



Bristol Primary School Review

Consultation Response Form

To be returned before 18th July 2008 to:

Primary.review@bristol.gov.uk

Or by post to :

Primary Review Consultation Response
Children and Young People's Services
Bristol City Council
The Council House
College Green
Bristol
BS1 5T

Name: Janet Bremner

Address (if not school based):

Role: Chair of Governors

Responding on behalf of: The Governing Body of Sefton Park Infant and Junior Schools

Date: 17.7.08

Response:

Primary Review Response from the Governing Body of the Federation of Sefton Park Infant and Junior Schools

Amalgamation Proposals

We cannot find any merit in the proposals to amalgamate the two schools and therefore oppose them. We believe we currently deliver all the benefits listed in the Primary Review as accruing from amalgamation.

As a Governing Body we are committed to our existing arrangements as a hard federation. This includes making a formal commitment to remain in a hard federation for a given number of years.

Expansion Proposals

The Governing Body recognises the lack of school places locally and the desire of parents for their children to attend a good local school.

In the light of poor communication, the lack of consultation and engagement and the paucity of information about the proposals that has been available to the Governing Body, the Governing Body cannot support the current proposals to expand the Sefton Park schools from two-form to three-form entry. In particular, with the information we have been given to date there is insufficient evidence around some critical areas, including:

- Safety
- Quality of provision
- Amount of physical space
- Ability to manage the disruption without detriment to children
- Feasibility of time scales
- Impact on the local community, including traffic safety and environmental sustainability.

The governors urge the LA to recognise that consultation & engagement with the full range of stakeholders is critical in this matter. To date the LA engagement with all stakeholder groups has been sub-standard. We would wish to draw attention in particular to the users of community facilities, which have been included in the current plans, and local residents.

Finally, we believe that there are other viable alternative ways of delivering the required additional provision. We have seen no evidence that these have been properly investigated by the LA, and we would welcome the opportunity to discuss these.

Janet Bremner
Chair of Governors
17.7.08