R022

Against

7th July 2011
School Organisation Team
10th Floor West
Merrion House
110 Merrion Centre
Leeds
LS2 8DT

Dear School Organisation Team,

I write with reference to the proposal to create additional primary provision in the Roundhay area at Elmete Lane from September 2012 to be run by Roundhay School Technology and Language College.

I am a parent of 2 children attending Roundhay School and one attending a local primary school. I have read the public consultation booklet and was present at the public meeting on 24th January at Roundhay High School. I understand the need for more primary school places to be provided in Leeds by September 2012 but have a number of concerns about this proposal.

Firstly I am alarmed at the speed at which it is suggested this new primary school be created. I accept the difficulties involved in accurately predicting far in advance the exact number of primary places needed in an area but building a new and strong school community is a huge undertaking and one that should not be rushed.

I am also concerned about the extra strain on the management and governing body of Roundhay School as they try to build and run a primary school in addition to their current responsibilities. I understand from questions and answers at the public meeting that although a "primary leader" will be employed, there is no extra money available to provide support for the management team of Roundhay School as they take on the massive additional responsibility of managing the primary section of the school. Possible adverse effects might be the lowering of standards at the High School, the failure to create and run a successful primary school, lowering of staff morale plus no doubt many others. In addition, I have doubts as to whether Roundhay High School is able to deliver primary education with only a year to prepare. The requirements and demands or primary and secondary education are very different

I have serious reservations that the proposed new primary provision will have an adverse effect on other local primary schools, especially Roundhay St John's Primary .I am a parent of a child at this school and also a governor. On page 7 of the consultation booklet it is stated "the map on page 9 shows where pre school children live in relation to their nearest schools" but this is not the case as Roundhay St John's school is not marked on the map. People were asked to comment on a proposal that is inaccurate and therefore misleading. I understand that the admissions policy for church schools is different to that of other schools but the distance a child lives from the school does nevertheless play a role. A large number of children admitted to Roundhay St John's do live locally to the school and in much the same area as the

proposed new school would be drawing on. Falling numbers would be a very real danger to Roundhay St John's if the proposed new school plans go ahead. I am sure other local primary schools, especially Grange Farm Primary School would similarly be at risk of not being able to fill their places should this proposal go ahead.

The effect on other primary schools local to the proposed new site is, in my opinion, further complicated by the fact that children admitted to the new school in reception would stay on roll at Roundhay School until the sixth form. The attraction of this to parents should not be underestimated, given how popular Roundhay School is. My concern is that other local primary school will also suffer falling numbers, not because they are unsuccessful or unattractive but because, to parents, the draw of a guaranteed place at Roundhay High School will outweigh all other considerations. As was mentioned at the public meeting, there is a real possibility that successful schools in the area that have worked very hard to improve will suffer lower numbers purely because the attraction of a guaranteed place at a successful high school is irresistible to parents.

In conclusion, I disagree with the statement on page 4 of the consultation booklet that the new proposed primary provision would "build on the strengths of the existing secondary school without undermining any of the other primary schools in the area." I think there is a distinct possibility that the proposed provision **could** undermine other primary schools in the area and I do not understand how the primary school would build on the strengths of the existing secondary school. On the contrary, I think it is possible that the primary provision could weaken and damage the existing secondary provision particularly if it is provided in the way described with no extra support offered to the secondary school management. I see that there is an urgent need to provide more primary places but I would not be happy to see this need met in the way outlined in the proposal.

I look forward to hearing the school organisation team's responses to my comments.

Yours faithfully,

R023

Proposal to increase primary provision in the Roundhay area

Against

Sent: 07 July 2011 20:18

To: EDUC School Organisation

I wish to object to the proposal to increase primary provision in the Roundhay area by change of age range and enlargement of Roundhay School Technology and Language College by using additional land at Elmete Lane from September 2012.

My reasons for the objection are:
1. There has been inadequate consultation. There was no discussion of the proposals with the Governing body of Roundhay St John's Primary School, nor has Education Leeds seen fit to respond to the concerns raised by the Governing Body. Roundhay St John's Primary School was not included on the consultation map used in the discussion, and therefore the consultation was not factual.

2. There is an existing school in the area which was closed recently, which could be re-opened to take primary age pupils.

3. Offers to extend the intake from one form entry to two or more form entry at Roundhay St John's Primary School have not been considered.

4. Pupils attending the extended version of Roundhay High would have automatic entry to the High School in Year 7, disadvantaging those children from neighbouring schools, and lowering house prices in the area.

5. The need for the extra places has not been fully established, and the the Head Teachers of some primary schools in the area have indicated that classes are not full, and extra places are available. Additional services at Meanwood, Harehills Chapel Allerton would raise the place availability in Rounday to 540 places, compared to a birth cohort of 506. There is no evidence that the number of pupils requesting places would exceed the birth cohort.

The entire process has been put forward at the last minute, with inadequate time allowed for discussion of sensible proposals with local primary schools.

Yours Sincerely

Thursday 7th July 2011

R024

Against

The Director of Children's Services
Fao: School Organisation Team
10th Floor West
Merrion House
110 Merrion Centre
Leeds
LS2 8DT

Dear Sir,

I am writing in response to the statutory notice of your proposal to increase primary school provision in North East Leeds by increasing the size and age range of Roundhay School through developing a new primary unit on land at Elmete Lane. I should like to register my objection to that proposal.

