

CM001

RE: expansion to primary school provision Meanwood

EDUC School Organisation

Sent: 03 May 2011 10:02

Thank you for your response. A final decision on the proposal will be made by Leeds City Council's Executive Board no later than 27th July.

You can keep up to date with the proposal through the Exec Board's papers on <http://democracy.leeds.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?Cid=102&Year=2011> or through the school organisation web page <http://www.educationleeds.co.uk/schoolorganisation>

Lesley Savage

School Organisation Team

School Access Service

0113 22 43867

education@leeds.gov.uk

Sent: 27 April 2011 12:34

To: EDUC School Organisation

Subject: Re: expansion to primary school provision Meanwood

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to express my support in the expansion of primary school provision in Meanwood. There would appear to be a shortfall of good primary school provision, this measure can only be a positive step in bridging the gap in the deficit.

Thank You

Education Leeds



Mill Field Primary School

Potternewton Mount, Leeds LS7 2DR

Headteacher: Stephen Watkins M.Ed. e-mail: headteacher@millfield.leeds.sch.uk tel: 0113 2620021

Lesley Savage
Senior Planning and Bids Manager
School Organisation Team
10th Floor
Merrion House
Leeds
LS2 8DT

Dear Ms Savage

I would like to raise the following objections to the proposal to extend the age range of Carr Manor High School to include 5 – 11 year olds:

1. I do not believe there has been a debate about the education limitations or benefits that through schools will create.
2. I understand it was declared at the public meetings that the extension of the High School age range got round the requirement to go out to competition that is required to open a new school.
3. I believe the report to the Executive Board was spun heavily in favour of the through school and did not point out any of the disadvantages of such schools. In fact, the only comments made were in favour of through schools and indeed it commented that the Governing Body of the High School would employ primary specialists. It has to be remembered that this is the same governing body that has appointed an acting head teacher who does not have qualified teacher status.
4. It must be remembered that the substantive Head Teacher of the High School is now in a position to influence a major decision that could benefit his own school. I assume he has declared an interest and has not taken part in the decisions. However, I must point out that he and two members of the admissions team have visited me and revealed statistics that are not included in the consultation document. I believe the following information should be considered:
 - The prediction of pupil numbers is rarely accurate. It is less than three years since primary schools were closed in the area. The forecast that Mill Field Primary would have 60 children in Reception in 2010/11 has not been accurate. There are now only 54 children in Reception at the school. This, I believe, is a direct result of the system of using the Meanwood/Moortown area to provide places for pupils in the neighbouring planning areas. In fact, the published figures show a need for 7 places in 2014 and no extra places needed in 2013 and 6 places surplus to requirements in 2012. £2.5 million is a lot to spend on unnecessary places. The idea that parents will leave their children in the Meanwood area if they live outside does not hold true. There are families with children at Mill Field who live near Quarry Mount or Alwoodley who have children in the other schools and one child at Mill Field. As soon as a place becomes available at the school nearest to them they move the children. This is creating a constant turnover of children from Mill Field Primary. This is unacceptable and damaging to pupils' education.

Already since September I have signed at least 20 transfer form for parents requesting a move on this basis. If there are shortfalls in neighbouring areas the solution should be found in those areas.

- I would like to turn to the educational arguments against through schools. As a Primary Headteacher for over 28 years it is my experience that parents of young children want easy access to the Headteacher of their school. I doubt this will happen if the Headteacher of the through school is a Secondary Headteacher. It is worth noting that in areas of the country with through schools many are appointing Primary Headteachers as the head of the school. After all, it is the Secondary sector that has not kept pace with the rate of improvements made by primary schools under the leadership of Primary trained Headteachers. It is widely acknowledged that a good start in Primary/Nursery education is what best meets the needs of youngsters, particularly in deprived areas. I believe an intimate knowledge, understanding and practical experience of early years is crucial to the Headteacher of a school with primary age children in it.
- If through schools are created headed by Secondary trained Headteachers as a way of circumventing the need to go out to competition, what will be the incentives for primary teachers to progress into management if Headship is not available to them?
- I cannot understand how the figures in the consultation document justify creating another 30 places for the Meanwood/Moortown planning area when they declare a need for 7 extra places in 2012 and no extra places in 2013. The fact that I have been presented with other figures that have not been part of the consultation process worries me greatly. I have looked at 3 sets of differing figures and it seems no one can confidently say which are correct.

I would urge a delay in establishing an extra 30 places in 2012 to make sure the need is there.

