

Dear Mr Jackson,

I would like to robustly object to the proposed closure of the primary school at Duror.

Whilst I acknowledge that the school role is likely to be very low at the start of the next school year (probably as low as 2 pupils) I can see no evidence of this being problematic for these pupils; their education seems to be progressing very well and their personal integration with our community is exemplary. I do not believe that a small school role is damaging to pupils.

I am confident that our village school has some unique attributes that would merit keeping the school open. As part of a schools cluster it appears that, where engagement with larger groups of pupils is beneficial, for example with sports, this is already happening. I would suggest that using this cluster principal to bring pupils from the other 3 primary schools to Duror would be an extremely valuable experience, particularly in order to “study” outdoor activity in its many and varied forms. The environmental surroundings and outdoor space that Duror primary has access to are second to none.

Closing our primary school would stifle the current increase in families with young children (currently there 8 children of pre-school age in this community). Our villages have limited amenities at present, closing the school would drastically worsen this position.

Yours

Robert Coope

North Acharn

Duror