

Mr Kevin McDaniel
Director of Children's Services
RBWM
Town Hall
St Ives Road
Maidenhead
SL6 1RF

23rd May 2017

Dear Kevin,

We're pleased to note the preparation of a paper for consideration at a full council meeting, as per your letter dated Thursday, 18th May 2017. As requested in the letter, we are also happy to provide input into the key areas once we have received a copy of the paper and supporting documentation from the RBWM. Your letter yesterday is the first correspondence received from RBWM since our letter dated 5th May 2017.

In your letter, you asked us to advise who the points of contact on the project are. Having been involved with the project from the start, you are already aware that the key people to include as part of the project team at Lowbrook Academy are:-

- David Rooney, Executive Principal, Lowbrook Academy, roond002@lowbrookacademy.co.uk, 01629 671355.
- Pauline Reid, School Business Manager, Lowbrook Academy reidp019@lowbrookacademy.co.uk, 01628 671355.
- Bianca Iasi, Head of School, Lowbrook Academy, iasib001@lowbrookacademy.co.uk, 01628 671355.
- Dominique Du Pre, Chair of Governors, Lowbrook Academy, d-dupre@hotmail.com, 01628 671355
- James Spiteri, Parent Governor, Lowbrook Academy, jqspiteri@yahoo.co.uk, 01628 671355.
- Phil Grover, Architect, Thomson, Roddick and Laurie, pg@trlsouth.com, 01628 825080

Please include all members of the Lowbrook project team in relation to the development of proposals for the future expansion of the Academy.

As per my email sent to you earlier this week, we still have not received a response from the RBWM on any of the points raised in our letter dated 5th May 2017, except to say that the RBWM is preparing a paper for consideration (i.e. your most recent letter dated 18th May 2017).



As already stated, the delays incurred due to the unforeseen renegotiation process instigated by the RBWM, have significantly increased the costs of this build. It is important to note also due to these delays, it will not be possible to obtain competitive tenders before offering places. Therefore, indemnification of the full costs of this scheme is the only non-risk option for this Governing body.

During this re-negotiation process the Governors, at short notice have convened in the capacity of Extraordinary Full Governing Body meetings on four occasions. We have requested full approval of the scheme as soon as possible after the Purdah period, and preferably on the 19th of June which is the date of the Group meeting.

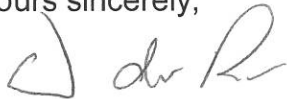
However, being so close to the end of the academic year, we cannot wait until future unspecified meetings are held where the possible outcome could lead to the agreed scheme not being progressed or being progressed at a much later date.

We are now finalising arrangements for the next academic year. Teacher resignations are on 31st May 2017. We also need to complete our recruitment process for September 2017 by this date.

Due to the ongoing delays by the RBWM in this expansion project, which are well documented, we have missed critical deadlines such as teacher recruitment. Therefore, as previously stated, we are not able to take 60 pupils in September 2017 and will be accepting our published PAN of 30 and this will take us to full capacity for the academic year ahead.

We do however, remain committed to becoming a two-form entry school and have an 'open door' approach for future discussions.

Yours sincerely,



Dominique Du Pre
Chair of Governors

Cc
The Rt Hon Theresa May
Cllr Dudley, Leader of the Council
Cllr N Airey, Lead Member for Children's Services
Alison Alexander, Managing Director
Cllr Brimacombe, Ward Member for Cox Green
Cllr McWilliams, Ward Member for Cox Green
Cllr Bullock, Ward Member for Cox Green