- I am also concerned about the statements in the consultation document that say the school will grow year on year by 30 pupils. The Local Authority cannot say this will be the case. If the High School became an academy the choice would be for the school not the Local Authority. This, however, was not made clear in the consultation document nor in the minutes of the Executive Board meeting.
- It needs to be pointed out that Mill Field Primary has only just been made a two form entry school and has not yet filled. If the extra 30 places are created and the information in the consultation document is correct, there is a need for 7 extra places leaving 23 surplus places in the area. This could result in at least a £75,000 shortfall in the budget of Mill Field Primary and a consequent loss of staff.
- I acknowledge there needs to be more school places in neighbouring planning areas. I do not believe the solution is to create places in Meanwood/Moortown that will be transient places creating instability in schools in the most deprived areas of the country.
- Can I draw your attention to the attached email that indicates a free school has applied to set up within the Meanwood planning area with an indicated intake of 26 pupils. I saw no reference to this in the consultation document.

Stephen Watkins
Headteacher

Chairperson:
Clare Humphries

**Carr Manor
Primary
School**



**Governing
Body**

Cm 003

Carr Manor Road
Leeds LS17 5DJ
Tel: 0113 268 9160
Fax: 0113 268 9251



The Governors at Carr Manor Primary School would like to raise the following objections to the proposal to extend the age range of Carr Manor High School to include 5 – 11 year olds:

1. Road Safety

The Carr Manor Road Safety Group will be attending the Full Council Meeting on 13th July to present their objections to the proposal and the petition they have collected from local residents, who are opposed to the increased traffic levels and the significant road safety risks that will be created if Carr Manor High School is extended as per the proposal above.

Outline of the Road Safety Issues which would be made worse by the new school:

The road that runs directly alongside Carr Manor High School and Carr Manor Primary School (Carr Manor Road) is already a very busy road, due to the fact that it is a bus route and buses pass by the school at 10 minute intervals throughout the day.

When the High School was developed in 2003, the road was narrowed as a traffic calming measure but this means there is less available parking space for parents and people visiting the school and also that buses are squeezing past parked vehicles on one side of the road.

In addition, the Council put a cycle route onto the pavement at the bottom of the hill, which means that pupils walking to and from school have to negotiate buses on one side and bikes on the other.

When local residents were asked for their opinion about the new school proposal, they were unanimously concerned and dismayed that there will potentially be increased staff, parent and school delivery traffic created, without any additional parking facilities and on roads that are already very busy.

Another problem identified by some local residents is that due to the absence of parking facilities, parents visiting the school frequently park illegally, creating hazards in the road, which means that pick up and drop off times are difficult and dangerous for anyone passing by the school, on foot or in a car.

There is a bus stop at the top of the road and two Carr Manor Road residents told us that Carr Manor High School pupils, who are waiting at the bus stop frequently go into their garden and have vandalised their properties.



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for Leadership of Schools
and Children's Services



INVESTORS IN PUPILS



Stephen Lawrence
EDUCATION STANDARD



Carr Manor Primary School Governors have discussed the possibility of a road/community safety project taking place within the school, to educate the children about their responsibility to residents in the area. However, the Carr Manor Road safety group think that the Council should be taking proactive measures to ensure that safety is ensured for all.

Another concerned resident on Alder Hill Grove, Mr Farooq, reported that his wife is disabled and cannot walk any distance due to respiratory problems. He works nights and so cannot do the school drops off. He said that he thinks it is disgusting that there are no disabled parking facilities on Carr Manor Road and that his wife's condition is made worse whenever she has to drop off her child at the primary school. He has offered to write a letter supporting this point and that will be read out to Full Council in July, as part of the presentation.

The impact on the environment and health should also be considered as the increased traffic will inevitably cause more pollution, within an already busy area of the city.

2. Surplus Places

The published figures used in the consultation process on which this decision is based show that in the Meanwood Planning area there will be six surplus places in 2012 and seven needed by 2014. Therefore by adding 30 places on Carr Manor High School's site will mean that in fact there are 37 surplus places in our planning area. This will mean that Carr Manor Primary School will be in direct competition with Carr Manor High School for children due to start Reception in 2012. This is an unacceptable and unnecessary situation that the local authority will create if the proposal goes ahead.

As well as competition between Carr Manor High school and Carr Manor Primary School just up the hill from the proposed new school is Millfield Primary. There is no doubt that in September 2012 there will be two existing schools and one new one all with surplus places. The financial impact on them leading to the reduced provision impact as a direct result of the surplus places will be catastrophic.

The Director's Report presented to the Executive Board in March recommended delays to the Roundhay proposal because of concerns expressed by neighbouring schools regarding the potential popularity of the through school. The decision was delayed until 2011 preferences were in. The May report contains a detailed analysis of preferences and level of demand against level of need in the Roundhay area for September 2011. The same process has not been applied to all of the proposals - the schools in this area expressed similar concerns and the demographic pressures are not in our area so it would appear a greater risk for us than for Roundhay schools.

