would the transition be for the children from the primary school that is not attached to academy? Surely their transition will not be as successful as those children already in the location. It was also commented on that Highland Council have not decided where any school would be yet however like to always build on land they already have. What land does the Highland Council currently own around Alness and Invergordon I would like to know that would be suitable for building such a large school?

Diana

Invergordon Parent Thursday 04 July 2013 9:29:41 am

Alness and Invergordon ARE separate communities

Well obviously this is the only option Highland Council are really considering after reading all the literature and attending the SSER meeting. What a waste of time and money producing all those leaflets when it is really only a show and we are being bulldozed into this option whether parents or children want it or not. The only reason I can see they wanted to open any discussion on this is to try and convince parents and future parents that we had any part

to play in a decision that will affect both Alness and Invergordon communities. Impression I got was that Alness should never have had a separate school and this is a way the Council can see of putting all the kids back together regardless of how any parent may feel. I feel this is a backwards step to the bullying on the buses and driving a wedge between the two communities as it sounds as though either Invergordon or Alness would get the school so the rivalry will be there from the start .

Invergordon parent

