

Response from Hollinswood Infant parent (3) (Annex B)

From:

Sent: 20 July 2012 13:52

To: School Organisation

Subject: proposed merger Hollinswood Infant with Hollinswood Junior.

Hi

I am a parent governor at Hollinswood Infant and Nursery, and thought I would express my personal views.

After seeking out as much information as possible, I am against the merger. The main reason for this is the fact that nothing has changed since the last consultation on a School merger. The reason then was that we have two separate buildings and no money to extend either to make one building. If the schools merge it is my opinion that there will be significant problems managing behaviour on both sites with a reduced leadership team, i.e. sending a child to the head will be a problem if the head is on the other site. The issue of moving schools will still be there as they will be moving into a new building.

I believe the cons outweigh the benefits of a harmonized curriculum and assessment scheme, the Junior school will be achieving Level 6's this year so is already showing the required value added to their children's education, so the Head there should be allowed to continue the hard work he is doing without adding the additional workload of merging two schools that don't need merging. Jim Collins during the meetings I have managed to sit in with him admitted that both schools were achieving well, and in his opinion were outstanding schools, so other than to save money why change things?

Also by having an Infant and Junior School it allows choice for parents, as to whether they want to put their child through a primary or Infant/Junior system. As there are many children from outside the catchment area this seems to be a popular choice.

Regards

P.S. can I please express to the council my disappointment that none of the councillors for the Nedge ward turned up at any of the meetings to hear first hand the views of their constituents. Instead they are going to rely on the council officer. This doesn't seem to show a co-operative way of working.