3. Quality of Provision

There has been no debate about the educational limitations or benefits that through schools will create.

Carr Manor Primary School is an Outstanding Primary school of high repute in the local area which Ofsted stated in its 2010 report:

Carr Manor is an outstanding school. It has maintained the many significant strengths since its last inspection, including the quality of the teaching, the curriculum, the care, guidance and support for pupils and of its leadership. These

combine to enable pupils to achieve high outcomes in their personal, social and academic development.

Of the provision for children in the Foundation Stage at Carr Manor primary school for both Nursery and Reception children the report stated:

Provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage is outstanding. Learning indoors and outside is of high quality for the Nursery and Reception children. There is a very wide range of stimulating activities provided for the children, supported by good quality resources and, most importantly, staff who have a very good understanding of children's needs and ensure that they are met. The Early Years Foundation Stage facilities are spacious, safe, well-equipped and provide extremely well for each area of learning. Activities for children to choose from are creative and stimulating, and as a result, children show great interest and involvement when playing and investigating, and their behaviour is immaculate. Adults interact with children exceptionally well to help develop their thinking and speaking skills, not just in specific literacy sessions but also when children are painting, building, riding wheeled toys, eating their healthy snacks and when looking at animals and plants in the expansive garden areas. Phonics teaching is of high quality and engages children well. For example, when plastic letters were hidden in the garden area and children were told that they had to go on a 'treasure hunt' to find them, the children responded with delight and accurately read the sounds of their 'treasures' on their return to the class. Assessment procedures are outstanding. Evaluations of child-initiated learning activities accurately assess the stages of development reached by each child and 'next steps' are provided to promote further progress. Parents and carers contribute to their children's 'learning journey' books which provide an excellent picture of every child's academic and social development. The Early Years Foundation Stage leader has a clear vision for further improvement, which includes modifications to the Early Years Foundation Stage rooms to create a single Early Years Foundation Stage unit for the beginning of the next school year.

We have quoted the report about the Foundation Stage at Carr Manor as it includes the recognition that the staff are *required* to understand young children's needs in order to meet them. The education of four and five year olds is significantly different to elsewhere in the primary school.

There must be doubt whether this can be replicated within a high school environment.

We are also concerned that the Governing Body at Roundhay's request to have a primary leader in post for two terms before the provision opened rather than one was declined and seen as unnecessary.

4. Providing School Places for the Future

We acknowledge that there needs to be more school places in neighbouring planning areas. That is where they should be built not in the Meanwood planning Area. We do not believe the solution is to create places in Meanwood/Moortown that will be transient places creating instability in schools in one of the most deprived areas of the country.

The proposal for Little London was for a three form entry on two sites (existing and Cambridge Road). The Governors at Little London have put in an alternative proposal which is for a two form entry on the existing site. Under this alternative a new single form entry school would be

created on the Cambridge Road site to accommodate the additional 30 places. The Cambridge Road site is able to accommodate a two form entry as this was the original proposal. If Little London can be changed to two form entry an additional two form entry could be created on Cambridge Road in the heart of the demographic pressure. This would negate the need for any additional provision outside of the area of demographic pressure.

5. Development of a Free School

If the proposal goes ahead £2.5 million will be spent to create a school that is not needed until at least 2014. We do not believe that due consideration has been given to alternatives which would not have the same financial implications for the Council.

The Steiner School is applying to set up a state-funded Steiner School in Leeds, under the Government's free school scheme, taking in children from Foundation through to age 16.

Their application will be in by June 1st the outcome known in September 2011. It is for a 2012 opening date, with three years initially Reception, Year One and Year Two, then building year on year until age 16. Classes would admit 26 pupils.

They do not currently have a confirmed site, but two kindergartens are located on Stainbeck Lane, LS7 and Moor Road, LS6, and they have stated an intention to set up in the Meanwood or Chapel Allerton area.

When discussing the Allerton Grange proposal in the May report the Director states that the pressure for places in our neighbouring wards is for 2013 rather than 2012. We would therefore urge a delay in establishing an extra 30 places in 2012 to make sure the need is there.

