



The Swinton High School

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Headteacher: Mr. J. Biddlestone B.Ed (Hons.) N.P.Q.H.

Our Ref: JBi/GDa

12th October 2010

Mrs Paula Flynn
Asset Planning Officer
Children's Services Directorate
Minerva House, Pendelbury Road
Swinton
M27 4EQ



Dear Mrs Flynn

In response to Salford Children's Services consultation, I am writing to advise you of The Swinton High School's position on the Building Schools for the Future (BSF) proposals affecting The Swinton High School.

- On 7th July 2010 by an overwhelming majority, the full governing body voted to oppose the BSF plans as they stand. We oppose the BSF plans to close The Swinton High School and amalgamate us with Moorside High School because we maintain that The Swinton High School is large enough, popular enough and successful enough to be given our own school.
- These plans were first proposed as long ago as August 2006 and we maintain they were based on outdated data on pupil number projections and performance which is now totally unrepresentative of The Swinton High School.

Since August 2006 The Swinton High School has:-

- Exceeded all challenging FFT D targets in the vast majority of its subjects and always in the core subjects of English, maths, science and ICT.
- Been awarded Specialist Schools and Academies Trust (SSAT) most improved arts school in the country 2009: (National arts school of the year 2009).
- Awarded High Performing Specialist School status (HPSS) 2008
- Awarded National Support School Status 2010 (only around 23 secondary schools in North West have this)
- Consistently achieved amongst the highest CVA (added value) in the country
- Risen from being the fifth largest school in Salford to the second largest.
- Improved attendance annually and for the last three years been well above the national average for all secondary schools
- Always managed a balanced budget and never been in deficit
- We feel, that we are the kind of community high school Salford Children's Services should rely on to continue to provide first class education for the young people of the Swinton area.
- Every member of Salford Children's Services Senior Leadership Team who were instrumental in making the initial proposal are no longer in post in Salford.

A High Performing Specialist School



- Pupil numbers in Swinton primary schools show a projected increase in September 2014 when current year 2 pupils transfer to high school. Provision at reception age is being increased in the Swinton area.
- The Swinton High School continues to attract a high proportion of pupils from across the city of Salford, something which we feel should be celebrated not taken for granted.

Consultation

- You may be aware that parental surveys of current year 7 and year 9 pupils show an overwhelming 90% support for our position.
- At a meeting called by rank and file colleagues, the staff of The Swinton High School voted unanimously for our own new build school.

To conclude we are inviting elected members and Salford Children's Services to:

Give us our own school

The governing body of The Swinton High School has formally asked Salford Children's Services to give full consideration to its plans for high performing The Swinton High School, arguably Salford's biggest secondary school improvement success story.

A Beacon in the Community

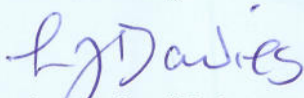
The most suitable option which we urge Salford City Council to consider is to build a new secondary school for The Swinton High School. You have our assurance that we will continue to be a dynamic force for community regeneration.

Repay

We will repay the community and the tax payers by continuing to provide a first class education, balance our books, add value and give our pupils the best possible start in life.

A common sense approach would be to build on the existing strengths within the secondary system and we urge you as a councillor to support our campaign for our own school.

Yours sincerely



Jacky Davies (Mrs)
Chair of the Full Governing Body
The Swinton High School

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A High Performing Specialist School