

Original message ---

Subject: Fwd: Attn Chair of Governors - SRP

From: Grange Park Infant School <grangepkinf@hillingdongrid.org>

To: <kthapar@hillingdongrid.org>, <jkernoghan@hillingdongrid.org>

Date: Monday, 14/05/2012 5:07 PM

--- Original message ---

Subject: Attn Chair of Governors - SRP

From: Barbara Glen <bglen@hillingdongrid.org>

To: <grangepkinf@hillingdongrid.org>

Date: Monday, 14/05/2012 3:53 PM

Dear Chair of Governors,

Thank you for sending us your consultation on the proposed closure of the Special Resource Provision at Grange Park Infant and Nursery School. We discussed this proposal at our Governing Body meeting on 24th April.

We noted, in your consultation, that you are currently undergoing an expansion programme. It is unclear to what extent issues of space are the reason for the proposed closure, as there is no specific link in the document. However, the fact that the expansion programme is mentioned near the beginning of the document leads us to believe that it is probably the most significant reason for your desire to close the SRP. If this is the case, we did wonder whether the other factors you mention later in the consultation are actually of less importance than they appear.

In your consultation you proceed to set out a number of disadvantages of the Special Resource Provision for the children currently attending. We acknowledge that there would appear to be several factors which make accommodation and staffing of the unit less than ideal. However, we also note that Ofsted rated the unit either 'good' or 'outstanding', which suggests to us that these disadvantages were not of overwhelming significance, at least at the times when the inspections took place.

You suggest that the children in the SRP would be better off in special schools. However, as you are probably aware, the local authority's special schools are full. In these circumstances, the children, or others who would otherwise have gained a special school place, would have to be educated in private school provision. Not only is most of this provision out of borough, a clear disadvantage for the children themselves, but it is also extremely expensive. We estimate that the costs of an additional eight children in private special schools could amount to between £1½ - £1 million per annum, money which would, in effect, be top-sliced from the budgets of all schools in the borough. This would have a widespread and very significant negative impact.

Finally, please note that while we were in receipt of your consultation, passed

on to us by our Executive Headteacher, judging by past experience not all governing bodies would have received it via this route. Are you sure you have complied with the legal requirements in relation to this consultation?

Regards,

Barbara Glen
Chair of Governors, Breakspear Schools' Federation

--- Original message ---

Subject: Fwd: ATTN: CHAIR OF GOVERNORS,GRANGE PARK INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL - STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE SPECIAL RESOURCE PROVISION
From: Grange Park Infant School <grangepkinf@hillingdongrid.org>
To: <kthapar@hillingdongrid.org>, <jkernoghan@hillingdongrid.org>
Date: Tuesday, 08/05/2012 2:13 PM

--- Original message ---

Subject: ATTN: CHAIR OF GOVERNORS,GRANGE PARK INFANT AND NURSERY SCHOOL - STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED CLOSURE OF THE SPECIAL RESOURCE PROVISION
From: "execommtteehg" <execommtteehg@hillingdongrid.net>
To: grangepkinf@hillingdongrid.org
Date: Tuesday, 08/05/2012 12:30 PM

Dear Chair of Governors, Grange Park Infant School,

Governor representatives on Schools Forum and on the Hillingdon Governor Executive Committee would like to respond to your consultation regarding closing your SRP, highlighting concerns, as follows:

1. We understand that the Local Authority are strongly opposed to the closure of this SRP
2. Hedgewood and Grangewood are full (10% above their DfE recommended levels).
3. Without being able to provide future places at Hedgewood, Grangewood (or Grange Park if the SRP does close), pupils would have to be placed in very expensive independent/non-maintained schools in the Borough, or if they were full, then they would have out of Borough provision. All of these options would have a negative financial impact on the DSG, which would adversely effect all schools including yours.

4. Closing this SRP will create a precedent, which if followed by other schools, would have a disastrous effect on SEN provision in Hillingdon, and could also lead to budget cuts in all primary schools.

We would ask for you to take the above into consideration.

Yours faithfully,
Governor Representatives on Schools Forum and Hillingdon
Governors Executive Committee