Summary of Objections and Action we would like to see taken:

1. Road Safety – we do not believe that the road network around the school can safely accommodate the current congestion experienced during the school run – the addition of further primary provision will add to the problems. **We would like a full assessment of road safety need and risk assessment to be carried out before proposals for the additional places are taken any further**
2. Surplus Places – we do not believe there is evidence of need in this ward and think the competition will result in falling rolls which in turn will affect the quality of provision across the ward. **We ask that the same full assessment of preference and demand that was conducted in Roundhay be carried out for this area before proposals are taken any further. If demand for an additional 30 places cannot be demonstrated we want the development to be stopped.**
3. Quality of Provision – we are concerned that High Schools do not have the experience of early years needed to ensure quality provision. **We would ask that the Council review the evidence on this model of provision.**
4. Providing School Places in the Areas where there is demographic need – the alternative proposal under consideration for Little London would create capacity for an additional 30 places in the area of need. **We want full consideration to be given to an additional form entry on Cambridge Road instead of the provision at Carr Manor High as part of the alternative Little London proposal.**

5. Development of a Free School in the Meanwood area – the proposed Steiner School would provide an attractive alternative to the current provision for many parents and added to the High School would result in a total of 56 additional places in an area where there is no significant increase in demand. **We want proposals for the expansion of Carr Manor High put on hold until the outcome of the Steiner school application is known in September. If the Steiner School is approved we want the proposal for the expansion of Carr Manor High to be withdrawn.**

The substantive Head Teacher of Carr Manor High School is currently the Children's Services Strategic Leader for Education Integration. We assume he has not taken part in any decisions relating to the extension of Carr Manor High School.

From the Governors at Carr Manor Primary School

CM004

05
Lesley Savage

Director of Children's Services

c/o School Organisation Team
10th Floor West
Merrion House
110 Merrion Centre
Leeds
LS2 8DT

24th May 2011

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Proposal to increase primary provision in the Meanwood Area by Change of Age Range and Enlargement of Carr Manor High School by Using Additional Land from September 2012.

We the undersigned **strongly disagree with the proposal** to change the age range of Carr Manor High School from 11-18 to 4-18 effect involving use of the land next to the school for the additional accommodation.

We would like to refer you to our letter and email sent in February 2011 in response to the initial proposal. Our objections as stated still stand.

However we would also like to propose further reasons for objection to the proposal as outlined below:

The effect on the Carr Manor estate pertaining to increased traffic, disruption to residents and reduced road safety for schoolchildren and residents.

Carr Manor Rd is a very busy road, incorporating two school entrances, a bus route, and smaller roads branching off this main route. It is unfortunately also used by cars wanting to avoid the traffic signals on Stainbeck Lane/Stainbeck Rd.

Current concerns in regard to traffic include:

- cars parking outside the schools within double yellow line/zigzag areas
- cars parking on pavements
- cars undertaking three-point turns on the main road causing holdups and obstruction
- cars double parked leading to obstruction

- buses coming to a standstill due to congestion of traffic on the hill between the two school entrances.

These issues occur mainly at school drop off and pick up times.

The proposed changes would involve increased traffic to this congested area therefore exacerbating these already frustrating issues.

The increase in traffic would also further decrease safety for school children entering and exiting the High School and Carr Manor Primary School as well as pedestrians in these areas. Currently there are no pedestrian crossings at any point in Carr Manor Rd, particularly outside schools or near bus stops. We therefore feel that there is inadequate provision for road safety at this present time and therefore the area could not support additional school children or increased traffic that would result from an increase in primary provision and school buildings on the additional land.

The addition of new buildings and the increased need for car parking areas would only further exacerbate this situation. Entrance and exit areas for car parking would be needed. These would further increase traffic flow into Carr Manor Rd, Stainbeck Lane and Stainbeck Rd.

An entrance/exit on Carr Manor Rd would bring cars out into either a bus stop area or a traffic chicane. Either one of these would be unacceptable and unsafe.

Cars often speed down the hill on Carr Manor Rd toward the High School increasing the risk of accidents to children. Reducing the speed limit to 20mph would help calm the traffic outside the two schools. However we feel the further addition of primary provision and increased traffic would only offset any improvements made to improving road safety in this area.

We would be grateful if you would consider our objections to the proposal. We would also be grateful for acknowledgement of receipt of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

A large rectangular area of the document is redacted with a light yellow color, covering the signature and name of the sender.

Parents and local residents

Copy of letter previously
sent.

The Chief Executive
Education Leeds
FAO School Organisation Team
10th Floor West
Merrion House
110 Merrion Centre
Leeds
LS2 8DT



16th February 2011

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Re: Public Consultation Response:
Proposal to create additional primary provision in the Meanwood area
from September 2012 to be run by Carr Manor High School.**

Following the recent consultation meetings, we the undersigned would like to **strongly disagree with the proposal** to change the age range of Carr Manor High School from 11-18 to 4-18 with effect from September 2010 involving use of the land next to the school for the additional accommodation.