I believe the proposal will result in a significant over provision of primary school places in the area, and this will undermine the role of the other local primary schools, who are unable to guarantee a place at Roundhay High School. I believe that the negative impact on other primary schools has not been properly taken into consideration in this proposal.

I would also like to question the ability of the management team at Roundhay High School to provide high quality primary education, which is outside their experience and current competence.

For these reasons I object to the proposal.

I would suggest that the proposal is put on hold for at least another year pending full and comprehensive consultation.

Yours faithfully,

R025

Against

Dear Director of Children's Services

I am writing as a parent governor of Roundhay St John's Primary School, local resident, taxpayer and former primary school teacher to object to the proposal to change the age range of Roundhay High by developing a new primary school on Elmete Lane.

Firstly the School Organisation Team appears to have given no real thought to the repercussions that this proposal would have on other schools in the immediate area. It would have a detrimental effect on both Roundhay St John's and Grange Farm as well as several other schools in the Seacroft area with the possibility of future closure if places were not filled. As the proposal is driven by a need to find children places it seems ludicrous that it will ultimately create the opposite effect.

As a taxpayer I feel that the knee jerk reaction of Leeds Education to quickly build a new school at huge expense without looking into any other options is both incredibly shortsighted and reckless. Having worked at Hovingham Primary School I saw the reprcussions of a hastily, ill thought out decision to make it a 3 form entry school. Again the school in question was given no choice and is still coping with the fall out of one unbalanced year group from that directive. I fear that this proposal will have far more serious consequences.

This proposal also highlights the mismanagement of formally Leeds Eduacation to realise and deal with the increased need for school places in particular areas of Leeds in good time. With time running out the School Organisation Team has clearly gone for the easiest and quickest solution. To have discussions with other parties that will be effected by the current proposal and looking at better options for the long term has clearly not fitted into the now short timetable.

As a former primary school teacher of 18 years experience I believe that running a primary school is very different to running a secondary school. Although the present head of Roundhay High is very experienced and has achieved excellent results I would question his understanding and experience of primary school provision. I would also question where he would get this extra time to lead and manage the primary element in an ever increasing head's workload.

I have yet to hear or read of any real logical and concrete answers that the School Organisation Team have made on why this proposal has to go through, over and above the many objections and possible alternatives that have been put forward over the last few months. Although I feel that paragraph 4 is probably the true explanation.

For these reasons I strongly object to the proposal.

Yours Faithfully

Thursday 7th July 2011

RO26
Against

The Director of Children's Services
Fao: School Organisation Team
10th Floor West
Merrion House
110 Merrion Centre
Leeds
LS2 8DT

Dear Sir,

I am writing in response to the statutory notice of your proposal to increase primary school provision in North East Leeds by increasing the size and age range of Roundhay School through developing a new primary unit on land at Elmete Lane. I should like to register my objection to that proposal.

I believe the proposal will result in a significant over provision of primary school places in the area, and this will undermine the role of the other local primary schools, who are unable to guarantee a place at Roundhay High School. I believe that the negative impact on other primary schools has not been properly taken into consideration in this proposal.

I would also like to question the ability of the management team at Roundhay High School to provide high quality primary education, which is outside their experience and current competence. It is also my belief that this location is unsuitable for young children as it is not easily accessed on foot by the children in the proposed catchment area, and would lead to unnecessary volumes of traffic in the area once the school is open at full capacity.

For these reasons I object to the proposal.

It also seems to me that this proposal has been rushed through without proper thought, and as such I would suggest that the proposal is put on hold for at least another year pending full and comprehensive consultation.

Yours faithfully,

All through school for Roundhay

R027
For

Sent: 08 July 2011 11:13

To: EDUC School Organisation

Cc: leslie.savage@leeds.org.uk

I live in Oakwood area and have a daughter who will be four this November and therefore excited about the idea of having a 'through school' in the area, how i wish it could be sooner than September. It is surely a brilliant idea.
Thanks

Elmete site proposal

R028

Against

Sent: 08 July 2011 11:38

To: EDUC School Organisation

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am a parent governor at Grange Farm Primary school and have held this position for nearly 9 years. I would like to voice my objection to the proposed new school build on the old Braimwood site (Elmete Site). I have lived in Seacroft for 15 years and was very aware of the primary school shake up 6 years ago. The primary shake up closed Asket Hill primary school which means that the pupils from the Asket estate will be closer to the "new school" than they are to Grange Farm. This new proposed school will affect the number of pupils putting Grange Farm as their first choice school. Children attending Seacroft schools very rarely get offered Roundhay High school even when they put it as first choice. So a school in Roundhay that is within travelling distance will attract the residents wanting their children to attend Roundhay High.

I can not believe that only the wedge in question was consulted about these proposals when obviously Grange Farm will be adversely affected. The area that actually needs the additional places isn't even near the proposed site, so pupils are going to have to travel further to attend this "new school". Surely expanding the existing schools that are where the places are needed would result in the parents within that wedge been happier.

yours sincerely

R029 FOR

MISSIONS
0 8 JUL 2011
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LEEDS

Dear Sir/Madam,

I welcome the news for the Proposal of Roundhay School becoming an all through School (4-18yrs) which is to be sited at the former Brainwood School on Elmete Lane.

As a grandparent of a child who will be starting School in Sept 2012. The re-development of the site into a Primary School as Part of Roundhay School, that has an outstanding record of achievement will ensure that the local children get the best Possible start in their Educational life

Yours Sincerely