

Name of consultation: Badcaul Primary School

Your comments: I attended the public consultation on the proposal to close Badcaul School. My interest is that my daughter who attended Ullapool High School, is intending to return to Dundonnell in the summer of 2026. The move is planned to allow her daughter to continue her nursery education at their current location in England but for her to attend primary school here in the Highlands. The proposal and presentation at the public meeting in Badcaul was positive about the educational benefits of children being educated at Ullapool Primary school, but it made no reference to the adverse effects on small children having to travel a long distance back and forth to school. I was surprised to find out that no consideration has been given to the transport needs of the children, the proposal simply assumes that the existing transport arrangements are adequate. I strongly disagree with this assumption. It is not acceptable for young children of primary age to be ferried unescorted from Badcaul to Braemore Junction, and then placed on a public service bus unaccompanied, to continue the rest of the journey. While this arrangement has operated for years for High school children, young children starting primary school should not be exposed to risk in this manner and I would consider that even now at the present time the council is failing in its duty to care for vulnerable children. This should have been considered and addressed as part of the proposal to close the school and it should not be swept under the carpet. Public transport is not available for a parent to take their child to school, so it puts an added burden on parents who do not wish their young children to travel 50 miles plus a day without an accompanying adult. Over all I can see that there is an economic case for closing the school based on current numbers but number may change over time, for example my daughter will be bringing her family to live in the area here in 2026, and no doubt there will be other such changes. The most sensible option would be to keep the school in mothballs but in the meantime the transport arrangements for young children travelling to Ullapool school needs to be urgently reconsidered.

Upload documents or letters :

I am commenting as: Local resident

I am commenting on behalf of: my self ,my daughter and my granddaughter who will start primary school in 2026

Name:

Title	First name	Last name
Mr	David	Higgon

Address:

postcode_search Choose address		Did you find the address on the list above?
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