The reasons we object to the proposal are outlined below:

- 1. The effect on Carr Manor Primary School:**
- 2. The 'need' for additional primary school places:**

Your covering letter re the 'Basic Need Consultation' states "There is no change to Carr Manor Primary School as part of this proposal".

Page 4 of the Consultation document states "This proposal could offer sustainable, attractive provision at a popular and successful school....without undermining any of the other primary schools in the area".

We would argue that there is realistic potential for the for the loss of new pupils to be admitted to the existing Carr Manor Primary School, resulting in reduced funding, therefore reduced resources and support. Ultimately this would result in a reduction in quality of primary education provided at this currently outstanding school.

There would be a clear negative effect on Carr Manor Primary School, and its ability to function as an outstanding school would be undermined.

Page 8 of the Consultation document states the projections for the reception places required. The planning areas for Harehills, Chapel Allerton and Roundhay are projected to increase substantially whereas those for Meanwood are much less significant. For 2012 there is in fact a projected decrease in demand.

We would argue that although Leeds City Council “has a legal duty provide school places for every child in the city who wants one, taking into account where those children live”, in reality the Council/Education Leeds are not taking this into account at all by proposing additional primary school provision in an area where there is no clear need. Not only is there no clear need, the proposal could result negatively for Carr Manor Primary School.

Page 2 of the Consultation document states that “we have identified the land which could be used to provide the extra places.”

The use of this land, and attaching the primary provision to Carr Manor High School would negate the need for a competition whereby “a consultation is held over what provision is needed, including the type size and location”.

We would welcome the need for a competitive process whereby the need for additional school places is more fully assessed in this area. We feel that this process would give local residents and parents of school children in the area the option to be consulted at an earlier stage. In this current proposal the Council is already deciding what provision is needed, as well as the type and the location.

With recent closures of Miles Hill School and Bentley Lane School, we would also question whether further replacement of school places in this area could be supported financially by the Council.

3. The effect on local residents:

- **Building**

Local residents have endured much building work on Carr Manor Rd especially within the past 5 years. Your current proposal involves the staging of construction of additional buildings between 2011 and 2018. You have not been explicit about what is to happen beyond ‘phase 1’ of the building process and what implications this may have on the local residents.

You are also suggesting that this consultation does not replace the “normal planning process” (page 3). This would imply therefore that there will be a planning process for each stage “before any extra accommodation was placed on site” (page 3). It is neither realistic nor achievable to expect local residents to be fully involved in, or aware of, this process, particularly when there are so many unknowns at present. This issue is not simply resolved or reduced by the proposal incorporating modular units. The disruption to residents, and school children, should not be undermined.

- **Traffic**

Carr Manor Rd is a very busy road, incorporating two school entrances, a bus route, and smaller roads branching off this main route. It is unfortunately also used as a ‘rat run’ for cars wanting to avoid the traffic signals on Stainbeck Lane/Stainbeck Rd. On a daily basis there are cars parking illegally outside the schools, cars undertaking three-point turns in areas where cars are

already double parked, buses coming to a standstill due to congestion of traffic on the hill between the two school entrances.

The proposed changes would involve increased traffic to this congested area therefore exacerbating these already frustrating issues. There would ultimately be an increase in issues for local residents, including difficulty in accessing their homes and driveways at peak school hours.

The increase in traffic would also lead to decreased safety for school children entering and exiting the High School and Carr Manor Primary School as well as pedestrians in these areas.

- **Lighting**

Carr Manor High School is currently lit over a 24 hour period. Although we appreciate the need for security and safety for staff, students and buildings it has had a dramatic effect on local residents. The car park is extremely brightly lit and particularly intrusive to residents in Carr Manor Rd and Carr Manor Walk.

The addition of new buildings and the increased need for car parking areas would only exacerbate this situation which is already stressful for residents.

- **The environment**

The land proposed to be used is currently liable to flooding. This problem continues despite recent work in the area of Stainbeck Lane to prevent flooding onto the junction at Stainbeck Rd.

The addition of new buildings, new car parks, pavements and outdoor areas will aggravate this problem further and worsen already limited drainage.

Finally we would like to respond to the question of “**How could we improve the consultation process?**” posed on your standard response form.

- An increased number in consultation meetings would be useful to allow the majority of residents to attend, and at hours which not only accommodate parents.
- We would also be grateful for council members to respond to questions sensitively. During the meeting we attended one resident’s concerns were not dealt with very sympathetically. As the proposal and meetings can lead to increased stress for some residents, understanding of the difficulties faced would be helpful.

