

OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

SPRINGFIELD SCHOOL



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Oxfordshire County Council
Barbara Chillman, Principal Officer (School Organisation)
Children, Young People and Families
Freepost NATW684
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14th May 2009

Dear Barbara

Re: Proposal for the expansion on Madley Brook Primary School, Witney

The Full Governing Body of Springfield School discussed this proposal at the termly meeting held on 13th May. I have been charged by the governors to write to you to express our concerns:

We see that the Madley Brook roll will expand by 50%, once the larger entry has moved through to Y6, and that this increase will put pressure on the shared facilities.

The fair use of the Hall for curriculum time by Springfield pupils will be under particular threat, as it is fully utilised now. In addition to extra curriculum time, there will be a need for 50% more assemblies for Madley Brook pupils, and the lunch period may have to be extended if we continue with inclusive lunchtimes: these will also encroach on curriculum time in the Hall. We do not think that the proposed new-build Studio is of an adequate size to be a realistic alternative venue to the Hall.

There will be huge pressure on the food technology room, library, ICT room, and meetings rooms, all of which are used to a high capacity now.

In addition to the extra pupils, there will be an increase in the staffing of Madley Brook. We are concerned about the added pressure this increase will bring to bear on the accommodation for staff, staff toilets and car parking arrangements.

More pupils and staff will mean more crowded shared areas and greater wear and tear. We are not convinced that some of these costs will not fall on Springfield's budget.

We think that the proposal does not address the need for additional storage space, e.g. for the extra equipment used by the pupils and such items as extra lunch tables etc.

Finally, we are concerned that the proposal does not allow for the possibility that Springfield School might also expand in the future.

Yours sincerely

Phil Bloomfield, Governor
On behalf of the governing Body of Springfield School

