

BELLEVILLE GOVERNORS

09 February 2010

letter from the chair kate amis

Dear Parents, carers and staff

I am writing to you about Wandsworth Council's proposal that Belleville expands to the Forthbridge Road site from 2011.

The governors have held two governors meetings to look at this issue specifically and governors attended the evening meeting with parents and staff to hear more about the proposal from the council officers. This meeting was a useful opportunity for governors to hear from parents whose children are currently in the school and from those who hope to have a place for their children in the near future. Governors have spoken to parents and replied to letters and emails. Governors have also spoken to the council about key issues such as funding and facilities for Belleville children and there is more about this in our response letter overleaf.

As always we are grateful for your active support of the work of the school. As an ex-parent of the school I know how active and engaged the parents at Belleville are – it is one of the things that makes the school so special. We wanted you to have our response to the Council as soon as possible. A copy of this letter will go the Council today.

Remember there is still time to make your response to the proposal before Monday 15 February – write to Bruce Glockling, BSF Project Manager at Wandsworth Council or email bglockling@wandsworth.gov.uk

The governors and the school will be in touch again soon when we have heard back from the council.
I wish you a relaxing half term break with your family

Best wishes



Kate Amis, Chair of Governors

governing body

parent governors

Barbara Downie
Brian Ledbetter
Martin Marquez
Alison Royce
Fiona Wilkins
vacancy

staff governors

Sarah Atherton
Geraldine Burke
John Grove
Clare Lim

community governors

Martin Beaver
Sue Harries
Rebecca Hossain
vacancy

local education authority governors

Kate Amis
Jennifer Browne
Paul McGill
Emma Waterfall

contact

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Response to Wandsworth Council's consultation on expansion to Forthbridge Road from 2011 and taking one extra class at the Belleville Road site from 2010.

The governing body of Belleville School has the following response:

Belleville is a popular school providing places for local children. The Belleville governors, staff, parents and children are proud of our school community for both its educational achievements and the ethos created. In all our work we look to maintain and continue to improve these qualities which are at the heart of our school. The governors see the opportunity in the Council's proposal both to continue to improve and to offer additional local children a place in our school.

Provisionally we are in agreement with expanding to the Forthbridge Road site from September 2011. We also agree to take one extra reception class from September 2010. In September 2010 this additional class will be based at Belleville Road for their reception year and then they will transfer to Forthbridge Road.

However, we seek clear and binding assurances on the following issues before the project goes ahead. These issues have been identified following discussions within the governing body and with staff and parents.

1. That the building and refurbishment work at Forthbridge Road is finished in good time for September 2011 and that the whole site be completed so that no further building work continues beyond July 2011.

2. That the work at Forthbridge Road be completed to a high standard and that staff at Belleville be fully consulted about the layout, specification and details of the fitting out.

3. That the feasibility study pays detailed attention to health and safety issues and that a full risk assessment is carried out on the implications of any travel between the two sites and any recommendations made, eg additional traffic calming measures, are acted upon.

4. That the council makes a fair allocation of funding resources to Belleville school to ensure the extra pupils and new equipment costs are adequately funded from the outset and take into account the additional requirements of a split site on an ongoing basis.

5. That the council commits to the provision of two extra classrooms (in addition to the two provided in 2009) at the Belleville Road site and to additional refurbishment and improvement works, including the provision of new toilet facilities throughout, to ensure children at both Belleville sites are receiving equivalent facilities.