Yours faithfully,



Parents of primary school child and local residents

Friday 27th May 2011

Please find attached Petition instigated
by the Carr Manor Road Safety Group.

There are in excess of 500 signatures on
the petition.

We look forward to hearing from you soon.

CMA005

Carr Manor Office

Carr Manor Primary School, Carr Manor Road, LS17 5DJ

Increase & Improve Road Safety to Carr Manor Road and Surrounding Residential Areas

We the undersigned strongly agree that road safety needs to be assessed and a risk analysis to be undertaken. This is to establish the dangers due to lack of road markings and signage, assistance with crossing and wrong usage of pedestrian areas. In the near future there is a strong possibility there will be an increase in traffic and pedestrians due to a new build of a one form entry school adjacent to Carr Manor High School.

After the risk assessment has been carried out we formally request that the following representatives are invited to a minuted meeting with representatives from: Leeds City Councils; Highways Dept.; Public private partnership unit; the planning dept.; Metro Bus company; Road Safety unit; Community Police and any other relevant council officers.

At the meeting we would like to hear how the road safety risks have been reduced to ensure the safety of all pupils at the existing Carr Manor High School; the new one form entry primary school that will be attached to the High School and the Existing Carr Manor Primary school, local businesses and residents.

Copies to: Head of the Governors of Carr Manor Primary School; Local Councillors; Existing Head teacher of Carr Manor Primary School.

Some suggestions for improvements:

- Police patrols and fining to be undertaken to persons parking illegally, obstructively, or carrying out dangerous manoeuvres
- Permanent Lollipop operative at the crossing at crucial times of the day
- Extended zigzags and railings
- Fencing around grassed area at crossing on Carr Manor Road
- Speed limit and school signage to be installed on roads accessing Carr Manor Road
- Relocation of bus stop but also consider rerouteing

Name	Address	Postcode	Telephone Number
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Headteacher: Linda Bowles
Deputy Head: Gerry Loye

Carr Manor Primary School



Cm006

Carr Manor Road
Leeds LS17 5DJ

Tel: 0113 268 9160
Fax: 0113 268 9251

26/05/2011

25 May 2011

Dear Cllrs,

Request that the proposal to 'Change the age range of Carr Manor High School to 4-18, with a reception admission limit of 30, and use land next to the school for the primary provision' be reconsidered in light of new information.

I am writing on behalf of the Governing Body of Carr Manor Primary School regarding the proposal to develop primary provision at Carr Manor High School. Since this proposal was discussed at Executive Board in March we have been made aware of proposals to develop a Free School in the area. We believe if both proposals are progressed and an additional 56 places are created in the area there will be a significant impact on local primary provision with falling rolls. The projections for reception places within the Meanwood Ward are for a decrease in numbers in 2012 and a slight increase of 7 in 2013.

We received the following email from the Steiner School Group:

"I am emailing to let you know of our plans to set up a state-funded Steiner School in Leeds, pending acceptance of our application under the Government's free school scheme.

Our application will be in by June 1st and we shall know the outcome in September. It is for a 2012 opening date, with three years initially: Reception, Year One and Year Two, then building year on year until age 16. Classes would admit 26 pupils.

We do not currently have a confirmed site, but our two kindergartens are located on Stainbeck Lane, LS7 and Moor Road, LS6, so we hope to set up somewhere in the vicinity of Meanwood and Chapel Allerton. We hope this will help to meet the deficit of places required by local primary age children in 2012, particularly in Reception year.



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and Children's Services



Stephen Lawrence
EDUCATION STANDARD



e-mail: info@carrmanor-pri.leeds.sch.uk www.carrmanor-pri.leeds.sch.uk

Should our application be successful, we will undertake a full consultation, but wanted to let you know of our plans in advance."

We have a number of other objections to the proposed Through School at Carr Manor High that we have submitted to Children's Services as part of the second phase of consultation and attach to this letter for your consideration.

We ask that you do not make a decision on progressing the Through School until the outcome of the application for a Free School is known in September.

We also ask that the same detailed analysis of level of need in the Meanwood area is carried out that was applied to the Roundhay area in the May Executive Board report to understand the impact of an increase in 30 places and in 56 places would have on preferences for local primary schools.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Clare Humphries'.

Clare Humphries
Chair
Carr Manor Governing Body

Chairperson:
Clare Humphries

**Carr Manor
Primary
School**



**Governing
Body**

Carr Manor Road
Leeds LS17 5DJ
Tel: 0113 268 9160
Fax: 0113 268 9251



The Governors at Carr Manor Primary School would like to raise the following objections to the proposal to extend the age range of Carr Manor High School to include 5 – 11 year olds:

1. Road Safety

The Carr Manor Road Safety Group will be attending the Full Council Meeting on 13th July to present their objections to the proposal and the petition they have collected from local residents, who are opposed to the increased traffic levels and the significant road safety risks that will be created if Carr Manor High School is extended as per the proposal above.

