
From:
Sent: 21 June 2016 13:39
To: ECS-CRM Sutherland
Subject: Kinbrace Primary Closure

This email is in response to the letter received as a parent of a pupil at Helmsdale Primary School.

I am not opposed to the opening of Kinbrace school, but I feel it would hinder and affect the education and opportunities for the rest of the children at Helmsdale P.S. Lowering the general numbers of the school may affect the provision offered to the pupils, such as a playground supervisor (which only got appointed after the number of pupils reached 50), as well as the additional member of canteen staff. This would result in unsupervised play, less adult impact and encouragement in games, and a longer lunch queue - negatively affecting the pupil's enjoyment of their lunch time break.

Lowering the numbers of pupils could result in losing a teacher, classes becoming oversized and limiting the opportunities for activities within the classroom. Because of class sizes it could result in splitting and separating children of the same age and year group within different classes, meaning children of the same age may have more limited opportunities.

Having a school as small as Kinbrace may make it hard to reach aspects of the curriculum due to small numbers. Children will have less opportunities to socialise and when they reach High School age they will need to travel regardless - only without the prior relationships with other pupils.

The money used to reopen Kinbrace could be better spent benefiting all the pupils by providing more resources to the Helmsdale Primary School - such as more computers as currently they have a limited amount. I feel Helmsdale as a Primary School should be of a high standard before opening another school, and opening another school to benefit a small number of pupils should not affect the majority already settled within their school environment.

Thanks