Outline of the Road Safety Issues which would be made worse by the new school:

The road that runs directly alongside Carr Manor High School and Carr Manor Primary School (Carr Manor Road) is already a very busy road, due to the fact that it is a bus route and buses pass by the school at 10 minute intervals throughout the day.

When the High School was developed in 2003, the road was narrowed as a traffic calming measure but this means there is less available parking space for parents and people visiting the school and also that buses are squeezing past parked vehicles on one side of the road.

In addition, the Council put a cycle route onto the pavement at the bottom of the hill, which means that pupils walking to and from school have to negotiate buses on one side and bikes on the other.

When local residents were asked for their opinion about the new school proposal, they were unanimously concerned and dismayed that there will potentially be increased staff, parent and school delivery traffic created, without any additional parking facilities and on roads that are already very busy.

Another problem identified by some local residents is that due to the absence of parking facilities, parents visiting the school frequently park illegally, creating hazards in the road, which means that pick up and drop off times are difficult and dangerous for anyone passing by the school, on foot or in a car.

There is a bus stop at the top of the road and two Carr Manor Road residents told us that Carr Manor High School pupils, who are waiting at the bus stop frequently go into their garden and have vandalised their properties.



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Carr Manor Primary School Governors have discussed the possibility of a road/community safety project taking place within the school, to educate the children about their responsibility to residents in the area. However, the Carr Manor Road safety group think that the Council should be taking proactive measures to ensure that safety is ensured for all.

Another concerned resident on Alder Hill Grove, Mr Farooq, reported that his wife is disabled and cannot walk any distance due to respiratory problems. He works nights and so cannot do the school drops off. He said that he thinks it is disgusting that there are no disabled parking facilities on Carr Manor Road and that his wife's condition is made worse whenever she has to drop off her child at the primary school. He has offered to write a letter supporting this point and that will be read out to Full Council in July, as part of the presentation.

The impact on the environment and health should also be considered as the increased traffic will inevitably cause more pollution, within an already busy area of the city.

2. Surplus Places

The published figures used in the consultation process on which this decision is based show that in the Meanwood Planning area there will be six surplus places in 2012 and seven needed by 2014. Therefore by adding 30 places on Carr Manor High School's site will mean that in fact there are 37 surplus places in our planning area. This will mean that Carr Manor Primary School will be in direct competition with Carr Manor High School for children due to start Reception in 2012. This is an unacceptable and unnecessary situation that the local authority will create if the proposal goes ahead.

As well as competition between Carr Manor High school and Carr Manor Primary School just up the hill from the proposed new school is Millfield Primary. There is no doubt that in September 2012 there will be two existing schools and one new one all with surplus places. The financial impact on them leading to the reduced provision impact as a direct result of the surplus places will be catastrophic.

The Director's Report presented to the Executive Board in March recommended delays to the Roundhay proposal because of concerns expressed by neighbouring schools regarding the potential popularity of the through school. The decision was delayed until 2011 preferences were in. The May report contains a detailed analysis of preferences and level of demand against level of need in the Roundhay area for September 2011. The same process has not been applied to all of the proposals - the schools in this area expressed similar concerns and the demographic pressures are not in our area so it would appear a greater risk for us than for Roundhay schools.

3. Quality of Provision

There has been no debate about the educational limitations or benefits that through schools will create.

Carr Manor Primary School is an Outstanding Primary school of high repute in the local area which Ofsted stated in its 2010 report:

Carr Manor is an outstanding school. It has maintained the many significant strengths since its last inspection, including the quality of the teaching, the curriculum, the care, guidance and support for pupils and of its leadership. These

combine to enable pupils to achieve high outcomes in their personal, social and academic development.

Of the provision for children in the Foundation Stage at Carr Manor primary school for both Nursery and Reception children the report stated:

Provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage is outstanding. Learning indoors and outside is of high quality for the Nursery and Reception children. There is a very wide range of stimulating activities provided for the children, supported by good quality resources and, most importantly, staff who have a very good understanding of children's needs and ensure that they are met. The Early Years Foundation Stage facilities are spacious, safe, well-equipped and provide extremely well for each area of learning. Activities for children to choose from are creative and stimulating, and as a result, children show great interest and involvement when playing and investigating, and their behaviour is immaculate. Adults interact with children exceptionally well to help develop their thinking and speaking skills, not just in specific literacy sessions but also when children are painting, building, riding wheeled toys, eating their healthy snacks and when looking at animals and plants in the expansive garden areas. Phonics teaching is of high quality and engages children well. For example, when plastic letters were hidden in the garden area and children were told that they had to go on a 'treasure hunt' to find them, the children responded with delight and accurately read the sounds of their 'treasures' on their return to the class. Assessment procedures are outstanding. Evaluations of child-initiated learning activities accurately assess the stages of development reached by each child and 'next steps' are provided to promote further progress. Parents and carers contribute to their children's 'learning journey' books which provide an excellent picture of every child's academic and social development. The Early Years Foundation Stage leader has a clear vision for further improvement, which includes modifications to the Early Years Foundation Stage rooms to create a single Early Years Foundation Stage unit for the beginning of the next school year.

We have quoted the report about the Foundation Stage at Carr Manor as it includes the recognition that the staff are *required* to understand young children's needs in order to meet them. The education of four and five year olds is significantly different to elsewhere in the primary school.

There must be doubt whether this can be replicated within a high school environment.

We are also concerned that the Governing Body at Roundhay's request to have a primary leader in post for two terms before the provision opened rather than one was declined and seen as unnecessary.

4. Providing School Places for the Future

We acknowledge that there needs to be more school places in neighbouring planning areas. That is where they should be built not in the Meanwood planning Area. We do not believe the solution is to create places in Meanwood/Moortown that will be transient places creating instability in schools in one of the most deprived areas of the country.

The proposal for Little London was for a three form entry on two sites (existing and Cambridge Road). The Governors at Little London have put in an alternative proposal which is for a two form entry on the existing site. Under this alternative a new single form entry school would be

created on the Cambridge Road site to accommodate the additional 30 places. The Cambridge Road site is able to accommodate a two form entry as this was the original proposal. If Little London can be changed to two form entry an additional two form entry could be created on Cambridge Road in the heart of the demographic pressure. This would negate the need for any additional provision outside of the area of demographic pressure.

5. Development of a Free School

If the proposal goes ahead £2.5 million will be spent to create a school that is not needed until at least 2014. We do not believe that due consideration has been given to alternatives which would not have the same financial implications for the Council.

The Steiner School is applying to set up a state-funded Steiner School in Leeds, under the Government's free school scheme, taking in children from Foundation through to age 16.

Their application will be in by June 1st the outcome known in September 2011. It is for a 2012 opening date, with three years initially Reception, Year One and Year Two, then building year on year until age 16. Classes would admit 26 pupils.

They do not currently have a confirmed site, but two kindergartens are located on Stainbeck Lane, LS7 and Moor Road, LS6, and they have stated an intention to set up in the Meanwood or Chapel Allerton area.

When discussing the Allerton Grange proposal in the May report the Director states that the pressure for places in our neighbouring wards is for 2013 rather than 2012. We would therefore urge a delay in establishing an extra 30 places in 2012 to make sure the need is there.

Summary of Objections and Action we would like to see taken:

1. Road Safety – we do not believe that the road network around the school can safely accommodate the current congestion experienced during the school run – the addition of further primary provision will add to the problems. **We would like a full assessment of road safety need and risk assessment to be carried out before proposals for the additional places are taken any further**
2. Surplus Places – we do not believe there is evidence of need in this ward and think the competition will result in falling rolls which in turn will affect the quality of provision across the ward. **We ask that the same full assessment of preference and demand that was conducted in Roundhay be carried out for this area before proposals are taken any further. If demand for an additional 30 places cannot be demonstrated we want the development to be stopped.**
3. Quality of Provision – we are concerned that High Schools do not have the experience of early years needed to ensure quality provision. **We would ask that the Council review the evidence on this model of provision.**
4. Providing School Places in the Areas where there is demographic need – the alternative proposal under consideration for Little London would create capacity for an additional 30 places in the area of need. **We want full consideration to be given to an additional form entry on Cambridge Road instead of the provision at Carr Manor High as part of the alternative Little London proposal.**

5. Development of a Free School in the Meanwood area – the proposed Steiner School would provide an attractive alternative to the current provision for many parents and added to the High School would result in a total of 56 additional places in an area where there is no significant increase in demand. **We want proposals for the expansion of Carr Manor High put on hold until the outcome of the Steiner school application is known in September. If the Steiner School is approved we want the proposal for the expansion of Carr Manor High to be withdrawn.**

The substantive Head Teacher of Carr Manor High School is currently the Children's Services Strategic Leader for Education Integration. We assume he has not taken part in any decisions relating to the extension of Carr Manor High School.

From the Governors at Carr Manor Primary School